



FIRST EDITION - SEPTEMBER 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

Building to Serve All God's Children



August 29th was “Celebration Sunday,” and we do have much to celebrate as we reflect on our very successful three-year capital campaign, concluded on May 31.

Between fulfilled and “over-fulfilled” pledges and unpledged/“as able” gifts, you can see below that we far exceeded the fundraising goal of \$600,000 set for our 2018-2021 campaign period!

Later this month, First Lutheran members and friends will be invited to make a commitment to a second three-year capital campaign. Because of your faithful giving and several legacy gifts, in the past three years since we broke ground on our construction/renovation project, we already have paid down a significant amount of the project cost. We are hoping that, by the end of a second campaign, in 2024, our principal balance will be further reduced, reducing our annual debt service as well.

Please keep your eyes out for a *Building to Serve All God's Children* mailing in the weeks to come - **and thank you for your continuing support!**

Total campaign commitments:	\$601,915
Total commitments paid to date (102%):	\$615,237
Unpledged/“as able” gifts given to date:	\$151,770
<u>Total given to date:</u>	<u>\$767,007</u>
Original project budget, including contingency (approved by congregation on 9/18/2018):	\$1,866,000
Current principal balance on Orrstown Bank loan, as of 8/20/2021:	\$848,717

Committee Meetings & Events

September 2021

- Mon., Sept. 6 — Office Closed — Labor Day
- Wed., Sept. 8 — 6:15 p.m. — Nominating Committee
7 p.m. — Personnel Committee
- Tues., Sept. 14 — 7 p.m. — Worship & Music Committee
- Wed., Sept. 15 — 7 p.m. — Social Ministry & Global
Outreach Committee
- Tues., Sept. 21 — 6:30 p.m. — Congregation Council

Help Wanted!

We are currently recruiting additional lectors, usher/greeters, assisting ministers and communion cleaner-uppers (*to wash communion glasses*).

To find out more, please contact Robin in the office at 717-249-3310 or secretary@firstlutherancarlisle.org or talk to Pastor Leber.

Our worship ministry depends on the time and talents of many volunteers!

Sing or ring with us this fall!

Chancel Choir rehearsals began Thursday, September 2. This choral ensemble, open to high school and above, rehearses every Thursday. Due to continuing COVID-19 precautions, we are currently rehearsing in the nave, with masks, from 7-8 p.m. For now, choir members will continue to be seated in the pews during worship and will come forward to sing anthems. We hope that, later this fall, the choir once again will be able to vest and sit together in the chancel to help lead worship at 10:30 a.m.

Our **Handbell Choir** (open to middle school and above) also began rehearsals Thursday, September 2. Rehearsals are held on Thursdays from 6-6:45 p.m. in room 22 on the upper level. Masks are required during rehearsals. The Handbell Choir rings at the 10:30 a.m. service every 6-8 weeks or so.

If you have any questions, want to learn more about our choirs, or just want to sit in on a rehearsal or two, please contact our cantor, David Erickson, at dve@pa.net. All musical skills and backgrounds are welcome!



MASKS REQUIRED AT WORSHIP, EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Unfortunately, the rate of transmission of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania, including Cumberland County, is high again these days, and even some vaccinated individuals are becoming infected. **All worshippers (vaccinated or not) are required to wear masks while in the building on Sunday mornings.** This requirement is consistent with current CDC guidance that, in areas of substantial or high transmission, masks should be worn by all in public indoor spaces. Hopefully, the surge caused by the Delta variant will soon peak, and we can relax the mask requirement in the not-too-distant future.





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

Fall Events

- ✠ October 5-7 - Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa
- ✠ October 24, 1-6 p.m. (worship at 4 p.m.) — Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald and at Nawakwa
- ✠ November 7 — Quilt Auction at Nawakwa (2 p.m. Silent Auction of Craft Items/3 p.m. Live Auction of Quilts)
- ✠ November 12-14 — Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa

For more information or to register for any of these events, visit www.LutheranCamping.org.
Financial assistance for registration fees is available through the Faith Formation Committee.

SIGN 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 St.
Carlisle, PA 17013



Adult Faith Formation Brainstorming Session

Sunday, September 12, 9:30-10 a.m.

Join Pastor Leber in the nave between services on September 12 to share your ideas for Adult Faith Formation topics for the fall and spring. Always wanted to study the Book of Romans? Have a hankering for some conversation about Lutheran worship practices? Perhaps you have some ideas about possible guest speakers.

Our practice in recent years has been to offer a variety of Sunday morning learning opportunities for adults over the course of an academic year. Students do not have to join a continuing weekly Sunday School class but rather can come to the sessions that interest them and skip the ones that don't.

We want to hear from you!



Support our neighborhood school!

The Social Ministry & Global Outreach Committee is asking for your help to support the students at LeTort Elementary, our neighborhood school. The following items are most needed at this time:

3-prong plastic folders
dry erase markers

glue sticks
single subject notebooks (spiral bound)

Donations will be accepted from now through September 30. You may place your donation(s) in the designated container located in the Atrium or drop it off in the church office during regular hours. Thank you!

You are invited to the **October Chili Cook-Off!**

Where: First Lutheran Church parking lot

When: Saturday, October 9, from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join us for the opportunity to taste-test a competitive line-up of chili recipes and vote for the best with a monetary donation. Vote with quarters, dollar bills, or a check.



100% of the proceeds will benefit Project SHARE. Project SHARE is Carlisle's food pantry and social service organization that supports our community.

The chili recipe with the highest donations will be crowned this year's Chili Cook-Off Winner — Don't miss out on the spicy competition!

