

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

109 West Third Avenue, Warren, Pennsylvania

Phone: 814/723-6450

Email Office: office@flcwarren.com

Website: www.flcwarren.com

The Rev. Jeffrey B. Ewing, Pastor, pastor@flcwarren.com

Jack Hemink, Minister of Music

Julie Baughman, accompanist



“Welcome to First Lutheran Church! All are accepted and affirmed just as we are, with all our differences and gifts – unique children of God. No matter your race, ethnicity, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental abilities, social or economic status, we have a place for you. As part of the whole complex, colorful spectrum of God’s creation in all its diversity we are all one in Christ!”



Land Acknowledgement Statement

As we gather in this place, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Seneca Nation (Onödowá'ga:'). We remember that we also share this land with other parts of God's good creation: plants, birds, and animals. May we be good stewards and good neighbors.

***Setting III
May 18, 2025***



Please let the lighting of the altar candles signal our time to quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

David Schack

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ☩ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,

that our every day is shaped by these waters

that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

***HYMN**

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

#424

***GREETING**

P: Alleluia ! Christ is risen! **C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev - er. A - men.



Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON: Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹ Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148 *The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*



Psalm 148:13

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise the Lord ¹ from the heavens;
praise God ¹ in the heights.
- ² **Praise the Lord, ¹ all you angels;**
sing praise, all you ¹ hosts of heaven.
- ³ Praise the Lord, ¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you ¹ shining stars.
- ⁴ **Praise the Lord, heav- ¹ en of heavens,**
and you waters a- ¹ bove the heavens.
- ⁵ Let them praise the name ¹ of the Lord,
who commanded, and they ¹ were created,
- ⁶ **who made them stand fast forev- ¹ er and ever,**
giving them a law that shall not ¹ pass away. R
- ⁷ Praise the Lord ¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters ¹ and all deeps;
- ⁸ **fire and hail, ¹ snow and fog,**
tempestuous wind, do- ¹ ing God's will;
- ⁹ mountains ¹ and all hills,
fruit trees ¹ and all cedars;
- ¹⁰ **wild beasts ¹ and all cattle,**
creeping things and ¹ flying birds;
- ¹¹ sovereigns of the earth ¹ and all peoples,
princes and all rulers ¹ of the world;
- ¹² **young ¹ men and maidens,**
old and ¹ young together. R
- ¹³ Let them praise the name ¹ of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over ¹ earth and
heaven.
- ¹⁴ **The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for**
all ¹ faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near
the Lord. ¹ Hallelujah! R

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 21:1-6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

¹ I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Presider: The Holy Gospel according to ...

Congregation: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL LESSON: John 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Presider: The Word of God. The Word of life.

Congregation: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Jeffrey Ewing

Silence for reflection may follow.

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *Great God, Your Love Has Called Us* #358
Verses 1,3,4,5

***NICENE CREED**

Assistant: *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: ... Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

SHARING THE PEACE

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL_____

OFFERING

*An offering tray is available at the entrance of the sanctuary. For those wishing to do
so, we encourage you to donate online at flcwarren.com/give.*

*As always, thank you for supporting the work of bringing
God's love to all people through First Lutheran!*

OFFERTORY [8AM] *How Can I Keep From Singing*
[11AM] *Sing to the Lord a New Song*
Senior Choir

Lani Smith
Robert Lau

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

I'm So Glad

#860

1. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me. I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah!
Jesus lifted me.

2. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah!
Jesus lifted me.

3. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah!
Jesus lifted me.

