

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PORTAGE, PA

NEWSLETTER

January, February, & March 2024



906 Caldwell Avenue, Portage PA

Phone: 814-736-3662

Website: FElcportage.com

Romans 1:11-12: "I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith."

Monthly Happenings

January: 1 Happy New Year! May God Bless & Keep You!
7 Sunday Worship 9 AM/Baptism of Jesus
8 Council Meeting 6:30 PM
14 Sunday Worship 9 AM
15 Martin Luther King Jr Day
21 Sunday Worship 9 AM/Congregational Meeting
28 Sunday Worship 9 AM

February: 4 Sunday Worship 9 AM
5 Council Meeting 6:30PM
11 Sunday Worship 9 AM/Transfiguration of Jesus
14 Valentine's Day/Ash Wednesday St. Luke's Lilly @ 7PM
18 Sunday Worship 9 AM
19 President's Day
25 Sunday Worship 9 AM

March: 3 *Sunday Worship 9 AM*
4 *Council Meeting 6:30PM*
10 *Sunday Worship 9 AM*
17 *Sunday Worship 9 AM/St. Patrick's Day*
24 *Sunday Worship 9 AM/Palm Sunday*
28 *Holy (Maundy) Thursday St Luke's Lilly @ 7PM*
29 *Good Friday St. Luke's Lilly @ 7PM*
31 *Sunday Worship 9 AM/Resurrection of Jesus Easter Sunday*

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Bible Verses:

1 Peter 5:7- Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Proverbs 29:25- Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

Matthew 11:28- Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Isaiah 66:13- As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted.



Please keep the following in your prayers:

Ava Stancovich

Carson Berkheimer Carolyn Pinos Gini Gray

Ida Kerch

Pastor Kaltenbaugh Elzy Pauley Dave Lamar

Prayer: Father, Hear me. Have mercy. Help me. Have mercy. Heal me with Your peace. Father, I am in Your hands. Have mercy. Give peace. Amen.

Please keep in your prayers the sick, lonely, and forgotten.

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Lutheran Book of Prayer: New Year's Day- Lord God, heavenly Father, though You have created us for a life of eternity, we confess that by our sins we have transformed the space of time into a prelude for death. Forgive us the sins of the past, and breathe into us the Spirit of Your Son that we may serve you in this new year. Amen.

Ash Wednesday- Lord Jesus, we come before You sprinkled with ashes of sorrow, robed in sackcloth of repentance, and humbled by our fault, by our most grievous fault. Help us so to watch with You in Your Passion, that we remain awake to the infinite power of Your love. Amen.

Lent- Lord, bring us close to Your cross that we might know how You loved us and give Yourself for us. Lord Jesus, through it all help us hear in Your prayer the single purpose for which You endured pain and death: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Amen.

Easter- The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! Heavenly Father, we worship You and adore You because You have raised Your Son from the dead and made Him to be Lord over all things in heaven and in earth. Give us of Your Spirit that we may live under Your Son in the freedom of those who have been delivered from the death to life. Raise us each day from the depths of sin to the joys of forgiveness, and let us walk before You in righteousness; through our risen Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

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We apologize if anyone was missed on the birthday and anniversary list. If a correction is needed or if you would like to see something else in the newsletter, please leave the information in Becky or Sharon's mailboxes, located at the back of the church.



Allegheny Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

701 Quail Ave., Altoona, PA 16602

814.942.1042

Office hours: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 am - 4:30pm

<https://www.alleghenysynod.org>

Called by God to be one in Christ: we worship, grow in faith, and serve all people.
If you need pastoral assistance from the Allegheny Synod, contact information provided.

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Lutheran Small Catechism 1979:

Confession: *What is private confession?* Private confession has two parts. First, we make a personal confession of sins to the pastor, and then we receive absolution, which means forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

What sins should we confess? Before God we should confess that we are guilty of all sins, even those which are not known to us, as we do in the Lord's Prayer. But in private confession, as before the pastor, we should confess only those sins which trouble us in heart and mind.

