

First News First

Volume 57, Issue 6

June 2023

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.
(Ecclesiastes 3:1)*

As I work with students in confirmation, there is excitement in the air. It is almost summer and they are just about done for the year. Most teachers are awaiting that break as well. We all know that feeling. Even when we love what we do – we all can use a change of pace and a break.

June is one of those months when we take a change of pace. I will be at confirmation camp with the youth for a full week. Synod Assembly is taking place in early June. Rose Rent Sunday welcomes a special visitor from the Chambers' family on Father's Day. And at the end of the month we will be having the joyful refreshment of our congregational worship and picnic in the park. These are all wonderful things to look ahead to in June.

In addition to that, committees are working on creating a photo directory for our congregation as well as having a beginning conversation with architects to see the feasibility of transforming the chapel and library into a welcoming, gathering space for Sundays and throughout the week. There is some investigation of repairing our stained glass windows, and replacing carpet that is over 40 years old in the classroom and office space. We continue to work on the improvement to the sanctuary audio visual equipment.



Indeed, there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. And it might be during the summer months! Summer does not necessarily slow down – but it is a change of pace from the ordinary. I pray your summer is refreshing and that you find a way to experience this change of pace and participate in a new way in our congregational ministries.

Grace and Peace to you in this summer season,
Pastor Jane Nicholson



Worship in June and July

June 4	9:30	Holy Trinity Sunday. Honoring High School Seniors. Holy Communion. Eucharistic Ministers.
June 11	9:30	Worship
June 18	9:30	Rose Rent Sunday. Holy Communion.
June 25	10:45	Worship and Picnic at Greene Township Park.
July 2	9:30	Holy Communion. Patriotic Music. Eucharistic Ministers.
July 9	9:30	Guest Pastor: The Rev. Bill Nienstedt
July 16	9:30	Holy Communion.
July 24	9:30	Orchestra Sunday.

Synod Assembly

Please keep the Lower Susquehanna Synod in prayer on June 2 and 3 as they meet for the 2023 Synod Assembly. Pastor Nicholson will be attending.



High School Senior

Congratulations to Alexis Rankin upon her graduation from Chambersburg Magnet School on June 1st. Alexis will be working as a stylist at Holiday Hair. We will honor her at worship on June 3rd.

Confirmation Camp

Please keep Sam Nienstedt, Tyler Johnson, and Coleton Rankin in prayer as they attend Confirmation Camp at Nawakwa from June 11 through June 16. Pastor Nicholson will be attending with them.





Rose Rent

First Lutheran is one of three Rose Rent Churches in Chambersburg. Colonel Benjamin and Jane Chambers gave the land to First Lutheran, Falling Springs Presbyterian, and Zion Reformed in 1780 for their buildings. This land came with the stipulation that each June the congregation would present a rose to a descendent of the Chambers family in payment for the annual land rent. This year, Timothy George (9th generation descendent) will be receiving the rose from our Rose Garden on Sunday, June 17.



Outdoor Worship and Picnic

We hope you will join us at Greene Township Park Pavilion for Worship on Sunday, June 25 at 10:45. You may wish to bring a lawn chair. If you would like to help with the more causal worship that day, please be in touch with Pastor Nicholson. To help with music contact Freda Dorand.

The congregation picnic will follow. Price per person is \$12. Children under 12 are free. Menu will be posted at a later date in Memorial Hall. Please make your reservation for food by June 18th. Sign up in Memorial Hall after worship on June 11th & 18th, or by calling Mary Beth Warne at (717) 372-8282. Shorts and t-shirts are appropriate dress.



Tree-4-Hope/Guatemala

Tree 4 Hope

First Lutheran in in partnership with Tree-4-Hope Girl's School in Guatemala and is helping to build classroom space through our financial gifts to the school. Deacon David Hope-Tringali will be joining us for worship on July 30 at 9:30 to update us on the ministry in Guatemala. Also a group from First is considering visiting Guatemala next February. If you have an interest in learning more about this trip, please be in touch with Rose Wilson.

July/August Newsletter Deadline is June 15.

Dedication of Fountain

May 14, 2023





COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Property Committee: 1) An estimate from Sam's Flooring to replace carpet in the office and Meeting Room 2 at a cost of \$2,278 was approved. Prior to the carpet installation the weak flooring in the office will be further investigated and repaired. 2) Paul will be in contact with several stained-glass window restoration companies for advice and estimates on restoring the deteriorating stained-glass windows in the sanctuary. 3) C.V. Wenger will be called regarding kitchen a/c.



