



# FIRST EDITION - FEBRUARY 2021

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

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

## The Season of Lent

The origin of the season of Lent is a bit murky. One theory is that it was the extension of a short period of fasting before Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday into a forty-day fast in remembrance of Jesus' forty days of temptation in the wilderness. In the early church, Lent was also a time to prepare candidates for baptism at the Great Vigil of Easter.

Whatever its history, Lent offers us 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians a season of baptismal renewal and of repentance and an opportunity to engage in the Lenten disciplines of giving alms, praying and fasting. Join us on our Lenten pilgrimage!



### ASH WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 17

We will begin the season of Lent with two opportunities to worship:

**12:15 p.m. – Holy Communion (no singing)**

**7:00 p.m. – Holy Communion (with hymn singing)**

*NOTE: Due to the constraints and challenges posed by social distancing protocols, we are unable to offer the imposition of ashes this year.*

#### MIDWEEK MUSIC AND PRAYER

Join us **each Wednesday in Lent at 12 noon** (February 24, March 3, 10, 17, and 24) for a brief (15-minute) organ recital by our cantor, David Erickson, followed by a brief service of prayer (no singing) led by Pastor Leber.

If you have not attended worship since last March, this may be a good low-pressure re-introduction. We will not be advertising this series to the general public, and we will keep the total length to approximately 30 minutes. *Social distancing protocols will apply, of course - and we ask that you not arrive before 11:45 a.m.*

#### MIDWEEK ZOOM EVENING PRAYER

On **Wednesdays in Lent**, Pastor Leber will also offer a brief Zoom prayer service at **7 p.m.**

A bulletin will be posted online prior to the first service on February 24.

Go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85015832692>

To participate by phone only, dial (not toll-free) (646) 558-8656 OR (301) 715-8592 and enter meeting ID 850 1583 2692.

**EMAIL UPDATES:** Pastor Leber continues to send emails once or twice a week to her First Lutheran members and friends distribution list. Urgent info, e.g. cancellations due to winter weather, is also sent via email. If you are not receiving these emails and wish to, please call the church office!

## Building to Serve All God's Children Capital Campaign Update (as of January 28)



Total campaign commitments:	\$601,915
Total commitments paid to date:	\$578,088
Unpledged/"as able" gifts given to date:	\$92,228
<u>Total given to date:</u>	<u>\$670,316</u>

*Thank you for your continuing generosity and support!*

## HELP AND DONATE DURING OUR NEXT BLOOD DRIVE ON MARCH 6!

We had an **AMAZING** drive in October, with donations totaling **67 pints**. Due to our success, the American Red Cross was anxious to get another blood drive at First Lutheran on the calendar!

Our next blood drive is on Saturday, March 6, 2021, from 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Guidelines for social distancing will be followed, and pre-registration is strongly encouraged. We also will need volunteers to help with temperature-taking, registration, and the canteen.

Schedule your appointment at:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=firstlutherancarlisle>



American Red Cross



## INCLEMENT WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements about the cancellation of meetings, rehearsals, concerts and/or worship services or the closure of the church office/building due to inclement weather will be posted on our website, [www.firstlutherancarlisle.org](http://www.firstlutherancarlisle.org), and recorded on our outgoing message at the main church number: (717) 249-3310. You can also text Pastor Leber for info at (717) 215-6055.

Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, February 15, in observance of President's Day.

## Did you know...?

First Lutheran has a long legacy as a generous financial supporter of United Lutheran Seminary (ULS). This year, we also are providing a different kind of support to seminary education - through participation in the ULS internship program. **Marty Jo Irvin-Stellabotte** is serving for one year as the vicar (a fancy word for intern) of St. Matthias Lutheran Church, a few miles north of Carlisle. St. Matthias is a “detached” internship site, which means that a pastor of another local congregation supervises its intern. Pastor Leber has met with Vicar MJ (in person or virtually) weekly since July 2020. While Vicar MJ functions as the pastoral and worship leader of St. Matthias, she has sat in on some of First Lutheran’s council and committee meetings as an introduction to the workings of a larger congregation and has also attended a funeral, wedding rehearsal and wedding here.



Vicar MJ has completed all of her academic work for her masters of divinity. She will complete the paperwork and interviews required for the ELCA approval process this spring. Once her internship wraps up at the beginning of July, she will be entering into the call process.

Vicar MJ hails from the Allegheny Synod. She is married to Tim; their daughter, Morgan, is in high school.

