



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

300 MELMORE STREET

TIFFIN, OHIO

APRIL 2021 SCROLL

"God is among us!"

"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile, and trust God for all that we need."

WORDS FROM PASTOR BAILEY

Here we are! Our Lenten journey has seemed long. In fact, we may even say the journey has seemed difficult from time to time as we have contemplated our relationship with our neighbor. We realize we still have much to do as we seek to "care for as" as proclaimed in our mission statement. Never the less, we made it through Lent!

Well, almost.

Now the most difficult path is before us. Yet this path is not ours to take. For what remains ahead is not a road that we would be able to manage alone. It is not a path we would endure well. Instead, it is a path reserved for Christ, and in Community with Christ, we journey onward into this Holy Week.

On Palm Sunday, March 28th, we proclaim "Hosanna!" We have longed for some semblance of good news and excitement to proclaim. "Hosanna!" we shout with joy in our hearts for our king has arrived. Yet, even in the midst of celebrating, there is a shadow of darkness that seems to hang in the air. Things aren't always what they seem. A king without a fight! A king without a plan to overthrow the evils of this world! What kind of king is that? So then, our "Hosannas" change to "Crucify Him" was we begin to contemplate the Passion of our Lord.

On Maundy Thursday, April 1st, we gather with the disciples in the upper room just as they did so many centuries before. We witness Jesus recreate the traditions of old as the Passover is rewritten and reformed in foot washing, in the breaking of the bread, and lifting up of the cup. On this night Jesus will later be betrayed, and we reflect on how these new traditions are now written on our heart as we "do this to remember me."

April 2nd is Good Friday and it is with sorrow in our hearts that we hear again the greatest story of love and compassion that the world has ever known. In the midst of Together we mediate upon the life giving tree of the cross, upon which held the Savior of the whole world as we contemplate the Passion of our Lord.

Yes indeed, this week lays out many challenging paths for us to journey through. Streets are filled with shouts and "Hosanna's," an upper room, a meal with dear friends, a garden, a trial, and a cross. Even with that, we give thanks, for the journey doesn't end at the Cross. It doesn't even end at the tomb.

For we have one more road to take. This one we take with Mary Magdalene and the other women as they visit Jesus' tomb. Here the unthinkable happens. In the midst

(Continued on page 2)

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Sunday Worship:

10:00 a.m.

Join us for worship:
Broadcast live on 93.3 FM
or 1600 AM and on Facebook
(firstlutherantiffin)

We are offering worship in-person with precautions

Maundy Thursday:

April 1, 7:00 PM

Good Friday:

April 2, 7:00 PM

Easter Worship:

April 4, 10:00 AM

Drive -Thru Communion following worship

Council Meeting:

Zoom Mtg

April 21st 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation Classes:

Every Sunday at 11 a.m.
Beginning April 11th

Baked Potato Lunch:

Sunday April 11th
Drive Thru Baked Potato Lunch after worship.

(Continued from page 1)

of doubt, sorrow, and fear, good news is found. A message of hope is proclaimed, "He is not here! He is Risen!" Easter is near and hope is found as we proclaim the great news of Jesus' resurrection on Sunday April 4th.

May the blessings of Holy Week abound in your life as you contemplate the rich Passion of our Lord and glory in the Good News of his Resurrection!

A blessed Holy Week!

Pastor Bailey



Youth News

Confirmation Classes Resume!

Attention all 6, 7, 8 grade youth. It's time to dust off our textbooks and get back to work as we prepare for Pentecost and the confirmation of our 8th Graders on May 23. Beginning Sunday, April 11, we will gather for class following worship. Together we will reflect on the pledges being made in the Rite of Confirmation and our call to serve our neighbor. Classes will be every week following worship and we will wrap each class up by noon. Together we look forward to learning and growing our life of faith!

Save the Date!

For all of our High School Youth, please save the date for the 2022 National Youth Gathering. It will take place in Minneapolis July 24-28. Don't forget we'll need some travel time on either side of those dates, so mark your calendar accordingly.

Stay tuned for more information as pre-Gathering information should be coming early Summer, and registration should begin this Fall.