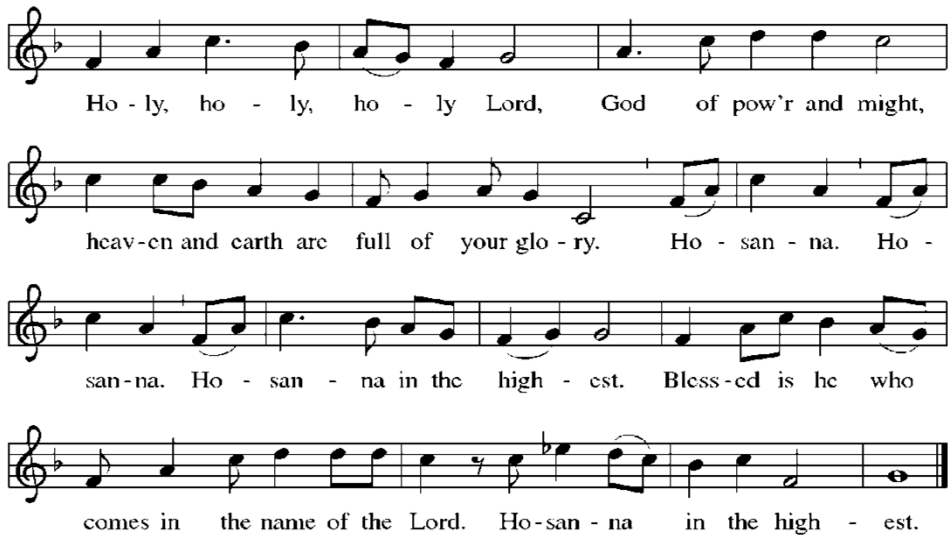
***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Presider: The Lord be with you. Congregation: And also with you.
Presider: Lift up your hearts. Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Presider: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... (the preface is sung)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***SANCTUS** *Congregation:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

On the night he was betrayed, our Savior Jesus, bowed and prayed,
With his disciples he is speaking to us....

He took the loaf and broke the bread, held it high and then he said
This is my body, remember me, Hallelujah.

Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah...

After the meal, the cup he raised, the Father's name again he praised
This is my blood poured out for your forgiveness.

A promise given and fulfilled, though I am taken away and killed
Remember me, I am with you, Hallelujah.

Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah...

So, gathered as His body here, refusing to give in to fear
And all the powers of death that seek to lead us.

We stretch our hands, we cry and sing and tell the world HE is our KING
We cannot help but claim this Hallelujah!

Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah... Hallelujah...

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.

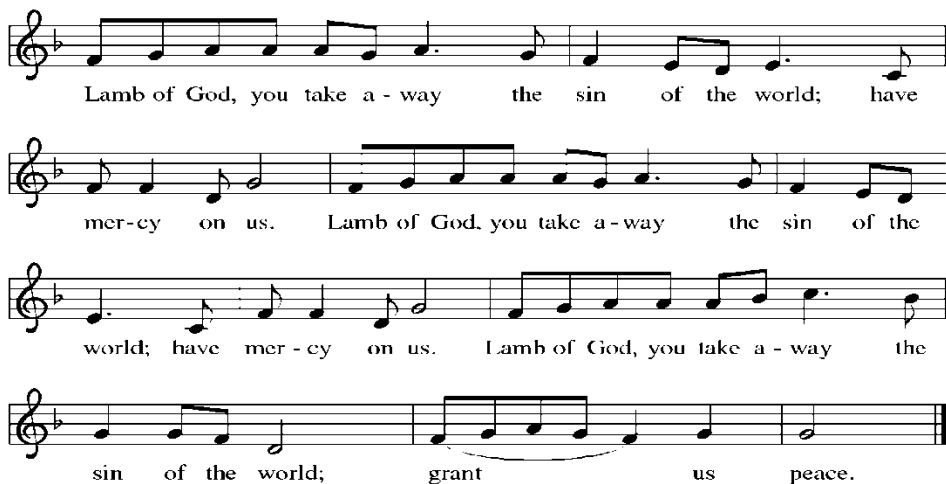
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

Thanks be to God!

LAMB OF GOD



As Lutherans we believe that Jesus is present in the elements of communion, bringing forgiveness and new life to all who receive it. The table is open to everyone, and the gift is always given, never taken. Simply make a cradle with your hand(s) as you receive the bread. **Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available from the ushers. Bring them forward to be blessed by the pastor.** The response after receiving both the gift of bread and wine is **“Amen.”**

For those who would like to continue to celebrate in the pews, please let the usher know. For our friends who are not celebrating communion, simply fold your arms across your chest and receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMNS *Where Charity and Love Prevail* #359
 Baptized and Set Free #453

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE** *Be Not Afraid* #388

Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid, sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

*** POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Living One,

C: in this feast you have made yourself known to us.

Send us now to tell of your wonders,

sing of your glory,

and proclaim your risen life

to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The triune God,

who was, who is, and who is to come,

Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,

light your way with resurrection dawn,

now and always.

Amen

SENDING_____

***HYMN** *Now the Green Blade Rises* #379

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *I Know That My Redeemer Lives* George Shearing
Please feel free to exit during the postlude.

