



FIRST EDITION DECEMBER 2018

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

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

Join us for Advent and Christmas worship at First Lutheran

Advent Evening Prayer: *The Light Comes*

Wednesdays, December 5, 12 and 19, at 7 p.m.

(preceded by a light soup supper at 6:15 p.m.)

Approximately 30 minutes long, evening prayer is a beautiful service of light, singing, silence, and prayer. A soup and bread supper is available in the Martin Luther Room beforehand, at 6:15 p.m. No RSVP required!

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 16, at 4 p.m.

Through bible readings, hymn singing and anthems by our Chancel Choir, we will re-tell the story of how God sent Jesus to us as a little baby. Join us for this beautiful service and for the light supper and 'Round-the-Tree carol sing that follows at 5:15 p.m.!

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24, at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

All three of our Christmas Eve services include communion and candle-lighting as we sing *Silent Night* together. Our 4 p.m. service is a spoken service with several Christmas carols. Our 7 p.m. service is a children and family-oriented service, with children and youth participating in worship leadership. Our 10 p.m. service is a full festival Christmas celebration, with music by our Chancel Choir.



First Lutheran Nativity window

Building to Serve All God's Children



Capital Campaign Update (as of November 25):

Total pledges/gifts from 104* households: \$630,948

(consists of \$598,855 in three-year pledges/one-time gifts and \$32,093 unpledged/"as able" gifts given)

Total pledged and unpledged campaign contributions paid: \$256,827

**Includes four (4) non-member households, which made one-time memorial gifts to the campaign.*

Construction Update

The demolition phase of our project is largely finished. It's been amazing to see the east side of the 1901 building emerge as part of the 1966 addition was removed! When the Christian Ed wing was built, a number of 1901 windows were removed. The openings were then filled with concrete masonry units (those grey blocks). A stone staircase once led up to the doorway with the deep arch on the right side of the photo. And you can



see that room we now use as a sacristy (on the far right), originally the pastor's study, had three windows. Now that we know the 1901 brick is in fairly good condition, we will be keeping some of it exposed on the second floor of the new addition.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS - NOVEMBER 2018 MEETING



Our Congregation Council met briefly during Thanksgiving Week for its regular November session. Actions taken included the following:

- ♦ Approval of five new members: Diane and Mike Luther, Connie and Joe McDermond, and Arlyn Pettingell.
- ♦ Acceptance of the resignation of Kathryn McCusker as our Financial Secretary.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

First Lutheran held its 2018 annual meeting on Sunday, November 11, 2018, at 12:35 p.m. There were approximately 76 voting members in attendance. Listed below are the actions taken during the meeting.

The minutes of the 2017 annual congregation meeting and of the January 14, 2018, and September 9, 2018, special congregation meetings were reviewed and approved.

The congregation elected five members to council. Roger Giffin, Nancy Ingram, Lee Leidigh, John Shugars and Ashley Zink were elected to three-year terms. **The congregation also elected** Linda Fargus, Charley Gitt and Taylor Miller to serve on the 2019 Nominating Committee.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved.

The congregation received and approved First Lutheran's 2019 proposed Mission Spending Plan of \$528,600.00 and the proposed Capital Projects Budget of \$173,000.00.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.

YWCA Afterschool Homework Club

First Lutheran has hosted the YWCA Afterschool Homework Club since February 2017, when the Club's previous site became unavailable. The Club will be relocating to Letort Elementary after the holidays. Letort will be able to accommodate an expanded program, with the added bonus that participating students will simply remain at the school at the end of the day, eliminating the need for transportation. Thanks to all who provided snacks for the Club over the past few years. As Robin Scaer, executive director of the YWCA, noted: *"The congregation at First Lutheran certainly cares deeply for the community and is kind with donations and such."*

Haven't submitted your stewardship form yet?

It is not too late to complete your Invitation to Stewardship form to indicate your financial commitment to the ministries of our congregation for 2019. Additional stewardship forms remain available in the church office. You can also pick up a copy of our current “Ways to Serve” pamphlet and learn about all the opportunities there are for you to offer your hands to God’s work, now and in the year to come!

INTERESTED IN SIGNING UP FOR E-GIVING?

E-giving is an automatic transfer program that allows you to make financial contributions to First Lutheran electronically. E-giving authorization forms and lists of frequently asked questions are available in the church office and under the Members tab on our website (www.firstlutherancarlisle.org). Your authorization form, along with a voided check, should be dropped off in the church office or mailed to:

First Lutheran Church
Attn: Robin Orner
21 South Bedford Street
Carlisle, PA 17013



Your information will be kept secure and confidential.