What are such sins? We can examine our everyday life according to the Ten Commandments-for example, how we act toward father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife, or toward the people with whom we work, and so on. We may ask ourselves whether we have been disobedient or unfaithful, bad-tempered or dishonest, or whether we have hurt anyone by word or deed.

How might we confess our sins privately? We may say that we wish to confess our sins and to receive absolution in God's name. We may begin by saying, "I, a poor sinner, confess before God that I am guilty of many sins." Then we should name the sins that trouble us. We may close the confession with the words, "I repent of all these sins and pray for mercy. I promise to do better with God's help."

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Lamentations 3:22-23- "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

KITCHEN KORNER:

If you have a recipe that you would like to share, please place a copy in Becky or Sharon's mailboxes at church. Enjoy!

SPINACH SQUARES

1/4 cup oleo	1 lb. Monterey Jack cheese, cut in small cubes
1 cup milk	2 pkg. frozen chopped spinach
1 cup flour	3 eggs
1 tsp. salt	

Thaw, drain and squeeze spinach. Melt oleo and pour in bottom of glass pan. With mixer, beat eggs; add salt, flour and milk and beat again. Add spinach and cheese. Stir and pour into pan. Bake at 300 to 325 degrees for 30 minutes. Cut into squares and serve hot or warm.

Karen Meintel

PORK BARBECUE

1- 1/2 lb. pork	2 cups ketchup
1/2 cup brown sugar	1 cup chopped onion
1/4 cup vinegar	1 cup chopped celery
1 Tbsp. mustard	1/4 cup green pepper

Cook meat until partially done. Add all other ingredients. Cook until mixture is thick. Serve on hamburger buns. Serves 8 to 10

Bonnie Cordwell

GRIDDLE CAKE

2 cups flour	1 1/3 cup milk
4 tsp baking powder	1 egg
1/2 tsp salt	2 Tbsp soft or melted butter
2 Tbsp. sugar	

Mix dry ingredients. Beat egg. Add milk and stir. Stir in dry mixture. Slowly add butter. Cook over hot greased griddle.

Pat Miller

Window information

Symbols on our stain glass windows and what they mean. Have you ever really looked at the stain glass windows in church and wondered what the symbols mean? We will feature a few windows from the church and their meaning every issue of the newsletter:



The anchor and the rope can be interpreted as the anchor as a sign of hope, or the anchor of our faith. The rope can symbolize the spiritual connection, unity, or the strength of faith.



The Lilly is a popular symbol of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ



Depiction of the Ten Commandments, as they were originally given on two tablets of stone. The first tablet contains the first three commandments, which concern our relationship to God. The commandments of the second tablet (4-10) tell us how we should live with our neighbors.

Bible Verses:	Psalm 107:1	2 Corinthians 4:16-18	Isaiah 41:10
	Luke 18:27	Romans 8:31	John 15:13

Bible Humor:

What is the best way to study the bible?	You Luke into it
Why didn't Noah go fishing?	He only had two worms
Where is the best place to get an ice cream cone?	Sunday school
What time of day was Adam created?	A little before Eve
Why did Samson try to avoid arguing with Delilah?	He didn't want to split hairs