Today's Altar Flowers

*Given by Colleen & Randy Witmer in honor of
Velma Witmer.*

*Given by Phil Howard in loving memory of
Beverly Howard.*

Serving Today	May 18	May 25
Assisting Minister	(8AM) Elizabeth Dustin (11AM) Barb Luce	John Kersey (10AM) Cyndy Granger
Cantor	(8AM) Anne Benson (11AM) Patrick Mulligan	John Beard (10AM) Carolyn Worley
Greeters	(8AM) Kersey Family (11AM) Cheri Kellogg	Diane Stenstrom (10AM) Penny & Gary Lester
Acolyte	(8AM) Jen Kersey (11AM) Allyx Hoden	Jen Kersey (10AM) Allison Kellogg
Children's Message	Cheri Kellogg	(10AM) Pastor Jeff
Digital Deacon	Penny Lester	(10AM) Denny Pearson
Counters	Jane Beardsley Randy Britton	Randy Britton Kerry Bussoletti



OFFERING ENVELOPE CHANGES & REQUESTS

Anyone who would like to receive offering envelopes or make changes to their current envelopes please let Lori know by end of day tomorrow, May 19.

PRAYER LIST

Names will remain on the list for a period of three weeks.

Names may be returned to the prayer list by contacting the church office.

*Please receive permission before submitting names
to be included on the Prayer List.*

Prayer Requests: *servicemen & women, especially Andrew Shodi, Swede Backhus, Adam & Ben Frederick, Shane Simpson, Curtis Royek, Ty Elmquist, Julie & Joey Gilman, Hunter Feeny, Kohl Feeny, Jon Donaldson*

May 18: *Linn Hyde, Larry Rambish, Eunice Herrington, Alyssa Dennewitz, Ron & Lois Hart, Jerry Stuart, Connie Buerkle, Rita Hawk, Terry Pearson, Val & Nancy Condio, Brent Casey, Kristin Frick, Tom & Robin Swanson, Joel Nowacki, Doug Granger, Sarah Downey, MaryBeth Nawrocki, Ariel Mickle, Family & Friends of Martha Rodgers*

May 11: *Christopher Smith, Mary Hofer, Sheila Auer, Rod Anderson, Caleb Brannon, Brooke Benton, Annabelle Hartman*

May 4: *Kim Tome, Rose Troyan, Holly Schubert, Bonnie Gray, Velma Zock, Peggy Nelson, Janet Wilson, Sarah Downey, Jeff Bastow, Elaine Powers, Donna Smith, Kia Lee, Betty Berdine, Vic Wolfe, Cara Smith, Joe Krall, Jerry Johnson, Mariah Nowacki, Barry Seastead, Maryann Long, Denise Cederquist*

Please contact the Church Office if you, a family member or someone from the parish is in the hospital.

Help us help you when pastoral care is needed!

Summer Worship Time



**Late Service moves to 10AM
Next Sunday, May 25**

Blessing of the Bike Helmets

May 25
8AM & 10AM
Services

This year we are asking you to bring only
your bike helmets to church.

PENTECOST CELEBRATION



Pentecost is June 8th this year. In celebration, please bring red geraniums to place on the altar and wear red to the service. If you are worshipping remotely and would still like to contribute geraniums, please bring them to the church the week prior and place them in Reier's cart, which will be placed just inside the parking lot doors. We will make sure the geraniums get placed on

the altar before the service. After the Pentecost service, the geraniums will be planted in the gardens around the church. Thank you!

CREATION SUNDAY POSTCARD

If you didn't get your postcard last week, check at the table in the narthex after the 8am and 11am services. If you want to send out more, we have extras and ask for a donation of \$1 per card, with all money going to support the Allegheny River Clean-Up. Please help us spread the word about caring for God's creation!



34TH ANNUAL WELCA CONVENTION.

COME TO THE LIGHT -John 8:12.

Olmstead Manor, Ludlow, Pa.

May 30-31, 2025.



The Registration Form has arrived. Copies are posted on the information wall. The committee did an outstanding job tweaking things so that it will be more affordable for all. There are many options.

This year we will be supporting Bethesda Lutheran Services and the Right Start Young Mothers' Program.

What a great way to connect with your Sisters in Christ. We will need a delegate from our church. The Commuter Saturday (only lunch and registration) has been a popular choice for our congregational unit.

"Remember we are a community of women, created in the image of God, called to Discipleship in Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit. We commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

All are welcome!

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH IS BEGINNING A NEIGHBORHOOD GARDEN!