PLEASE NOTE:

All contributions must be received in the church office by 12 noon on Monday, December 31, 2018, in order for them to be reflected on your 2018 contribution statement. All contributions received after this date will be posted in 2019.

Offering envelopes for 2019 are available in the narthex. Please make sure you pick up your box of envelopes for the new year. If you have any questions, please contact Robin in the church office (717-249-3310).

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, Lutheran Social Services of Northern California and the California synods to respond to the wildfires raging across California. Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for “U.S. wildfires” will be used to help those affected by wildfires until the response is complete. You can also continue to support LDR’s work in the aftermath of hurricanes Florence and Michael by designating your gift for “hurricane response.”



Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

From Our Archives



B is for Bethlehem, a quaint little town.

The birthplace of Jesus; swaddling
clothes were his gown.

FIRST LUTHERAN'S CHRISTMAS ABC's

This "B" drawing from an alphabetical presentation of Christmas-themed drawings was featured at the 'Round-the-Tree Christmas Carol Sing at First Lutheran on December 15, 1996. The young compilers and artists (themselves pictured under "Y" for Youth) were Nora, Tim, Matt, Rebecca, Kate and Courtney.

COMMUNITY CARES (formally known as Carlisle C.A.R.E.S.)

HOST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR JANUARY



In January, First will serve as the host congregation for the Community CARES shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness. It's been our privilege to serve this vital local ministry as a host congregation (and as a financial supporter) for many years. As we focus on the fullness of Advent and the celebration of the coming of our King of kings, Jesus, we are preparing to welcome His creation to our building for shelter from winter weather.

We are currently recruiting church host volunteers. These individuals are present approximately two evenings per month, from 8:30 until 10 p.m., to welcome men (maximum of 30) who will spend the night in Festal Hall. A professional volunteer and a male overnight volunteer, both provided by Community CARES, will also be present, and the church host volunteer serves to answer any questions they have regarding First and the shelter area. Our goal is to finalize the schedule by December 15. Please consider serving again, or for the first time, in gifting God's own with the love of a warm, dry place to spend the night. For more information, please contact Taylor Miller at 717-448-5363, 717-241-6424, or by email at taylormiller@comcast.net.

BUILDING HOURS: During construction, the weekday/evening entrance to the building is via the door at the east end of the Christian Education wing, by Pastor Leber's office. **This door is locked promptly at 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.** As a general rule, please assume that the door will be unlocked no more than 15 minutes before any scheduled evening meeting, choir rehearsal, or other activity. Thank you!

Sunday	Attendance	Offering
Oct. 7	156	\$7,630.30
Oct. 14	139	\$4,087.00
Oct. 21	139	\$5,937.30
Oct. 28	165	\$3,464.65

Dear First Lutheran Family,

Thank you so much for sending me the care package at college. It means so much that I have a church community that thinks of me and includes me even if I am 1,000 miles away sometimes.

Sincerely, Ben Galbraith



Dear First Lutheran Family,

Thank you so much for the care package and for all of your love and support for the last four years. I appreciate that my home church keeps thinking of me while I am away at college.

God bless, Madelynne Staley

I would like to thank Pastor Leber for her visit when I was in the hospital and the prayers and calls since I am home. Both Don and I are doing much better.

Thank you,
Pat and Don Fry

What talents do you have to offer? — Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

- ♦ **Quilters** — Quilters meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. The quilts are not difficult to make — we'll show you what you need to know. Some of the work can be done at home. Also needed is cotton or cotton-blend material (no patriotic or religious patterns) and flat, twin-size sheets, dark colors only. For more information, call Mary Ann Schirmer at 717-243-1110.
- ♦ **Prayer Shawls** — Knitters are needed to create prayer shawls that are given to those who are ill, homebound or needing encouragement. The group also makes scarves and mittens. Donations of yarn are always welcome! For more information, call June Egolf at 717-243-6284.
- ♦ **Prayer Chain** — Individuals participating with our prayer chain pray for those in need. The phone chain prayer requests are updated on a regular basis. For more information, call Mary Ann Schirmer at 717-243-1110.
- ♦ **Cookie Bakers** — Lots of cookies are needed to distribute to the homebound, prison ministry, and the Truckstop ministry. See page 10 for more details.