Celebrating Easter

Together we celebrate the glories of the Resurrection on Sunday:
April 4, at 10:00 a.m.

**Due to Covid-19,
Easter seating available by
advance reservation only.**

**Tickets are free
and can be reserved by
contacting the church office.**



Great update to share on Pastor Dietz!! He arrived here at 11:30 this morning. The transport was uneventful and he was thrilled to feel the sunshine and be outside for just a little bit. Andy and Aaron got him all settled and he ordered a cheeseburger off the menu at the facility and it arrived within 10 minutes. He was very tired, but was thrilled to see his own belongings in the room. Andy said he just kept smiling. The quarantine rules change, almost daily, but we hope to be able to see him later this week. We will notify everyone when they open visits up to friends. His new address is:

Allen Dietz
Sunrise on Old Meridian
12130 Old Meridian Street
Building B, Apartment 216
Carmel, IN 46032

The phone number to his room (although his cell phone still works too) is 317-564-3806.

If you are thinking of sending a monetary gift to him or a check, for birthdays or holidays, etc. please send it to Andy and I, instead of directly to him, as we don't know how often he is opening his mail and we'd hate for it to sit there for too long or unacknowledged. Thank you!

I'll send out another update in about 10 days to let you know when visits can happen and how he's adjusting. Thank you again SO much for all the love, support and prayers. This has been a long journey, but God has been with us and certainly blessed Pastor Dietz and the family today! Praise God!
Andy and Jill :)

ANNOUNCEMENTS / BIRTHDAYS

West Ohio Food Bank

April 22nd will be the next opportunity to lend a hand as we help feed Seneca County. Distribution begins at 1:00. Volunteers are welcome anytime after noon. If you are in need of assistance, know that the line starts forming around 10 a.m. Feel free to come early, as supplies are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Many thanks to our faithful volunteers!



We will be offering in-person worship, with masks and precautions in terms of distanced seating and fellowship.

We will continue to offer worship via WTF 93.3FM and 1600AM and Facebook Live.



A reminder on Wearing a Mask

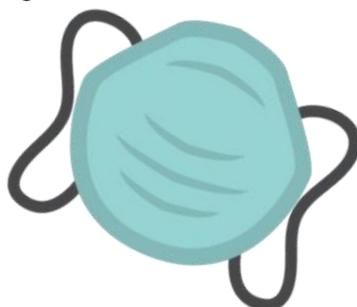
As more and more of us get a vaccine to battle against Covid-19, a kind reminder on wearing a mask. Our church policy is that if you are participating in a group activity within the building you need to wear a mask. We make this reminder because:

- Not all of us have had a vaccine.
- We host a pre-school with little ones who cannot get vaccinated.
- Experts still don't know if vaccinated individuals can be carriers.

Council shared this conversation at our March meeting and for the time being we would like to keep our current policies in place. So please wear a mask while in the building (vaccinated or not) until we revise and revisit our policies.

As our Lenten theme has allowed us to reflect on caring for our neighbor, think of it as the neighborly thing to do.

Don't forget to keep wearing your mask!



- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 3 | Ron Clark |
| | Austin Bell |
| 4 | Natalie Wertz |
| 5 | Becca Kobelt |
| | Emily Stacy |
| 6 | Jay Eckelberry |
| 9 | Ann Koning |
| 11 | Jerry Wheatley |
| 12 | Paul Crerar |
| 13 | Spencer Pauly |
| 15 | Erin Bhagat |
| | Claire Hall |
| 16 | Denise Stephens |
| 17 | Cindy Weickert |
| | Morgan Wise |
| 20 | Nancy Owens |
| 21 | Megan Moneer |
| 22 | Rick Nominee |
| | Zachary Ross |
| 23 | Marissa Stephens |
| 24 | Mikaelynn Sallee |
| 25 | Emma Blott |
| 27 | Lydia Vallery |
| 28 | Angie Bell |
| | Betty Rush |
| 30 | Amy Swope |
| | Nathan Wise |

GREETINGS FROM CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES!