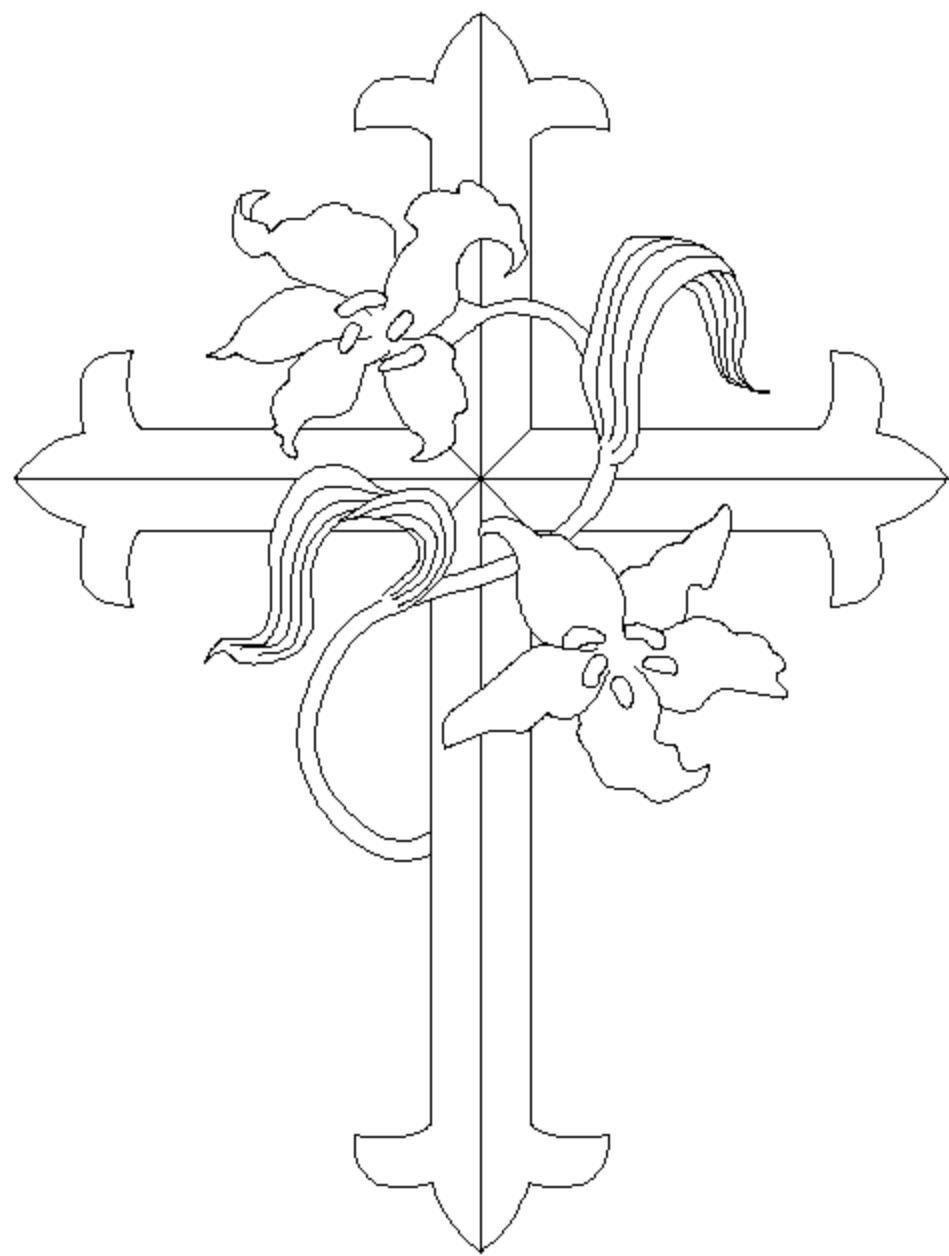
Bible Trivia: Old or New- test(ament) your knowledge

Genesis	Exodus	Matthew	Mark	Leviticus	Numbers	Luke	John
Jonah	Micah	Titus	James	Ezekiel	Joel	Jude	Acts

What book of the bible can you find the Ten Commandments and can you place in the correct order?