Vicar MJ will be a guest preacher at First Lutheran in Lent, and we look forward to continuing to see her on Zoom meetings and fellowship in the months ahead!

## Share the Love during February!



The Social Ministry and Global Outreach Committee is holding a “Share the Love” initiative during February to collect items and monetary donations for the Carlisle Area Family Life Center. Through February 28 critically-needed items (see list below) may be dropped off

on Sunday mornings or in the church office during regular office hours. For monetary donations, checks should be made payable to First Lutheran Church with “Share the Love” written in the memo line. We hope you will join us in sharing Christ’s love with families in need!

### Needed items:

- ♥ Powdered baby formula (Similac Advance, Soy and Sensitive formulas)
- ♥ Diapers, sizes 3, 4, 5, & 6 and Pull-Ups
- ♥ Disposable Baby Wipes
- ♥ Receiving Blankets (gender neutral)
- ♥ Baby shampoo and baby wash
- ♥ Crib sheets

## CHANCEL FLOWER SPONSORSHIP

Would you like to sponsor flowers in honor or in memory of loved ones or to mark a special occasion? There are a number of open Sundays remaining in 2021! Contact Robin in the office for dates and costs at 717-249-3310 or [secretary@firstlutherancarlisle.org](mailto:secretary@firstlutherancarlisle.org). We will not have flowers when there is no sponsor.



# Zoom Bingo Tournament - December 18, 2020



**Winners of the First Zoom Bingo Tournament :**  
***Caroline Zink, Ashley Zink, Mary Kay Bartko***

**Our SECOND Zoom Bingo Tournament was held on February 5<sup>th</sup> - congrats to winners John Bartko, Hope Miller and Cynthia Christenson!**

## **Cotton and Cotton Blend FABRIC NEEDED!**

**for use by our quilting group in making  
quilts for Lutheran World Relief.**

**Flat sheets work great!**

**Fabric donations may be placed in the  
designated container located in the  
hallway outside the church office.  
Thanks!**

## **LWR FACE MASKS**

Thanks to our face-mask sewers, we were able to send another 253 face masks to Lutheran World Relief in January for a grand total of 559 face masks shipped! We appreciate our sewers' time and efforts in making these masks for those in great need around the world.

A special shout out to June Egolf, Susan Kline, Roxanne Konkel, Marsha Lorenz and Beverly Mancke!





## From our Sister Parish, Divine Redeemer Lutheran Church in San Miguel, El Salvador

Excerpts from several recent communications from Pastor Belinda Fernández (translated by Google Translate):

“With the joy of this season, the hope that animates us every day, the best wishes that the little boy Jesus will fill you with health, love, peace, joy and blessings.... It is great to recognize how merciful and great our God is with all his sons and daughters....

I share a photo of the Church anniversaries, among them Rev. David Fernández, our Salvadoran Lutheran Martyr [and Pastor Belinda’s father] (picture below). We remember and celebrate [his] life, which is a testimony of faith and hope and a legacy for our church, the *diakonia* service and his work for human rights....



¡THAT NOBODY IS MISSING BREAD!, just like "BREAD FOR ALL" It is our slogan.

We share the joy it gives to the heart: I have seen so many smiles in the people who receive the bread, it is a bread that cheers.

We have had face-to-face classes, taking care of protocols and distancing, with smaller groups.

[For] our students in the Bakery, learning is useful for their life and bringing food home, making bread from which they have acquired knowledge and according to their resources, they make and sell it. The sale market of some students is outside their homes, there is a lot of joy in the students for this.

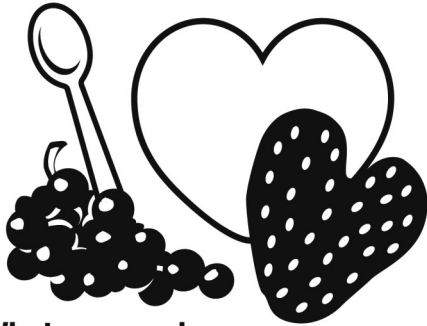
[T]he impact that the pandemic has had on the economy has been especially strong for women. (Many single mothers) do not have the help of anyone else in their homes, some have been left in a situation of vulnerability to food insecurity and poverty.... Vocational Training for Women [is] training women to empower them while generating their own income.

Thank you again and may our God pour infinite blessings on each one of you who make possible our service to the community for the development of our people.”



# Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.



## What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

## What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir.
6. Wash and cut the mint. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!