Greetings from Childhood Ministries! We have all been very busy in our classrooms. The children have also enjoyed playing outdoors, as the warmer weather allows. The staff really appreciates that the children are able to run and play outside, as they have a great deal of energy!

Our Pre Three classes learned about "Dr. Seuss", "Frogs", "Colors of the Rainbow", "Weather/Spring" and Easter! They also focused on the color purple, diamond shapes and the letter "F". Most of the children enjoyed eating green eggs and ham during Dr. Seuss week. Ms. Ashley has been working with children to complete their evaluations as she prepares for Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Our Pre Four/Five classes have focused on letters "A" (Ten Apples Up On Top), "M" (The Mitten), "N" (Nursery Rhymes) and "V" (Vegetables). The classes also enjoyed various activities for Dr. Seuss week. Most of them enjoyed eating green eggs and ham, also. The class also had fun with "Wacky Wednesday"! They also enjoyed a video from Ms. Angie from TSPL and St. Patrick's Day Shenanigans. Ms. Mindy has been very busy working on evaluations and finishing Parent/Teacher conferences.

Our Extended Care children and staff have enjoyed playing outdoors as much as possible, as well as many March related activities. We experienced "Virtual Learning" and "Zoom" classes with our school age children on various occasions, as needed! We also experienced some St. Patrick's Day Shenanigans in Extended Care. (One of the preschool students informed her Dad that if she didn't wear green on St. Patrick's Day, I was going to punch her! Fortunately, he told her she misunderstood me, and I might pinch her if she didn't wear green. I assured him that I would never threaten the children or punch them!)

We are starting registration for our summer and fall programs on Monday, March 22 for FLC members, Monday, March 29 for current families and we will open registration to the public on Tuesday, April 6. If you or someone you know is interested, please call us at 419.447.1145 for more information. Again, thanks for your support!

Sincerely,

Jane Frederick,

Director of Childhood Ministries



ROMANS 8:16

Baked Potato Lunch!

Our High School Youth invite you to a mobile Baked Potato Lunch on Sunday April 11. We will have a variety of Potatoes hot and ready for you to pick up following worship and we will serve until 12:30 or until supplies run out. Options include:

Butter and Sour Cream

Bacon and Cheese

Chill and Cheese

Simply pull up to the kitchen door, place your order, and then pull up to the doors under the south portico and we'll have your lunch hot and ready!

The cost is up to you, as we are accepting free will donations which will help support our effort to attend the 2022 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Thank you in advance for your prayerful support of our youth.



WORSHIP INFORMATION

Thursday April 1	Friday April 2	Sunday April 4	Sunday April 11	Sunday April 18	Sunday April 25
Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Sunday	2nd Sunday of Easter	3rd Sunday of Easter	4th Sunday of Easter
Hosts: Beth & Jack Myers	Lectors: Chester and Margraf Families Hosts: ??	Lector: Melissa Chester Host: Beth & Jack Myers Acolytes: Jack Fay Andrew Fay Angela Nominee Jonathan Nominee Garrett Chester	Lector: Beth Margraf Host: Deb Hohman Acolytes: Michael Ross Zachary Ross	Lector: Linda Ellinger Hosts: Janet & Joe Zirger Acolytes: Jace Margraf Kale Margraf	Lector: Carol Jarrett Hosts: Nominee Family Acolytes: Jack Fay Andrew Fay

OTHER NEWS



April 4th will be the next drive-thru style communion, from 11:30-12:30, following worship.

Drive through the parking lot and down the south side driveway.

Under the portico, you will receive the sacrament, without leaving your car!
Exit via Melmore Street.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

APRIL LAWN CREW

John Kobelt

Jim Ruess

Many THANKS to our loyal lawn crew!

COUNCIL NEWS

God is among us!

We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile, and trust God for all that we need.

FEBRUARY 18, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING

This meeting was held by Zoom due to covid-19.

Present: Pastor Bailey, Beth Margraf, Shelley Ross, Jane Fruth, Kim Ames, Janet Zirger, Deb Nominee, Bonnie Oberlander, Anna Wildman.

Absent: Kelly Cook

Beth called the meeting to order.

