

FIRST EDITION - ADVENT 2022

We worship, welcome, witness, teach and serve in the name of Jesus Christ.

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
21 SOUTH BEDFORD STREET, CARLISLE, PA 17013

“My soul magnifies the Lord” **An Advent mid-week series**

Wednesdays, November 30, December 7, 14, 21
6:30-7:30 p.m. (with optional “BYOD” at 6 p.m.)

The *Magnificat* (Luke 1:46-55), also known as the Song of Mary, is one of the Christian church’s most ancient hymns. This year, we will spend some time digging into the gospel of Luke’s theology, which the *Magnificat* reflects, and how the *Magnificat* has been integrated into the church’s worship over the millennia. We will also listen to – and perhaps even sing! – some of the many musical settings of the *Magnificat*.

Join us for a time of learning, reflection and meditation in the midst of a busy season!

6-6:30 p.m. – (*optional*) you are invited to join Pastor Leber for BYOD (“bring your own dinner”) - take out, leftovers, whatever! We will gather in the Martin Luther Room.

6:30-7:15 p.m. – study/discussion

7:15-7:30 p.m. – worship

Lessons & Carols - Sunday, December 18 at 4 p.m.

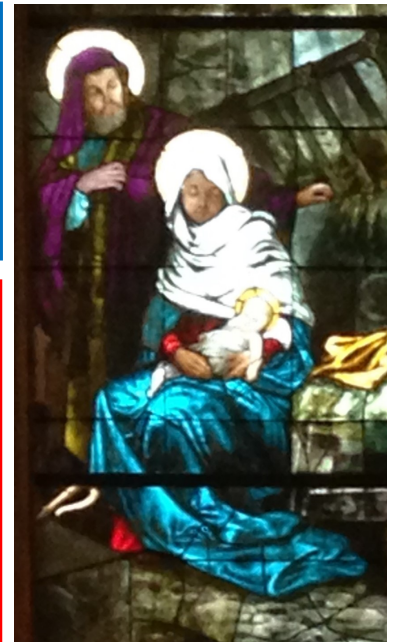
Through bible readings, hymn singing and anthems by our Chancel Choir, we will tell the story of the birth of Christ, our Savior. Join us for this beautiful candlelight service and for a Christmas cookie reception in the Atrium after!

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Saturday, December 24

4 p.m., 7 p.m. & 9 p.m. (*please note new time!*)

All three of our Christmas Eve services include communion and candle-lighting. Our 4 p.m. service is a spoken liturgy with several carols. The Chancel Choir will lead our festival service at 7 p.m. The 9 p.m. service will be more meditative, with music by a small choral ensemble. Join us as we celebrate with the shepherds and angels “*good news of great joy!*”!



From the First Lutheran Nativity window

CHRISTMAS DAY and NEW YEAR’S DAY WORSHIP

Sundays, December 25 and January 1, one service at 10 a.m.

Building to Serve All God's Children Capital Campaign Update (as of November 6)



Total campaign commitments: \$601,915

Total given through 12/31/21: \$808,005

Total given in 2022: \$30,889

Grand Total given to date: \$838,894

Thank you for your continuing generosity and support!

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

December 2022

Sun., Dec. 4	11:30 a.m. - Hanging of the Greens
Wed., Dec. 7	6:30 p.m. (6 p.m. BYOD) - Advent Mid-week
Tues., Dec. 13	9:30-11 a.m. - LWR Quilting
Wed., Dec. 14	6:30 p.m. (6 p.m. BYOD) - Advent Mid-week
Sat., Dec. 17	10 a.m.- Lessons & Carols Rehearsal
Sun., Dec. 18	4 p.m. - Lessons & Carols
Tues., Dec. 20	6:30 p.m. - Congregation Council
Wed., Dec. 21	6:30 p.m. (6 p.m. BYOD) - Advent Mid-week
Sat., Dec. 24	4 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m. - Christmas Eve worship
Sun., Dec. 25	10 a.m. - Holy Communion
Mon., Dec. 26	Building & Office <u>closed</u>
Tues., Dec. 27	9:30-11 a.m. - LWR Quilting
Wed., Dec. 28	Building & Office <u>closed</u>
Thurs., Dec. 29	Building & Office open <u>9 a.m.-3 p.m.</u>
Fri., Dec. 30	Building & Office open <u>9 a.m.-NOON</u>
Mon., Jan 2	Building & Office <u>closed</u>

BUILDING/OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

Monday, December 26	CLOSED
Tuesday, December 27	OPEN 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday, December 28	CLOSED
Thursday, December 29	OPEN 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Friday, December 30	OPEN 9 a.m.-12 NOON
Monday, January 2	CLOSED

PLEASE NOTE:

All contributions must be received in the church office by 12 NOON on FRIDAY, December 30, 2022, in order for them to be reflected on your 2022 contribution statement. All contributions received after this date will be posted in 2023.