Christmas Gift Table — WELCA will have its Christmas gift table available for shopping on Sunday, December 16, following the 10:30 a.m. service and before and after the 'Round-the-Tree Carol Sing. This table will consist of new or like-new gifts for the entire family. Rada Stainless Steel gifts sets will also be available at sale prices. Proceeds from the gift table are given to a charity.

USHERS AND HEAD USHERS ARE NEEDED!

Duties include greeting members and visitors, handing out worship bulletins and during the 10:30 a.m. worship service, collecting offering and collecting communion glasses.

To volunteer, call Dee Weigel at 717-766-4947.

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!

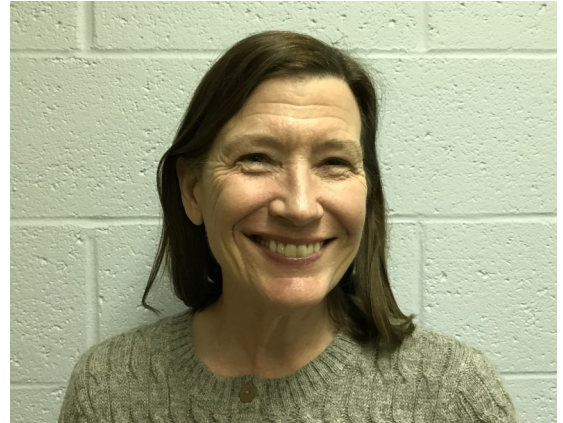
Robin, John, David, Pastor Lorenz and Pastor Leber



WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Mike and Diane Luther



Arlyn Pettingell



Joe and Connie McDermond



Meetings & Events

December 2018

- Sun., Dec. 9** — 11:30 a.m. — 2nd Sunday Fellowship hosted by WELCA
'Round-the-Tree Carol Sing Band Rehearsal
Greeters Meeting — *Martin Luther Room Lounge*
- Wed., Dec. 12** — 6:15 p.m. — Soup & Bread Supper
7 p.m. — Advent Evening Prayer
- Fri., Dec. 14** — 7 p.m. — Carlisle Homeschool Children & Youth Choir Concert
- Sat., Dec. 15** — 7:30 a.m. — Men's Huddle — *at Momma Spriggs*
10 a.m.-12 p.m. — Lessons & Carols Choir Dress Rehearsal
3-4 p.m. — Tai Chi — *Festal Hall*
- Sun., Dec. 16** — 4 p.m. — Lessons & Carols
5:15 p.m. — Supper followed by the 'Round-the-Tree Carol Sing
- Tues., Dec. 18** — 6:30 p.m. — Congregation Council
- Wed., Dec. 19** — 8:30 a.m. — FL Volunteers at Project SHARE Distribution
6:15 p.m. — Soup & Bread Supper
7 p.m. — Advent Evening Prayer
- Sat., Dec. 22** — 3-4 p.m. — Tai Chi — *Festal Hall*
- Mon., Dec. 24** — 4 p.m., 7 p.m. & 10 p.m. — Christmas Eve Services
- Tues.-Wed., Dec. 25 & 26** — *Office Closed*
- Sat., Dec. 29** — 3-4 p.m. — Tai Chi — *Festal Hall*
- Mon., Dec. 31** — New Year's Eve — *Office Closes at Noon*

The YWCA Afterschool Homework Club meets Monday-Thursday, 3:30-5:30 p.m., through December 13 (in rooms 17 and 18).



- ♫ Bell Choir – Thursdays, 6-6:45 p.m.
- ♫ Chancel Choir – Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

Staff meetings are held every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Yes, publication of the December First Edition was delayed! Our goal is to have the newsletter in your hands by the 1st of each month. We apologize for missing our target this month and thank you for your patience!



FAITH FORMATION

ADULT FORUM

Rich Wood will continue his Adult Forum lectures on the history of early Christianity and the Christian church. He hopes you will join him for any or all of the remaining weeks. The topics he plans to cover include:

✠ December 9 — Defining the Church Universal -- Ecumenical Councils and Other Pronouncements

✠ December 16 — Athletes of God, Scourges of God -- Monks and Barbarians

✠ December 23 — “To Charles Augustus, Crowned by God, Great and Peace Giving Emperor of the Romans, Life and Victory” -- The Church and Politics

Join us in the Martin Luther Room Lounge Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. All adults are welcome!