Calling all cooks: We are still looking for chili cooks and corn bread bakers. If you would like to be a cook or baker, please call the church office at (717) 249-3310 or email Robin at secretary@firstlutherancarlisle.org.

Bring your friends! Bring your appetite! Bring your spoon!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR OUR NEXT BLOOD DRIVE!

You can sign up to donate blood on Saturday, November 6, 2021, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. here: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=firstlutherancarlisle> or by going to www.redcross.org and following the links under "Give Blood" to locate our drive.

Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. We also will need volunteers to help with temperature-taking, registration, and the canteen.

Please remember that you can only donate once every eight weeks - eight weeks from November 6 is September 11, 2021!



American Red Cross

"Give blood and keep the world beating."

Fall Rummage Sale Cancelled!

The fall rummage sale has been cancelled. Now that the CDC is recommending universal masking (by both vaccinated and unvaccinated folks) at indoor public gatherings in areas of high or substantial COVID-19 transmission, we concluded it would be challenging to try to enforce mask wearing at a multi-day event which many people from the larger Carlisle community attend.

A huge and sincere thank you to the many persons who volunteered to set up, sell, fold/tidy up the tables and clean up. Your willingness to help is very much appreciated. Also many thanks to David Stum, Dee Weigel, Betty Baker, Nancy Ingram and Ruth Osborne who helped make calls and work on arrangements.

The decision whether to hold a spring 2022 rummage sale will be made at a later date.

Due to lack of storage space, we are not able to accept donations for possible future rummage sales. (See article to the right for other options.)

Fall cleaning and don't know what to do with your gently-used items?

Take them to the Community Aid bins located throughout our community. In addition to supporting Community Aid, some of these bins help support local organizations such as

- ♥ **Safe Harbour** — bin located at VFW Post #447, 959 Trindle Road, Carlisle
- ♥ **Project SHARE** — bin located at Project SHARE, 5 N. Orange St., Carlisle



Thank you to all who participated in our Christmas in July initiative for Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland and Perry Counties. As you can see on the left, we collected many needed items for the shelter. In addition, we received \$105.00 in monetary donations.

Your generosity and commitment to sharing God's love with our neighbors in need is deeply appreciated!

First, the bad news...

On Sunday morning, August 15, we noticed that our Nativity stained glass window had been broken! It appeared that someone had thrown an object hard enough to break through both the protective outside glass and the colored glass. The damage was reported to our insurance carrier, the Carlisle Borough Police, and Cumberland Stained Glass, the company which has restored our windows over the past 14 years.

We are grateful for how quickly Cumberland Stained Glass came to inspect the damage, provide an estimate, and set a date for the repair work.



The good news...

is that, on Friday, August 27, Cumberland Stained Glass repaired the window beautifully (pictured above left, the artists at work!). The bottle pictured above right was found stuck between the protective glass and the stained glass and turned over to the police. Our insurance carrier was very responsive and has already issued payment to us for the repairs (minus our deductible).

Dear Reverend Leber and Congregants:

The Board of Directors and Staff of Domestic Violence Services of Cumberland & Perry Counties (DVSCP) join me in thanking you for your generous donation of items collected during your "Christmas in July," along with your check for \$105.00. Your contribution will make a difference for our clients, and we are very grateful...Your gift is particularly welcome at this time as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic...

Thank you for your support of our agency and for keeping this most vulnerable population in mind.

Sincerely yours,
Sonya Browne
Shelter Supervisor





- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1-Sep Don Fraley
John Ward | 14-Sep Lauren Cozort
Thomas Sheaffer |
| 2-Sep Colleen Fitzsimons | 15-Sep Betsy Bertram |
| 6-Sep Deborah Savidge | 18-Sep Carole Asten |
| 7-Sep Carolyn Schade | 20-Sep Matt Drumheiser |
| 8-Sep Susan Davidson
Robert Hall | 21-Sep Thomas Frederick |
| 9-Sep Lucas Fickel
May Seibert
Lisa Stum | 22-Sep Michael Pounder
Samantha Seely |
| 10-Sep Ryan Kreiser | 23-Sep Shirley Chamberlain |
| 12-Sep Matthew Sheaffer | 24-Sep Sandy Kohler |
| 13-Sep Leann Erickson | 25-Sep Mitch Taylor |
| | 27-Sep Crystal Taylor |
| | 28-Sep Patricia Shank |

- 8-Sep Dana Culbertson
Joyce Randall
- 14-Sep Connie Alexander
Steve Bloser
- 14-Sep Jeff Hoch
- 15-Sep Seth Seely
- 16-Sep EmmaRose Harty
Alayna Rodriguez
- 18-Sep Luke Erickson
- 19-Sep William Croft
- 20-Sep Joan Gitt
- 22-Sep Megan Mackes
- 23-Sep Glenda Strasbaugh
Robert Strasbaugh
- 24-Sep Jon Shank
- 26-Sep Ann Jordan
- 27-Sep Samantha Stuby
- 28-Sep Karen Deery
Patricia Shank
- 29-Sep Chelsea Hunt
- 30-Sep Kathy Brunie

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

BIRTH

Evelyn Julia Shaffer

Born to Adam and Kristin Shaffer on August 29, 2021

Congratulations!

DEATH

Eugene L. Failor

birth — November 12, 1935

death — August 2, 2021

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

CELEBRATING A



Robert & Louise Baker (66 years) 9/4
James & Carolyn Schade (54 years) ... 9/16

Dear First Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for serving at My Brother's Table this past weekend. [July 25] We are grateful for each person that cooked the meal and devoted time to serve the delicious foods. You've blessed the lives of many through your kindness and generosity. Thanks again!

Sincerely,

Trinette Ream

The Salvation Army



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www.firstlutherancarlisle.org

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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.



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.