



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

300 MELMORE STREET

TIFFIN, OHIO

NOVEMBER 2022 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

You know the words, and you know them well. I'd invite you to sing along with me:

*Jesus Christ is risen today,
Alleluia!*

*Our triumphant holy day,
Alleluia!*

*Who did once upon the
cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss,
Alleluia!*

I know, seems odd to be singing an Easter Hymn as we are soon to celebrate Thanksgiving. Still, even as the Fall leaves and blustery breeze are blowing around us, there is never a time when we can't celebrate Easter. In fact, the hymn we began with is #365 in our hymnal, and I'd like to think that was intentional as there are 365 days a year to proclaim the good news: Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Now on to the greater question, why an Easter text in November. Simple answer, its one of our council's favorite Bible stories. Hear

these thoughts from Beth Margraf as to why it's her favorite: During the time Pastor was asking about our favorite Bible stories, I was getting disheartened by stories in the Old Testament of bad behavior and needed some good news. The Easter story provided that good news.

Did you know, each of the four Gospels tells the Easter story just a bit differently? There is one constant, the tomb is open, but out side of that each one is unique as to who and how people encounter the risen Christ. Dust off your Bibles with me . . .

In Matthew (chapter 28) the two Marys travel to the tomb where there is an earthquake and an angel appears and shares the good news. As they run to greet the disciples they are greeted by Jesus and they fall at his feet in humility, praise, and thanksgiving.

In Mark (chapter 16) Mary, Mary, and Salome visit the

Continued on page 2

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY

Worship

10:00 a.m.

In-person, on the radio @ 93.3 FM, and Facebook (firstlutherantiffin)

Confirmation Class

11:00 a.m.

HEALING SERVICE

Wednesday, November 2
6:30 p.m.

PIECE CORP

Wednesday, November 9
9:00 a.m.

COUNCIL

Wednesday, November 16
6:30 p.m.

WEST OHIO FOOD BANK

Thursday, November 17
Volunteers report by 12:30
Distribution begins at 1:00

BOUNTIFUL FEAST

November 20 following
worship

tomb which was already found to be open. They are greeted by a "young man" who shares the good news, yet they run off with fear and amazement "and said nothing to anyone for they were afraid."

In Luke (chapter 24) "they" being the women, although unnamed, visit the tomb where the stone had been rolled away. While there, two men in "dazzling clothes" stood beside them sharing the good news. The women run off to the disciples, yet to them it was an "idle tale." In John (chapter 20) Mary Magdalene came to the tomb alone. Upon seeing

that it was open, she sought Peter and John who in turn run to the tomb to witness the folded grave clothes. At some point later, Mary visiting the tomb encounters the gardener who reveals himself to be the risen Christ.

Each is unique. Each similar. Each tells the wonderful story that Christ is alive! The power, love, and grace of God cannot be beaten even by death itself. For that we are forever grateful. In fact, so grateful that Easter should be celebrated 365 days a year. With every sun rise and every sun set, we should be continually reminded of the new life revealed at Easter.

So I'd encourage you, as you gather to give thanks this month, that we do so with the resurrection in mind, even as we sing:

*Come, ye thankful people
come;
raise the song of harvest
home.*

*All be gathered safely in
ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple,
come,*

Pastor Bailey

*raise the song of
harvest home.*



Thanksgiving Baskets

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our Thanksgiving Food Basket collection. We are well on our way to creating 25 baskets for those in need throughout our community. These are the items still being collected:

October 30: Cereal, Boxed Desserts and Cornbread Mix

November 6: Instant Potatoes – Canned Sweet Potatoes

November 13: Mac & Cheese, Stuffing, and Gravy

Following worship on the 13th we will take some time to sort and organize the gifts given and prepare them to pack and organize (which will take place on Thursday the 17th). Times will be announced as we move closer to the day.

Thanksgiving Worship

Sunday November 20th will be a day full of opportunities to give thanks. Come and gather for our morning worship as we share in a Service of Thanksgiving. Following worship all are welcome to our Bountiful Feast, a wonderful tradition that we are excited to resume this year. Then come as you are able, to a Community Thanksgiving Service that evening. First Christian, First Presbyterian, Faith United Methodist, and First Lutheran will gather for a shared service of Thanksgiving, which will take place at First Lutheran at 7 pm.

GREETINGS FROM CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES!

October was a very exciting month, especially for our preschool children! The classes enjoyed a visit from one of the librarians from Tiffin-Seneca Public Library. They also had a visit from the Tiffin Fire Department. The students were able to observe a firefighter in full turn-out gear, practice crawling under "smoke" (a sheet held by firefighters) and climb up in the firetruck. The firemen were able to spend quite a while here with our children and teach them about fire safety!

The classes also learned about pumpkins and Fall leaves, as well as focusing on the letters and sounds of the alphabet while beginning to use the Handwriting Without Tears curriculum.