Approve Agenda: room request was added to agenda. Shelley motioned to accept, Jane seconded and the motion passed.

Approve January Minutes: Deb made a motion to accept, Jane seconded and the motion passed.

Approve January Financial Report: Jane reported that with our current offerings we are heading in a positive direction. It is hoped that the preschool enrollment can increase which will be of a big help to us. Jane and Pastor will try a "mail-merge" of financial giving statements and a letter of thanks from Pastor. The statements will then be mailed out to members. Deb motioned to accept the report. Shelley seconded and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- Phase 1 of the door project: the frame is up. The stairwell door is not properly beveled and a new one is to be ordered. The security doors are not closing properly and work continues on this problem. Hardware needs to be added.
- Minutes from the Congregational Meeting were tabled until everyone has a chance to review them.

New Business:

- The Pancake Dinner planned for Fat Tuesday was cancelled due to a winter storm. It has been rescheduled for February 21st.
- Ash Wednesday service was a beautiful service and well attended both in-person and on Facebook.
- A room request was made by the Boy Scouts to use the Fellowship Hall for their annual Pine Wood Derby event. A motion was made to approve by Jane and seconded by Janet. Motion passed.
- After a discussion of when to re-open our church to in-person worship, it was decided to begin to offer in-person worship to members starting this Sunday, February 21st. Pastor will issue this invitation to members through his weekly email. A motion

FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 2021

	Month	YTD
<u>Income</u>		
Church	\$13,586	\$34,629
Pre-School	<u>\$7,899</u>	<u>\$17,736</u>
	\$21,485	\$52,365
<u>Expenses</u>		
Church	\$15,614	\$36,820
Pre-School	<u>\$7,697</u>	<u>\$12,900</u>
	\$23,311	\$49,720
Summary:	(\$1,826)	\$2,645

**Transfer from Investments
to cover expenses \$0**

We appreciate your gifts. The QR code will take you to our online giving page.



was made to approve by Shelley, Deb seconded and the motion passed.

- Worship and Music committee is discussing how best to hold Easter service and will pass their recommendation to council after their next meeting.
- There are three slots open on council : stewardship, evangelism, parish ed. We need to begin to talk to members about their willingness to serve.

Other Business:

- Beth gave a presentation on setting goals. After much discussion two goals were agreed upon: -FLC will

(Continued on page 7)

CONTINUED COUNCIL MINUTES

increase the amount of engagement/ participation from our congregation by reactivating normal church activities.

- Two events will be planned per month through December 2021. To ensure that this happen, committees will meet and comprise a plan for these events and for the recruitment of volunteers.
- FLC will compose a list of five prioritized necessary maintenance projects for the church building. A project committee will be formed to compile this list.
- As we think about our Lenten theme of "community," Pastor gave us the words "Learn in Lent, Respond in Easter." We will think about ways that we can reach out to our community perhaps helping the Humane Society, our preschool kids, the homeless, and others.

Committee Reports:

Finance: see report above. Financial statements will be mailed out.

Social Ministry: Pancake dinner will take place on Sunday, February 21st. Deb will be contacting members to work at the Sharing Kitchen.

Worship & Music: The piano was tuned for \$125. It was decided to increase the stipend paid to our cantor, Victor Welsh, from \$25 to \$40 as his time with us has been extended as has the amount of music that he has had to learn.

Childhood Ministry: Bonnie shared an itemized list of the number of children enrolled in our preschool and extended care programs. It is hoped that by summer these numbers can be increased. Regularly assessing the preschool students will begin as it is part of earning our third star.

Property: Kelly was contacted about shoveling the parking lot.

Motion to Adjourn: Deb made a motion to adjourn, Janet seconded it and the motion passed.

Next meeting: March 18th at 6:30.

Respectively submitted,
Kim Ames and Janet Zirger Co-Secretaries

HOLY HUMOR



SIGNS AND WONDERS

Sign outside a Catholic Church:

"Confessions today will be until exactly 5:30 p.m. There is only one priest available for confession today. Make your confessions direct, to the point and confess only your sins and offenses. No need to explain why you did it. Thank you very much!"
via Rev. Dr. Karl R Kraft Dover, DE

Sign in an IRS office:

"In God we trust. Everyone else we audit."