2023 offering envelopes are available in the church office. Please make sure you pick up your box. If you have any questions, contact Robin in the church office (717-249-3310).

Weekly meetings

Community Room (room 17 on the lower level of the Christian Education wing)

Tuesdays at 4 p.m.: Overeaters Anonymous

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.: Alcoholics Anonymous

FYI: Our new phone system, including voice mail, is operational!



Calling all Bakers — Cookies Needed!

We are seeking cookie donations for the Lessons & Carols fellowship on Sunday, December 18, for the Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry AND for Cumberland County prisoners.

Bakers may bake cookies for one, two or all three!

Labelled donations should be placed in the Festal Hall kitchen (lower level) by Sunday morning, December 18. (You may also drop them off in the church office during regular office hours the preceding week.)

- * Cookies for the Lessons & Carols fellowship may be placed on trays or in plastic containers.
- * Cookies for the prisoners may be placed in baggies or in plastic containers.
- * Cookies for the Truck Stop Ministry **must** be packaged as follows (per the Truck Stop Ministry!):

Place 6-8 cookies into a small plastic zip lock bag. Place the plastic bag in a paper lunch bag. Staple paper bag shut. You are invited to decorate the lunch bag. (Christmas card fronts stapled to the bag are great!)

On December 19, the Social Ministry and Global Outreach Committee will be delivering the cookies for prisoners to the Carlisle Area Religious Council for packaging and to the Truck Stop Ministry.

Fill a box for under our Christmas tree!



Boxes will be available in the High Street narthex, the Atrium (upper level), and outside the church office for you to take home and fill during Advent with needed items for clients of **Domestic Violence Emergency Shelter** and for **Carlisle Family Life Center**. (A list of suggested items is attached to each box.) You can add an item each day as part of your Advent devotions or fill the box on a Christmas shopping trip.

Then simply wrap your box, bring it to worship on Christmas Eve, and put it under the Chrismon Christmas tree in the nave!

Help us celebrate the birth of Jesus by sharing with our neighbors in need!



The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Advent Day Apart
Saturday, December 3, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
The Wittel Farm, Elizabethtown

All are invited to a day of prayer and meditation in preparation for the birth of the Christ child.

Cost is \$15 and includes lunch.

Register or learn more about the event at www.lutherancamping.org.

A huge thank you to everyone that helped with the meal for My Brother's Table [July 24]. What a tremendous blessing you all are to the community. Being shown kindness through a smile or thoughtful word means so much to everyone. Thanks again!

Trinette [Ream]
The Salvation Army





Our second annual Chili Cook-Off was a lot of fun and a huge success, raising \$700 for Project SHARE!

Approximately 44 attendees enjoyed sampling seven chili recipes and a variety of cornbread recipes.

Congratulations to Dan Wonders, this year's chili cook-off winner!

Thanks to our chili cooks, cornbread bakers, and tasters! And a special thanks goes out to Janelle Hoch for organizing the event on behalf of the Social Ministry and Global Outreach Committee!



Top: Our chili cooks, including the defending champion, Alecia Staley.

Above: The winner of the 2022 cook-off, Dan Wonders, with Janelle Hoch, master of ceremonies.

SUMMARY OF 2022 ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

First Lutheran held its annual meeting on Sunday, November 20, 2022, at 11:35 p.m. with approximately 63 voting members in attendance. Actions taken included:

The minutes of the 2021 annual congregation meeting and the July 31, 2022, special congregation meeting were approved as presented.

The congregation elected five members to council. Caryn Carr, Kirby Gutshall, Paul Kraus, Linda Martin and Richard Wood were elected to three-year terms. **The congregation also elected** Michelle Fisher, Rob McDaniel, and Taylor Miller to serve on the 2023 Nominating Committee.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted, subject to review.

The congregation approved First Lutheran's 2023 proposed Mission Spending Plan of \$602,650 and the proposed Capital Projects Budget of \$25,000.

Outgoing Council members Michelle Fisher, Karen Hollen, Steven King, Mike Luther, and Sam Orner were recognized.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:03 p.m.