Worship & Music Committee: 1) An update on the sound system will be presented at the committee's June meeting. 2) A dedication of the new fountain in honor of Ed and Pat Dent will be held on Mother's Day, May 14. 3) Pentecost is May 28; worship begins at 9:30 a.m. 4) High school graduation recognition is June 4. 5) Father's Day and Rose Rent Sunday are June 18. 6) Outdoor worship at Greene Township Park is June 25.

Faith Formation: Pastor Nicholson and three young people will attend Confirmation Camp, June 11-16.

Visioning Team: Marotta/Main Architects were contacted regarding the possible redesign of the chapel/library area for ministry/community use/rentals/etc.

Social Missions: presented details regarding a possible mission trip to visit *Tree-4-Hope* in Guatemala. Rose will inquire if there are other churches visiting that we could possibly join next year.

Evangelism Committee: The committee is looking into options to update our photo directory.

Pastor's Report: Pastor shared a request from Synod looking for host families to house international camp counselors helping at Nawakwa this summer.

WELCA



The Bible study gathering for Women of the ELCA will be held on Thursday, June 8 at 1:30 p.m. in the meeting room. All women of First Lutheran are invited for a time of study and fellowship. Joyce Ray will lead the study.

There will be no other gatherings during the summer months. Members are asked to contribute an extra offering at the June gathering, for the upcoming Synod Convention

UP-COMING WOMEN OF THE ELCA EVENTS

SYNOD CONVENTION - August 18-19, 2023. To be held at Swamp Lutheran Church, Reinholds, PA. The theme is "Shepherd Me O God." More information and registration will be available soon.

TRIENNIAL CONVENTION – September 19-24, 2023. To be held in Phoenix, Arizona, with the theme of "Just Love."

CAMP HEBRON RETREAT – To be held October 27-29, 2023. The theme is "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made by God."



Ladies' Breakfast

The Women's Fellowship Breakfast will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 21 at Greenvillage Restaurant. **ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME.**

Summer is a time for cutting back on some activities and for rest and relaxing. But it is NOT a time for cutting back on supporting the needs of our neighbors. Please continue to contribute to the various projects that First is involved with, projects such as the Neighborhood Task Force, World Hunger, and Lutheran Disaster Relief. Thank You for all that you do!

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

The special offerings for the months of June, July and August are designated for World Hunger. Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger are empowering our partners to meet the needs of our neighbors – both near and far. From a midwife at a clinic in Liberia that is supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger – "So many good things are happening! The Lutheran Church in Liberia Malaria Program, an ELCA Partner, is always making sure that we have gloves and other Personal Protective Equipment in the delivery room, infection and prevention control materials and many others. Thanks to the Lutheran Church."

NEIGHBORHOOD TASK TEAM

Sharing God's love in our community

Neighborhood Task Team Upcoming Events:

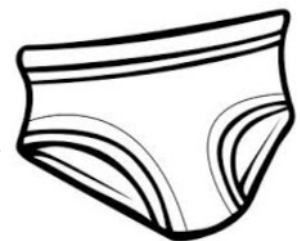
- June 11 – 2023 Laundry Day Spot Laundromat
- June 13, 2023 – NTT Meeting 1:30 pm Meeting Room 2
- August 19 – 2023 Back to School Event All are welcome to join us!



April 22, 2023-Spot Laundromat First Lutheran and Little Daisy's Closet teamed up to host a "Laundry Event" at Spot Laundromat in our neighborhood. John McCrae of Little Daisy's enlisted a Spanish translator and a Haitian translator to aid our communication with people who came to the laundromat. It was delightful and helpful to work together and learn more about how to help those in need. The group touched hearts, helped with prayer and showed love and care from First Lutheran and Little Daisy's Closet. Thanks to John and Kat from Little Daisy's for joining with us on a mission that has become more important to those in our neighborhood. NTT looks forward to partnering with Little Daisy's again with another event at the Spot laundromat on June 11 from 11 a.m.—1 p.m.. We are now purchasing laundromat cards from Spot to share with our neighbors. Your continued support is needed-financial, detergent and dryer sheets and prayers-to continue this outreach. Thanks for all that you do to help those in need!

Undy Sundays Recap A huge thank you from the Neighborhood Task Team for your generous support for NTT to provide new underwear for kids at the Back To School Event. The August Event provides new underwear and socks to children who are elementary school age. On this date the sock collection is still ongoing. Donations may be made until the end of May. A Tally of Donations for Undy Sundays:

Boys small 17 pair, medium 12 pair, large 13 pair Girls small 52 pair, medium 50 pair, large 20 pair Total Cash Donations \$861. NTT has had several agencies ask us to continue this outreach as other agencies do not provide NEW underwear for children. You make this happen for them. God Bless you as you are blessing these children.