Sign outside a Portland, OR, church:

"When Jesus said 'love your enemies,' he probably meant we shouldn't kill them."
Lorene Irving, Lutherville Timonium, MD

Sign outside a church:

"Accept what is, let go of what was, and have faith in what will be."
Via Paul Kurlowicz
St. Michael Lutheran Church, Portage, MI

Did you know?

Pastor Bailey is honored to be included as a teacher in the synod wide Diakonia program. "Diakonia" is a two year faith formation college equivalent class for lay leaders across Northwestern Ohio Synod. For April and May, Pastor Bailey will be teaching a class on Christian Worship every Thursday. Our prayers and congrats to Pastor Bailey for being selected as one of our area Diakonia teachers.

If you want to know more about the Diakonia Program visit www.nwosdiakonia.org. Then prayerfully consider joining next year's class of new and upcoming students!

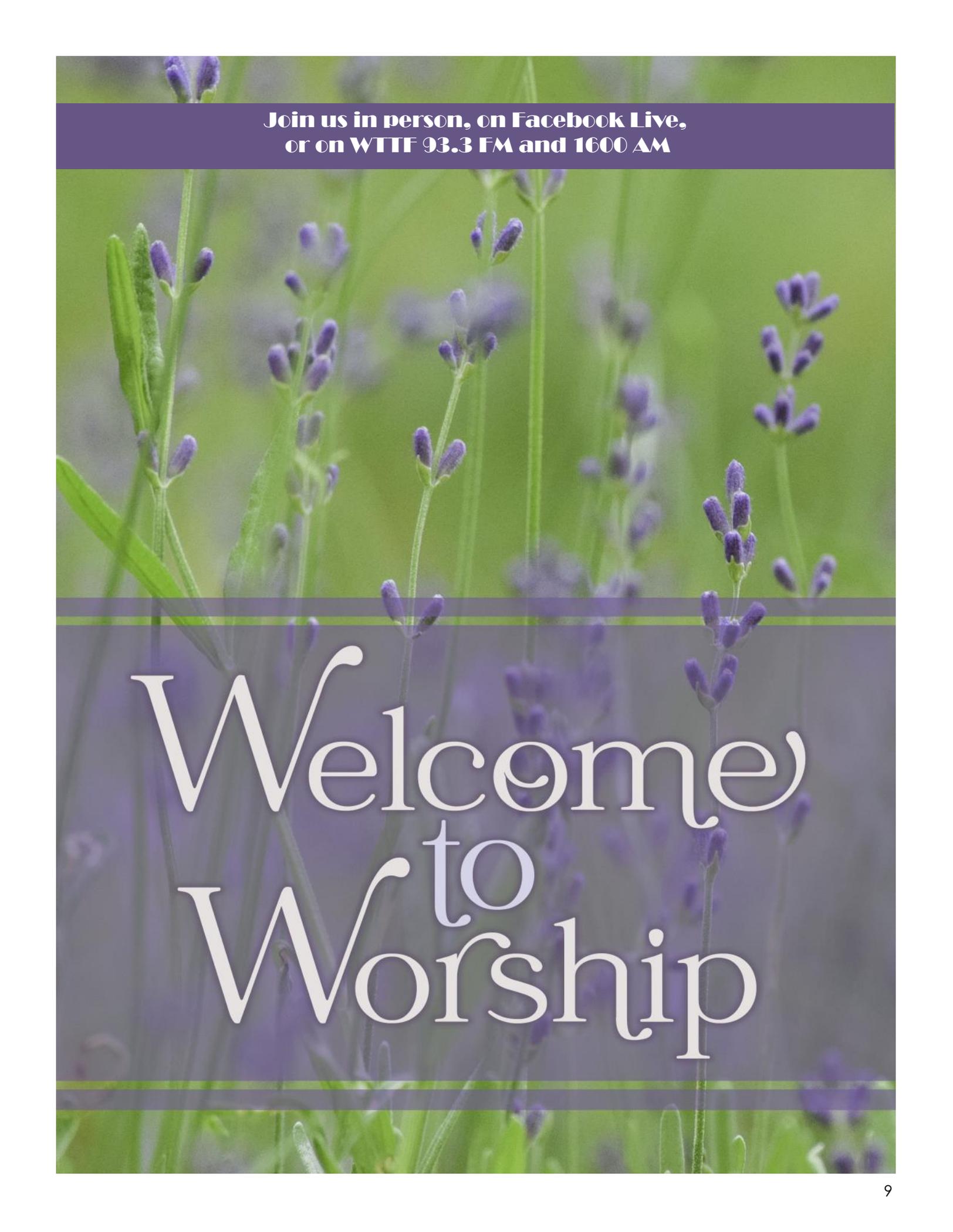


APRIL



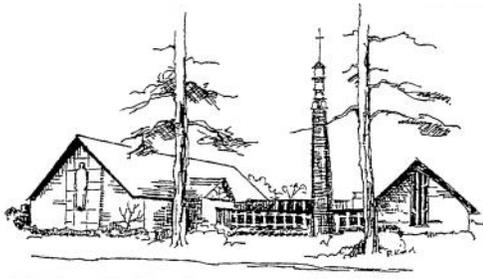
1 Maundy Thursday 7:00p Worship	2 Good Friday 7:00p Worship	3
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4 Easter Sunday 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person 11:00a Mobile Communion	5 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Pastor out of the Office</i> 6:30p Women's Bible Study	6 <i>Pastor out of the Office</i>	7 7:30p NA Group	8	9 7:30p NA Group <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	10
11 2nd Sunday of Easter 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person 11:00a Baked Potato Lunch 11:00a Confirmation Class	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:30p Women's Bible Study	13 4:00p Pre-school Board Mtg	14 7:30p NA Group	15	16 7:30p NA Group <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	17
18 3rd Sunday of Easter 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person 11:00a Confirmation Class	19 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:30p Exec Mtg via Zoom 6:30p Women's Bible Study	20 SCROLL INFO DUE TODAY	21 6:30p Church Council via Zoom 7:30p NA Group	22 1:00p West Ohio Food Bank	23 7:30p NA Group <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	24