## THANK YOU FROM CUMBERLAND CROSSINGS

To Pastor Lisa and the congregation of First Lutheran,

On behalf of the residents and staff of Cumberland Crossings, I would like to extend our thanks for your Christmas cards and teddy bears. The residents were so thankful for the Christmas cheer as it was a very difficult November and December for many. Your kindness is a sign of your faith in action. May God continue to lead you in paths of reaching out to others. God bless you all.

Walking the journey with you.

*Rev. Judy Strayer*

Chaplain, Cumberland Crossings

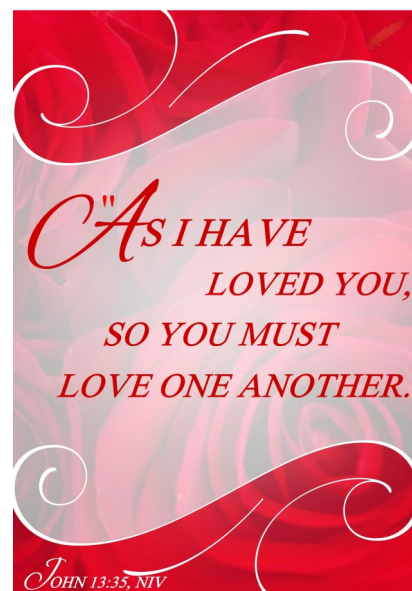


Dear First Lutheran Congregation,

Thank you so much for the college care package! I'm extremely grateful to have received this care package during my transition back home and the remote learning semester I had.

Sincerely,

*MaryGrace Harty*





- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1-Feb.....Taylor Shenk      | 17-Feb ....Megan Slusser      |
| 2-Feb.....Phil Drumheiser   | 18-Feb ....Bob Baker          |
| 4-Feb.....Megan White       | Kurt Deery                    |
| 5-Feb.....Jane Burke        | 20-Feb ....Benjamin Jumper    |
| 6-Feb.....Frankie Yocum     | 23-Feb ....Chuck Seibert      |
| 7-Feb.....Amy Baish         | 24-Feb ....Blanche Drumheiser |
| 9-Feb.....Laurel Trefren    | Roxanna Houtz                 |
| 10-Feb ....Joe Shughart     | Nancy Ingram                  |
| 11-Feb ....Nancy Baish      | Lisa Leber                    |
| Donna Chestnut              | Rich Lorenz                   |
| 12-Feb ....Aaron Weaver     | 26-Feb ....Lisa Kratzer       |
| Rich Wood                   | Cristal Over                  |
| 14-Feb ....John Steffee     | 27-Feb ....Michelle Trefren   |
| 15-Feb ....Sophia Over      | 28-Feb ....James Vovakis      |
| 16-Feb ....Benjamin Slusser |                               |

- 2-Feb .....Carolyn Schade  
 3-Feb .....Philip Van Orden  
 16-Feb ....Kimberly Brenneman  
 Jill Shank  
 18-Feb ....John Shugars  
 19-Feb ....Merritt Reitzel



John & Ruth Oakes (52 years).....2/15

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### DEATHS

#### Patricia B. Fry

birth — November 3, 1936  
 death — January 1, 2021

#### The Rev. Sterlen Sheaffer

birth — April 2, 1924  
 death — January 27, 2021

† Rest eternal grant them, O Lord,  
 and let light perpetual shine upon them.

I would like to thank everyone for letting me be a part of First Lutheran [for 23+ years]. Thank you all very, very much for the [cards] and gifts.

Sincerely,

*John Shughart, Jr.*

Dear First Lutheran,

Thank you so much for the generous care package I received. During this weird time of COVID and being 1,000 miles away from everyone, it made me feel a little more connected to home and Carlisle.

Thank you again,

*Ben Galbraith*



A special thank you to Pastor Leber for her words of comfort with the passing of my wife Patricia. Also thanks to members for their cards of sympathy.

Sincerely,

*Donald Fry and family*

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21 South Bedford Street  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
717-249-3310

[www.firstlutherancarlisle.org](http://www.firstlutherancarlisle.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Church Office Hours:

*Monday — Thursday*

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

*Friday*

8:30 a.m. — 12:15 p.m.

Pastor Leber is available by cell throughout the week at (717) 215-6055.

label

### Sunday Worship:

8 & 10:30 a.m. – Holy Communion



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**Resources for weekly at home worship (including recordings of the sermon and organ hymn accompaniments, a bulletin, children's bulletin and *Taking Faith Home*) can be found at:**

<https://firstlutherancarlisle.org/resources-for-worship-and-faith-formation-at-home/>