Another highlight of the month was welcoming a dwarf hamster as a class pet! The children will end the month with Halloween parties and class pictures!

Our Extended Care children have enjoyed different fall-related snacks, games, story books, art and science activities. We have been unable to play outside during some of this inclement weather. Many of the students enjoy going up to the gym (Fellowship Hall), as they haven't been up there much at all the past few months!

We are excited to share that we have applied for and recently been approved for a Child Care Stabilization Grant in the amount of \$122,600.00. These funds are earmarked for Preschool use only.

Again, thanks to all of you who support our programs in any way. It is greatly appreciated! It "takes a village to raise a child". Thanks for being part of our village!

Jane Frederick,

Director of FLEC/Pre-school

HOLY HUMOR



HEALING SERVICE

Wednesday Evening Healing Service

Mark your calendars for Wednesday November 2nd as we gather for our monthly healing service. This service will include music, reading from scripture, the laying on of hands for healing, and communion. Join us for what is turning out to be a new monthly tradition for First Lutheran.



YOUTH & CONFIRMATION

Youth Activities for November

All High School and Middle School Youth are invited to Youth Night on Sunday, November 6th. Our evening will begin at 6 pm and include time for bible study, fun, snacks, and some games. Our night will wrap up around 8. We look forward to seeing all of you then!

Confirmation Class in November

Our study on the Ten Commandments should wrap up on Sunday November 6th. After that we'll take a bit of a break for the holidays and revisit our next unit of study after the new year. Don't forget, classes are taking place right after worship and last about 45 minutes or until the noon bells ring.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GROUP INFORMATION

Many thanks to **everyone** who contributed to our annual Halloween Hospitality Community Outreach event. Our treat spot is enjoyed by many people who stop and visit each year!



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Monday Evening Group Contact Carol Jarrett for information.

Tuesday Morning Group will meet in the Library at 10 AM on Tuesdays

Thursday Night Group Contact Diane Greene or Janet Zirger for meeting info.

BOOKWORMS ANONYMOUS

This group will meet Monday afternoon, November 21st at 1:30 pm. If you would like to join them, the November reading selection is:

Answering Jihad by Ambul Qureshi.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

October 30- Cereal, boxed dessert, cornbread mix

November 6- Instant Mashed Potatoes & Sweet Potatoes

November 13- Mac & Cheese, Stuffing Mix & Gravy

Thank you for your generosity in sharing your blessings!



Thanksgiving Baskets

PIECE CORP

A special THANK YOU to Jeanette Conley who provided a wonderful breakfast buffet to begin the November Piece Corp gathering.

Everyone is invited to join Piece Corp the second Tuesday of each month.

Many hands make light the work!





This year's Bountiful Feast celebration will take place following worship on November 20th.

You will be able to **choose** if you would like to be **served cafeteria style** and dine in-person OR if you would like to **drive through and pick up meals to go**.

Although an RSVP is not required, it would be helpful to know how many people will dine-in and how many prefer drive-thru service. Sign-up sheets are in the lobby or you can call the Church Office to reserve your dinner. (419-447-1323)

The menu will include:

Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, a vegetable and a dessert.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Hanging of the Greens

We are in need of helping hands to decorate the church for the Advent season. We are in particular need of people who can climb ladders and reach high places, and help assemble/fluff the tall Christmas trees. Plans are to decorate on Monday, November 21st. More details will follow as Advent gets closer.

BIRTHDAYS



- 2 Cheryl Staib-Lewis
- 3 Zachary Shawberry
Aaron Wildman
- 4 Vicki Clouse
- 5 Julie Garlock
Allison Sallee
Gloria Stacy
- 6 Herb McClellan
- 9 Janice Nord
Harrison Widman
- 10 Blake Grangaard
- 13 Janet Zirger
- 15 Ron Guisinger
- 17 Claire Groves
- 19 Doug Rathburn
- 21 Heather Sallee
Charles Schrenk III
- 22 Dave Weickert
- 25 Gregg Cole
Racquelle Kelly
David Lather
- 29 Jackson Hohman



WORSHIP INFORMATION

<p>Call or email Melissa Chester if you would like to become more involved as a worship assistant.</p> <p>419-618-6622 melisac@qt2.com</p>	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY
	NOVEMBER 6	NOVEMBER 13	NOVEMBER 20	NOVEMBER 30
	ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY	CHRIST THE KING	THANKSGIVING SUNDAY	1 ADVENT
LECTOR	Beth Margraf	Melissa Chester	John Kobelt	Philip Scherr
HOSTS	Nominee Family	Nominee Family	Jody Kimmel	
SLIDE SHOW	Andrew Bailey		Andrew Bailey	Andrew Bailey
VIDEO CREW	Wendy Bailey		Wendy Bailey	Wendy Bailey



GROUNDS CREW & WEED WARRIORS

November 3-9- John Kobelt
November 10-16- Jim Ruess
November 17-23- John Kobelt
November 24- Jim Ruess/John Kobelt
 Many THANKS for all you do!