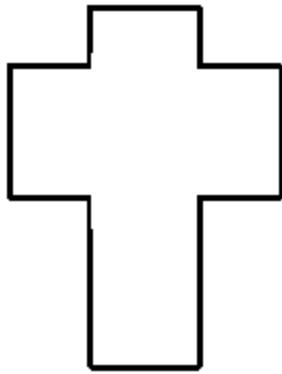
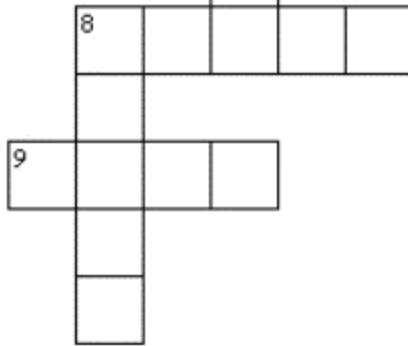
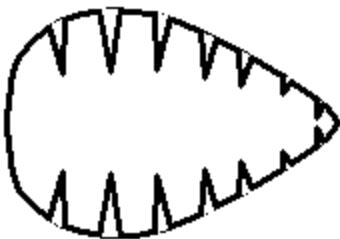
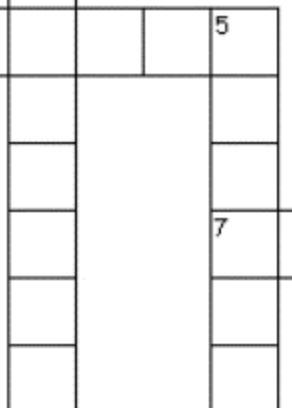
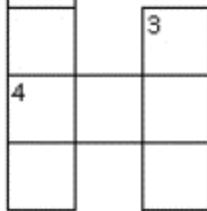
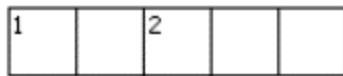
__I am the Lord Your God __ You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain
__ Remember the Sabbath day to keep it Holy __ Honor your father & your mother
__ You shall not kill __ You shall not commit adultery __ You shall not steal
__ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
__ You shall not covet your neighbor's house
__ You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his cattle, or anything that is your neighbor's

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.



He is Risen

Easter Crossword



<u>Word List:</u>	
bread	cross
sacrifice	love
stone	hosanna
empty	risen
slept	thorns

Across

1. Taking this during the last supper symbolized Jesus' body.
4. Jesus was forced to wear a crown made of these instead of a crown meant for a real king.
7. The angel told the women, "Don't be afraid, Jesus isn't here; He has ____!"
8. Instead of praying the disciples did this when Jesus went off to pray by himself.
9. The main reason that God gave His only son, Jesus to die for each of us.

Down

2. On Sunday the two Mary's didn't find Jesus but a tomb that was ____.
3. The word people shouted to Jesus that means blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
5. Jesus became the ____ for us, so we could be forgiven for our sins.
6. Jesus was meant to die on this.
8. This was put in front of the tomb so nobody could steal Jesus' body.

January Birthday & Anniversary

1 Isabella Lamar

22 Karen Meintel

1 Peter Maul

22 Todd Hershberger

4 Jamie Schaffranek

22 Brandon Bobolsky

6 William Cooper

24 Stacy Gutshall

6 Alfred N. Maul

25 Wanda Hershberger

6 Frank (Rocky) Pohopin

25 Cory Maul

7 Robert Maul Jr.

25 Emma Rosman

8 Dann Crum

27 Linda McKrush

8 Aivah Maul

27 Lindsey Palesch

9 Jonathan Stauski

28 Amy Krisko

10 Donald Horner

31 Kelly McCarty

11 Cheryl Sherbine

31 Tony Girard

11 Emily Enderlein



11 Mimi Cole

12 Jason Cooper

12 Ida Kerch

12 Terry Steward Jr.

19 Katie & Wesley Lloyd

13 Pat McCarty

13 Bill Labar

20 Natasha Yohn

21 Myrna J Maul

21 Susan Schaffranek

Happy Anniversary!