25 4th Sunday of Easter 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person 11:00a Confirmation Class	26 <i>Office Closed</i> 6:30p Women's Bible Study	27	28 7:30p NA Group	29	30 7:30p NA Group <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	

A photograph of a field of lavender flowers in bloom, with green stems and purple buds. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green. The image is overlaid with a dark purple horizontal band at the top and a semi-transparent dark purple band across the middle where the main text is located.

**Join us in person, on Facebook Live,
or on WTTT 93.3 FM and 1600 AM**

Welcome to Worship



First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St.
Tiffin, OH 44883

April 2021
Vol. 38, No.4

First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883-3535 Tel: 419-447-1323

Office Hours: Tuesday — Thursday 9 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Website: firstlutherantiffin.com E-mail: 1lutheran@sbcglobal.net

Sunday morning worship is broadcast on WTTF, 1600 AM, 93.3 FM at 10:00 AM

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstlutherantiffin

CHURCH COUNCIL & MINISTRY TEAMS

PRESIDENT	Beth Margraf	WORSHIP & MUSIC	Anna Wildman
VICE PRESIDENT	Shelley Ross	PARISH ED	(vacant)
CO-SECRETARIES	Janet Zirger/Kim Ames	EVANGELISM	(vacant)
TREASURER	Jane Fruth	PROPERTY	Kelly Cook
CHILDHOOD MINISTRY	Bonnie Oberlander	STEWARDSHIP	(vacant)
SOCIAL MINISTRY	Deb Nominee		

FIRST LUTHERAN STAFF

Clayton J. Bailey	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Tel. 567.938.6077</i>
Ruth Scott	<i>Secretary</i>	
Curtis L. King	<i>Director of Music</i>	
John Bailey	<i>Janitors</i>	
Haley Welter		

CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES

Jane Frederick, *Director*
Tel: 419.447.1145