A tip of the hat to
 the Weed Warriors
 for another season+
 of keeping the
 church grounds
 looking colorful and
 weed-free! Your
 dedication to
 keeping the church
 looking well-kept is
 very much noticed
 and appreciated.

THANK YOU!!

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.

First Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 21st, 2022

Present: Pastor Bailey, Jonathan Nominee, Deb Nominee, Beth Margraf, Chet Margraf, Diane Greene, and Bonnie Oberlander.

Absent: Mike Porter, Janet Zirger, and Jane Fruth.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Pastor Bailey, in temporary absence of Beth.

Pastor then started the meeting with a bible study on the feeding of the five thousand and a prayer.

Approve Agenda: Pastor asked to add discussion on an AEP electric rate contract to new business. Deb motioned to accept the amended agenda and Diane seconded. The motion passed.

Approve August Minutes: Jonathan made a motion to accept the minutes and Diane seconded. The motion passed.

Approve August Financial Report: A financial report was sent to council by Jane before the meeting. In August, it appears the church experienced a three-thousand-dollar loss. A motion to accept the report was made by Deb and Bonnie seconded. The motion passed.

Old Business:

□ Updated church constitution.

o Council decided to postpone this discussion to October meeting.

□ Protocol for Pastor Illness

o Last month, Pastor created and administered an emergency list of supply pastors and emergency contacts to council members for the event of pastor illness. This month, pastor added a list of activities that he and his family normally handle on Sunday mornings to the emergency list for council to handle if the Bailey family cannot attend. o Pastor will keep copies of this list on hand in both his office and in the main church office going forward. o This completes council's goal of creating a protocol for the event of pastor illness in the future.

□ Use of Building

o Last meeting, council discussed with pastor the configuration of A/C systems in the building.

o Next meeting, Pastor will discuss with council as to if there is a better plan for the use of office space and A/C in the facility.

FINANCIAL REPORT MONTH ENDING AUGUST 2022

<u>Income</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Church	\$11,600	\$124,970
Pre-School	<u>\$12,857</u>	<u>\$126,931</u>
	\$24,457	\$251,901
<u>Expenses</u>		
Church	\$29,119	\$211,943
Pre-School	<u>\$14,250</u>	<u>\$ 95,985</u>
	\$43,369	\$307,928
<u>Summary:</u>		
Income	(\$18,912)	(\$56,027)

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

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



□ Church Facility Rentals

o Prior to this council meeting, it was approved by email of council members for use of facilities by Heidelberg University on various dates this fall for musical performances.

New Business:

□ AEP Electric Meter Contract

o Currently, the church has four different electricity meters which are used for supplying the buildings with power.

o AEP has reached out to offer the church a new three-year contract at or around 8.3 cents per kWh.

o Currently, the church does not have a contract and electric rates are set at market price which fluctuate as high as 11.7 cents per kWh.

o Pastor motioned and Jonathan seconded to go

(Continued on page 8)

forward with creating a contract with AEP. The motion was approved.

Pastor's Report:

A written report to council members was sent (attached to this report). Highlights from the report as discussed at the meeting include.

- o Pastor was appreciative of the hospitality and celebration of his 20th ordination service.
- o The annual fire inspection for the building was performed on September 8th . We did not pass as a church, but corrections have been made and a reinspection will be on September 22nd .
- o September 4th pastor was involved with a joint baptism for the Porter family with Jamie Porter. Going forward, please keep Mike and Darci in your prayers. Mike is shipping out to Iraq on September 26th .
- o Pastor has been busy meeting with couples for weddings this summer. With the completion of Chet's wedding on September 10th, wedding season is now complete for him.
- o Pastor will be driving to Findlay for the next 5 weeks on Thursday evenings to teach on leadership.
- o The new fire monitoring system for the building was installed last month and is operating well.
- o The A/C for the Fellowship Hall and Nave was also fixed last month with some easy washing of the outdoor compressor unit.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Position not currently filled.

Evangelism: Position not currently filled.

Finance (Jane Fruth): Not present, no report.

Property (Filled-In by Pastor): Rick has been doing a great job as new janitor.

Worship and Music (Filled-In by Bonnie): The first September healing service was held this month with about a dozen people in attendance. They are working to improve the service with some minor changes going forward, but overall the feedback received has pointed to it being a good experience. The committee is currently working on preparing Fall decor for in the church, and the weed warriors have decided to forgo on the church planter boxes.