21 Reece Werner

February Birthday & Anniversary

1 Samantha Gouse

11 Jason & June Cooper

2 Alexis Miller

28 Andrew & Danielle Ciokota

4 Linda Maul

5 Courtney Steward

6 Frances Popish

7 Nanci Steward

8 Kelly Werner

9 Kylee McCarty

9 Kelsey Maul

12 Marleigh Gray

13 Sharon Cordwell

14 Ericca Cadwallader

18 Clarence Shultz

20 Kiera McCarty

24 Kaelyn Troxel

26 Brittany Miller

27 Susan McQuillen

28 Noah Kerch



Congratulations

*on your
7th Wedding
Anniversary!*



March Birthday & Anniversary

1 Sierra Franey

27 Jacob Franey

1 Luke Maul

28 Amy Crum

2 Pat McCarty Sr.

30 Sherry Cadwallader

3 Tammy Selepack

30 Colton Robine

4 Ray R. Asfar

31 Brittany DeMatteis

6 Jason Yetsko

31 Tony DeMatteis

6 Mikel Gray



7 Joseph Lloyd

8 William Erndl

9 Russell Cole

12 Alison Connaghour

12 Evan Boland

15 James Pohopin

17 Wendy Kerch

18 Kieaira Miller

3 Mark & Stephanie Stancovich

20 Kimberly Hutsky

21 Walter Maul

21 Vic Schaffranek

21 Amanda Hershberger

23 Holly Maul



27 Taylor Maul



First Lutheran Church of Portage Newsletter

Sewer Project: All materials and labor for the sewer project were donated by Zimmerman Excavating, 139 Willard Drive, Mineral Point, PA. We thank Ken Zimmerman for the \$2,000 donation. The \$1,635 that was collected to offset the costs of the sewer project will now be used to subsidize the purchase of an AED machine for the church. Anyone interested in training to use the AED machine, please reach out to a council member.

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Musicians Needed for Services: At the end of 2023, Walter Maul will be retiring as our organist. We want to thank Walter for all his years of service to the church and as the assistant organist and most recently organist. We are looking for someone to play organ, piano, guitar, or any instrument to accompany the hymns. If you or anyone you know may be interested, please contact any council member.

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Flower Arrangements: Starting in 2024, the church will be using artificial flowers in lieu of real flowers during weekly services. Confirmation was received from Bishop Paula that artificial flowers are acceptable and that many churches in the Synod are making the switch. Last year only 7 of 44 Sundays were funded by individuals. The church subsidized the other Sundays. There will still be a flower chart and the opportunity to sign-up for flowers if you wish to purchase real flowers for a specific Sunday. Approved suppliers will be Portage Florals and The Flower Pot (both in Portage). These suppliers will have keys to the church. The contact information for each supplier will be on the flower chart. It will be up to you to order, pay, and confirm delivery arrangements. If you choose a different supplier, you will need to arrange for access to the church to accept delivery as well. Please note, the cost may vary depending on the arrangement you choose. Please contact any council member for additional details.

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CH CH What's missing?? U R!! Our pews are empty and we are missing you. Our church family seems smaller and we miss seeing you in the congregation. If you have not been coming, please consider coming back, our family is not complete without you. See you on Sunday, all are welcome at the Lord's table.

FYI SECTION

The information in this section is taken from THE ALTAR GUILD; A GUIDE FOR THE MINISTRY OF LITURGICAL PREPARATIONS; S. Anita Stauffer

The Elements: The **Bread** may be homemade, perhaps pita, an ancient flat Middle Eastern bread which is convenient for sacramental use. We of course use homemade bread on occasion and mostly now use wafers. “Because there is one loaf of bread, all of us, though many, are one body, for we all share the same loaf” (1 Cor. 10:17)



The **Wine** may also be homemade, or may be purchased either commercially or from an ecclesiastical supplier. A fine dinner wine should be used; avoid sweet port.

Eucharistic Vessels: Vessels used for the celebration of the Eucharist usually constitute a matched set made of a fine metal such as silver, gold, or pewter. A minimum set includes chalice, paten, ciborium or host box, and flagon or cruet. A water cruet, lavabo bowl, and spoon may also be used. The cup portion of a chalice is attached to the base (or foot) by the stem. When distribution is by common cup, the chalice does not have a pouring lip. When the wine is poured by the minister or assistant into a small glass held by the communicant, a pouring lip is necessary. (Glasses should never be pre-filled)

The paten is the plate used for the consecration and distribution of the bread. Additional wafers for the distribution are kept in a ciborium or host box. A ciborium is similar to a chalice, but is covered; it is permissible to use a ciborium for the distribution, although not for the consecration. A host box is a short round container with a cover. It takes its name from the fact that the wafers are also called hosts.

A flagon or cruet is used to hold the wine needed for the communion service. It is from this vessel that the chalice is filled at the altar. The flagon is a tall covered pitcher made of fine metal, while the cruet is a glass vessel with a stopper topped with a cross.