POINSETTIAS, WREATH SPONSORSHIPS & WORLD HUNGER GIFTS



Poinsettias and wreaths will decorate the nave and chancel again this Advent and Christmas season. Poinsettias may be sponsored for \$10.00 each (and may be taken home after the 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service). Sponsors are also needed for our seven 24" wreaths (\$30.00 each) and six 30" wreaths (\$35.00 each).

Order forms are due in the church office by **Wednesday, December 14**, and are available in the High Street narthex, on the kiosk in the upper level of the Atrium, in the church office, or by contacting Robin in the church office at secretary@firstlutheranCarlisle.org or 717-249-3310. The forms may also be used to make a gift to our Christmas World Hunger appeal.



Faith Formation News

For their 2nd Sunday service project in October, our Sunday School youth baked sugar cookies and made thank you cards for our community's first responders.



O come, O come, Emmanuel!

The staff of First Lutheran wishes you and yours a blessed Advent, a merry Christmas and joy in the new year!

Hope, Robin, Pastor Leber and Pastor Lorenz



From our Sister Parish, Divine Redeemer (El Divino Redentor) Lutheran Church, San Miguel, El Salvador

Below is a recent email with pictures from Pastor Belinda Fernandez.

May the Spirit of God strengthen and bless you, family and Church.

These are difficult days that we live after the passage of Tropical Storm Julia in Salvadoran territory, it has left mourning and pain in many Salvadoran families.

Here in our Eastern zone we have had the greatest disasters, due to the overflow of the Big River of San Miguel. Some neighborhoods were under water, flooded streets making it difficult to evacuate people, even using boats to transfer people to shelters, due to the magnitude of the intense rains, so far there are 10 people who have lost their lives nationwide. All crops have been lost: crops of corn, beans, vegetables, coffee, among others. As a Church we have joined the ADESCOS [Community Development Associations] community groups that join efforts with the Mayors to help in these difficult times. We continue in the monitoring work and others. Thank our God who allows us to be active in the face of the emergency.



They are beautiful!!! the quilts made by the women’s group, yes indeed, as part of those affected in critical circumstances that we have experienced in the past, the Lutheran Synod has donated some quilts to our parish El Divino Redentor, now I know where they are made, they really help both the families who live in tin houses, not well built, to keep warm, also older adults in the rainy season that gets cold at night and early in the morning. They are blessings!!! Beautiful work these women do with lots of love!!!



A quilt like this, of course, is not available commercially, but quilts of this type here are very expensive, people with limited resources cannot buy them.

Thank you very much to you always a blessing for us your service in our brotherhood relationship.

Brotherly hugs,

Pastor, Belinda Fernandez
Divine Redeemer Church, San Miguel, El Salvador

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CELEBRATING A



DEATH

Mary Ann March

birth — January 30, 1933

death — October 24, 2022

✝ *Rest eternal grant her, O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon her.*

Floyd & Roma Morrison (71 years)..... 11/2

Bob & Rickie Cook (56 years)..... 11/6

Larry & Marjorie Shenk (64 years)..... 12/21

Chuck & May Seibert (51 years) 12/26

Rich & Marsha Lorenz (53 years)..... 12/27

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Lutheran World Relief Ingathering — October 2

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Mission Quilts create a tangible, lasting bond between the people who lovingly assemble them and our neighbors around the world who receive quilts in the greatest times of need. LWR sends an average of 300,000 quilts worldwide each year. And each year, our quilting group makes and sends approximately 100 of those quilts to LWR for distribution!



Above, some of the 94 quilts displayed and blessed on Sunday, October 2.

Speaking of quilts!

In case you didn't catch it, on the previous page, members of our sister parish are pictured with quilts distributed to them by LWR after the recent tropical storm. Who knows? Some of the quilts keeping our brothers and sisters warm in El Salvador may have been made right here at First Lutheran!

Thank you, quilters, for your ministry!

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21 South Bedford Street
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717-249-3310

www.firstlutherancarlisle.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Office Hours:

Monday — Friday
8:30 a.m.—12:15 p.m. & 12:45—4:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship:

8 & 10:30 a.m. – Holy Communion



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Sunday sermons are posted on our website — so if you couldn't worship with us or would like to share a sermon with a friend, visit www.firstlutherancarlisle.org and click on the "Worship" tab and then "Sermons."

Newsletter articles are due by the 15th of each month.