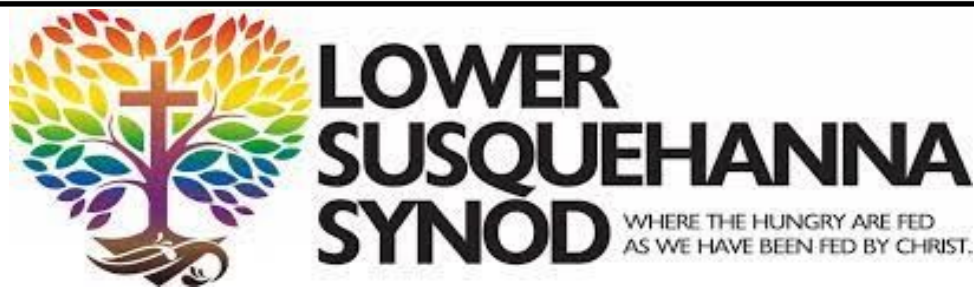


Spring Fling Saturday May 6, 2023 Twenty three volunteers from First Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, St Luke Lutheran and Little Daisy's Closet welcomed our neighbors to First for our Spring Fling Giveaway Event. Items offered included spring and summer clothing for men, women, and children, bedding and towels, summer shoes, toys for kids, books for kids, and miscellaneous items such as costume jewelry, pocketbooks and family games and puzzles. Snacks were also provided. Because of the nice weather we were able to place some clothing items on the fence. All the fence items disappeared before church service the next day. Approximately 160 people attended the event held from 10 until noon. The folks seemed truly appreciative of what we had to give. Some of those that attended shared their stories with us. We were are so glad that we are able to help in some small way. NTT appreciates all of the donations from the church members, their friends and families. A CASHS counselor found out about our event and shared that she has students in need. We were able to provide those kids with items to help them. Thanks to the those who stepped up to purchase some new clothing for these kids. We hope you were able to see the slide show of this event prior to the church service on May 21. Praise God for blessing this event





THANK YOU



Dear Partners in Christ,

As part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we are open to the Holy Spirit's invitation to participate in and contribute to God's work in the world using all of the gifts that God has entrusted to our care. Your mission Support-the portion of offerings that you share with our synod and the church wide organization-unites using this vital, life-giving work. Thank you for your gift of \$35,500 in 2022. We are also grateful to First Lutheran for gifts toward World Hunger & Disaster Relief.

Altogether, our synod invested over 4 million dollars to further the gospel call near and far. Thank you for your generosity! Your gifts strengthen the whole church, making it possible for us to participate more fully in God's mission for the sake of the world.

Yours in Christ,

James S. Dunlop
Bishop

Jennifer R. Lau
Vice President

Richard E.T. Jorgensen Jr.
Director for Evangelical Mission

Dear Pastor Nicholson and Members of First Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the surprise recognition of my 15th Ordination Anniversary and the lovely reception that followed worship on April 23. My call to ministry followed a 20-year career at MCI Communications in Washington, DC. After receiving a Master of Divinity degree at The Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia, I was called to Faith Lutheran in Arlington, VA and then to Solomon's Lutheran here in Chambersburg. I am now semi-retired and serve as a supply pastor in area churches. Your recognition and support reminds me that the Holy Spirit is active in all of you, reinforcing my call to serve God's people. Our family is honored to be disciples of Christ at First Lutheran Church!

Sincerely,
Pastor Bill Nienstedt



HELPING HANDS

Council

President: Tim Gotwald
 Vice President: Joyce Ray
 Secretary: Rose Wilson
 Treasurer: Sally Herritt
 Pastor: Jane Nicholson
 Deacon: Freda Dorand
 Jeff Dorand
 Barb Evans
 Marlin Maclay
 Mary Beth McGraw-Warne
 Gerry Wilson
 Financial Secretary:
 Carol McCoy

Happy Birthday
To Everyone
Born in June!



June Diehl	6/1	Diana Umbrell	6/18
Martha Umbrell	6/3	Preston Friend	6/19
Robert 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		

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.

TRANSPORTATION

Need a Ride?



Our church provides transportation to
 church on Sundays!

Please call if you need a ride.

Church office: 717-264-2015



**Deadline for
 The
 July/August
 Newsletter
 will be
 June 15**

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Chambersburg, PA 17201
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Website: www.felcc.org



@FirstEvangelicalLutheranChurch

@felccyouth

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

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CHAMBERSBURG, PA.

PERMIT NO. 137

Outdoor Worship and Picnic

(See page 3 for details)

Greene Township Park

Sunday, June 25th at 10:45.