Parish Education (Diane Greene): Diane created clipboards for our pre-Sunday school youth to use at service. They were a nice improvement to the service for the children, and she is going to continue working on the boards with some upgrades in the future. Diane also sent out cards to Sunday school age youth last month to encourage their participation and discussed her idea to include giving individual cookies to the youth as part of the Good Samaritan Sunday school theme. In other news, Diane is ready to give up her position. She is looking and would like to find someone to take her place.

Childhood Ministries (Bonnie Oberlander): Notes from the last childhood ministries meeting are as follows:

Things are going well.

The preschool can still take some more children.

Due to Tiffin City bus route changes, some afternoon daycare has not been needed.

Brittany is still doing well as part of the staff and will be attending additional training in the near future.

Currently, 44 children are in extended care.

State licensing was here last month.

Pastor is going to start chapel time again with the students.

The committee is working on creating one-year contracts to employee teachers going forward.

Social Ministry (Deb Nominee): Topics Deb presented to council included:

School kits are completed.

The idea of being in a parade was mentioned to the committee, but many of the school age children were already busy so no action was taken.

The archive project has not met again this month.

Enthusiasm is still present for the project, but additional muscle is needed.

It was suggested by Jonathan to reach out to the Tiffin City National Honor Society to find students who need community service hours to help with the project.

The 20th of November is proposed as the tentative date for the bountiful feast. It was suggested

to do an RSVP for the event to get a headcount of dine-ins and to go meals. They are still looking for more people who have Thrivent cards to help with the event.

Trunk or Treat will be held again on Sunday this year at 3-5pm on October 30th.

Youth Report (Jonathan Nominee): Confirmation classes will be starting on October 2 nd , which will be the same day as youth night at the church.

Adjournment: The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 19th, at 6:30pm. Andy Stephey will be here to cover insurance.

□ Beth went over council goals for the year and congratulated everyone on the accomplishments we have made so far this year with completing the list.

A motion was made to adjourn by Chet and seconded by Pastor. The motion passed.

Pastor sent everyone off with a blessing and prayer.

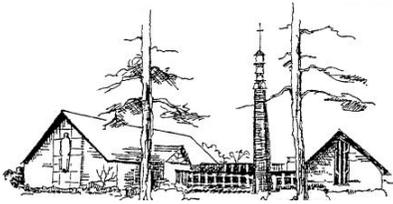
Submitted: by *Chet Margraf,*

Council Secretary

NOVEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 <i>Office Open</i> 10:00a Bible Study 4	2 <i>Office Open</i> 6:30 Healing Service 7:15p Worship & Music	3 <i>Office Open</i>	4 <i>Office Closed</i> Pastor's Day Off	5  Tonight!
6 All Saints' Sunday 10:00a Worship 11:00a Confirmation Class	7 <i>Office Closed</i>	8 <i>Office Open</i> 10:00a Bible Study 4:30p Christian Ed Election Day	9 <i>Office Open</i> 9:00a Piece Corp 4:00p Pre-School Board	10 <i>Office Open</i> Pastor @ Synod Retreat	11 <i>Office Closed</i> Pastor's Day Off	12 7:00p Heidelberg Community Choir Concert at First Lutheran
13 Christ the King 10:00a Worship 11:00a Food Basket Sorting	14 <i>Office Closed</i> 1:30p Book worms	15 <i>Office Open</i> 10:00a Bible Study	16 <i>Office Open</i> 6:30p Council	17 <i>Office Open</i> 1:00p West Ohio Food Bank 7:00p Food Basket Packing	18 <i>Office Closed</i> Pastor's Day Off	19
20 Thanksgiving Sunday 10:00a Worship 11:00a Bountiful Feast 7:00p Community Thanksgiving Service	21 <i>Office Closed</i> Deck the Halls time TBA	22 <i>Office Open</i> 10:00a Bible Study	23 <i>Office Open</i>	24 	25 <i>Office Closed</i> Pastor's Day Off	26
27 1 Advent 10:00a Worship 11:00a Confirmation Class	28 <i>Office Closed</i>	29 <i>Office Open</i> 10:00a Bible Study	30 <i>Office Open</i>			



First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St.

Tiffin, OH 44883

NOVEMBER 2022

Vol. 39, No.11

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: firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com

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

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

The Staff of First Lutheran

PASTOR	Clayton J. Bailey	PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR	Jane Frederick
SECRETARY	Ruth Scott	LEAD TEACHER	Britany DelTurco
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Curtis L. King	JANITOR	Rick Sholl

Our Church Council and Our Ministry Team Chairs

PRESIDENT	Beth Margraf	WORSHIP & MUSIC	Janet Zirger
VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Porter	PARISH ED	Diane Greene
SECRETARY	Chet Margraf	EVANGELISM	(vacant)
TREASURER	Jane Fruth	PROPERTY	(vacant)
CHILDHOOD MINISTRY	Bonnie Oberlander	SOCIAL MINISTRY	Deb Nominee
YOUTH REP	Jonathan Nominee		