**Sunday School
will not meet on
December 30.**

**Poinsettia orders and wreath
sponsorships are due in the
church office by Sunday,
December 16.**

**Order forms are available in the
narthex and in the
church office or you
can call the church
office at 717-249-
3310.**



COOKIES! COOKIES! COOKIES!

WELCA and the Social Ministry & Global Outreach Committee are working together for our annual Christmas cookie campaign, and we need LOTS and LOTS of cookies!

Cookies will be delivered to our homebound members, to the Cumberland County Prison and to truckers passing through our town far from family and friends, giving them a little taste of home. **Cookies are due in the church office by Sunday, December 16.** Your continued support of this program is very much appreciated. Thank you!



HOLIDAY DINNER BAGS

Monetary donations in any amount are still being accepted for holiday dinner bags for Project SHARE recipients; \$40.00 will provide a complete holiday meal for a family. Checks should be made payable to First Lutheran Church and noted for "Holiday Dinner Bags."

Let's help make the holidays brighter for those less fortunate! Thanks for your support.

I want to pass along my appreciation for all you did while I was recovering from my knee surgery. Thank you for your phone calls, cards, e-mails, visits, flowers, meals and the best apple pie I ever had, but mostly for your prayers. I truly felt my church family was there for me and it feels wonderful to be part of such a giving, loving group.

Karen Longenecker



Thank you to all who kept my sister, Linda Bolton, in their prayers over the past four years. She passed away on November 13th at Vanderbilt where she was participating in a study for Multiple Myeloma. A "Celebration of Life" will be held in January in Athens, Alabama.

Sincerely,
Elaine Haag



**Sunday, December 16
5:15p.m.
Martin Luther Room**

Invite your friends and family to enjoy a delicious supper and to sing some festive Christmas carols!

Please sign up in the church office (717-249-3310) if you'd like to sing or play a favorite Christmas song and/or if you'd like to play music with the band. All instruments are welcome! We will rehearse on Sunday, December 9, at 11:30 a.m. in the nave.

You may also sign up in the church office to volunteer to help decorate, provide a food item or help serve at the event.

And don't forget to check out the WELCA gift table! Proceeds will benefit a local charity.

Please note that the church office will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 25 and Wednesday, Dec. 26, for the Christmas holiday.

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December Worship Assistants

	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23	December 30
8 a.m. service					
Assisting Ministers	Rich Wood	Chuck Martin	Sandy Kohler	Terri Myers	Rich Wood
Bread Bakers	Robin Orner	Sarah Niebler	Taylor Miller	Kathy Brunie	Joan Gitt
Communion Setup/Cleanup	Lisa Newton	Terri Myers	Monica Frederick	Lisa Newton	Terri Myers
Greeter/Usher	Roger Williams	Sandy Kohler	Sandy Jumper	Gary Newton	Sandy Kohler
Lectors	Jim Brantner	Steve Hildebrand	Joan Innors	Rich Wood	Chuck Martin
10:30 a.m. service					
Acolytes	Ainslee Martin	MaryGrace Harty	Michael Raphael	Ian Galbraith	EmmaRose Harty
Assisting Ministers	Sarah Niebler	Sam Orner	Hope Miller	Roger Williams	Robin Orner
Bread Bakers	Robin Orner	Sarah Niebler	Taylor Miller	Kathy Brunie	Joan Gitt
Communion Assistants	Janet Jacobs Sandy Kohler	Kathy Hall Sandy Jumper	Michelle Fisher Don Osborne	Karen Hollen Sandy Kohler	Madelynne Staley Josh Staley
Communion Setup/Cleanup	Kathy Brunie Lois Quigley	Hope & Taylor Miller	Ginny Brennan Kathy Hall	Janet Jacobs Ann Roeder	Cindy Allgyer Yvonne Karper
Flower Distribution	Babette Hoch	Ann Roeder	Nancy Baish	Taylor & Hope Miller	Bill & Mary Ann Schirmer
Greeters	Cindy Allgyer Don Fraley	Monica Frederick Norma Greider	Karen Hollen Annette Nickey	David & Elaine Haag	Hope & Taylor Miller
Lectors	Sandy Jumper	Jered Hock	David Raphael	Sean Nedimyer	Ann Jordan
Nursery Duty	Jeri Fitzsimons Kathy Hall	Hope Miller Robin Orner	Sarah Niebler Alecia Staley	Cindy Allgyer Cindy Markle	Kathy Hall Nancy Ingram
Head Usher	David Stum				
Ushers	Jered Hock Steve King Cindy Markle	Bob Baker Jim Brantner Ian Galbraith (Youth)	Bob Baker Kathy Brunie Ethel Simmons	Blanche Drumheiser Matt Drumheiser Don & Ruth Osborne	Gerald Gillingham Don Grell Colton Gillingham (Youth)

Additional worship assistants on next page.

SPECIAL DECEMBER SERVICES

	Advent Evening Prayer		
	Dec. 5 7 p.m.	Dec. 12 7 p.m.	Dec. 19 7 p.m.
Lectors	Rich Wood	Sam Orner	Sarah Niebler

	Lessons & Carols
	Dec. 16 — 4 p.m.
Acolytes	Ian Galbraith Ainslee Martin Michael Raphael
Lectors	TBD
Ushers	David Stum (head) Cindy Allgyer Ken Egolf Taylor Miller

	Christmas Eve		
	Dec. 24 4 p.m.	Dec. 24 7 p.m.	Dec. 24 10 p.m.
Acolytes	N/A	YOUTH	Ben Galbraith Josh Staley Madelynn Staley
Asst. Ministers	Taylor Miller	YOUTH	Sarah Niebler
Communion Assistants	Rich Wood	YOUTH	Caryn Carr Janet Jacobs
Lectors	Lisa Newton	YOUTH	Donna Chestnut
Ushers	David Stum (head) Bob Baker Gary Newton	YOUTH	David Stum (head) Jered Hock Steve Hogg Alecia Staley



For their 2nd Sunday service project in November, our Sunday School youth made Thanksgiving placemats for the Meals on Wheels recipients.



Taylor, Brynlee	12/1
Van Orden, Philip	12/1
Butts, April	12/2
Stone, Jeremy	12/2
Weaver, Zachary	12/2
Franklin, Kayla	12/3
Jones, David	12/4
Anderson, Timothy	12/5
Fulton, Martha	12/5
Gitt Jr., Charles	12/6
Snyder, Michelle	12/6
Franklin, Chelsea	12/7
Stuart, Harrison	12/12
Raphael, Michael	12/14
Osborne, Donald	12/15
Guadalupe, Jamie	12/17
Ward, Juliet	12/17
Haggerty, Tammara	12/21
Raphael, Sarah	12/22
Schirmer, Mary Ann	12/22
Foote, Gertrude	12/23
Cozort, Kace	12/24
Anderson, Trent	12/25
Yocum, Elizabeth	12/25
Orenyo, Phyllis	12/27
Hogg, Stephen	12/28
Stuart, Douglas	12/28
Jacobs, Janet	12/31

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

BY AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
November 11, 2018

Michael and Diane Luther

Joseph Jr. and Connie McDermond

Arlyn Pettingell



Shirley & Richard Chamberline (65 years)	12/12
Lawrence & Marjorie Shenk (60 years)	12/21



Berry, Tyler	12/4
Peffer, Nathan	12/7
Ehr, Virginia	12/8
Guadalupe, Jeremy	12/8
Guadalupe, Mariella	12/8
Guadalupe, Patty	12/8
Stum, Lisa	12/8
Baish, Richard	12/9
Fickel, William	12/11
Bartko, John	12/12
Davidson, Susan	12/12
Taylor, Mitchell	12/13
Kline, Harry	12/14
Snyder, Michelle	12/16
Fitzsimons, Colleen	12/20
Houtz, Matthew	12/21
Schirmer, Mary Ann	12/23
Martin, Madison	12/25
Henderson, Ryan	12/30

DEATH

Cindy S. Jones

birth — June 29, 1948

death — November 24, 2018

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

First Edition DECEMBER 2018

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Carlisle, PA 17013
717-249-3310
717-249-2941 fax

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Reverend Lisa M. Leber — pastor@firstlutherancarlisle.org - (717) 462-6138
The Reverend Richard Lorenz — (717) 249-3310
David Erickson — dve@pa.net - (717) 263-4267
Robin Orner — secretary@firstlutherancarlisle.org - (717) 249-3310
John Shugart, Jr. — (717) 249-3310
Jered Hock — president@firstlutherancarlisle.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday — Friday

8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Closed for lunch — 12:15-12:45 p.m.

label

Sunday Worship:

8 & 10:30 a.m. – Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. – Sunday Church School



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Check out our website!

www.firstlutherancarlisle.org



Pastor Leber's sermons are posted on our website — so if you miss a Sunday 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.