The table beds you have seen in the parking lot will be filled with planters and ready to be adopted on June 1st - and you get first dibs!!

The Stewardship of Life committee, with a special thanks to the Property committee, will be in the Narthex today and next week to take your reservation for one (or more) of the planters.

Tomatoes, peppers, herbs, and flowers are just a few of the things you can plant! We don't recommend planting any root veggies due to the shallowness of the soil.

The planters can either be left here for you to take care of (water and implements are close by), or you can take it home with you and grow your garden there! Either way, we simply ask you to take pictures of your progress and post them on the church's Facebook page. Once your garden is done for the season, simply bring the planter back so we can get it ready for next year.

This is our "shake down" cruise for this new outreach, and we would love your feedback. Next year, we would like to take the planters on the road and offer a neighborhood garden in other neighborhoods!





RUMMAGE SALE COLLECTION

May 23–June 5

RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, June 6 9AM–2PM

Saturday, June 7 9AM–12PM



Today is our final Sunday's Cool of the 2024/2025 season. Thank you to all who taught and participated in learning about God. We look forward to seeing you in the fall!



*Just a few handfuls of change
can help change lives!*



Change For Life

It's in your hands!

Pregnancy Tests, 24-Hour Helpline, Doctor Referrals, Sonograms, Counseling



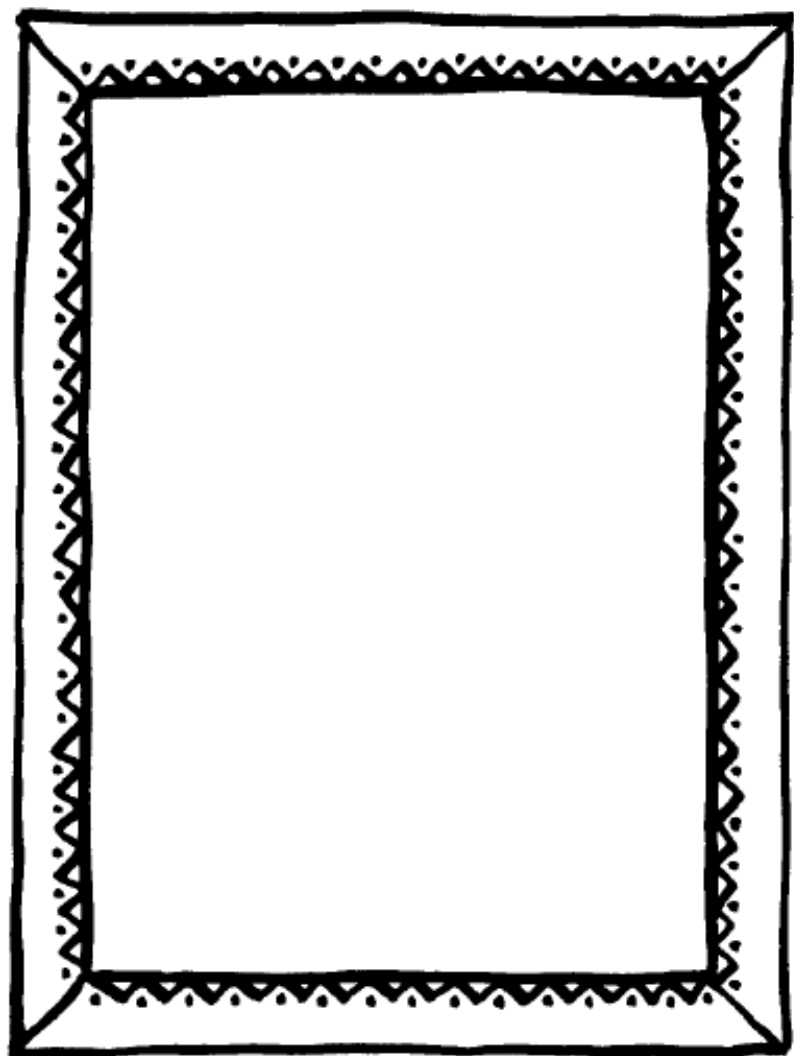
STD Testing and Treatment, Adoption, Education, Classes and More!

**BABY BOTTLES
ARE
AVAILABLE IN
THE NARTHEX
TO FILL!**

**PLEASE
RETURN THEM
BY FATHER'S
DAY (JUNE 15).**

Welcome to worship. Today is the fifth Sunday of Easter. Look around you. Does everyone in your worship space look the same? No two people are exactly alike. Each one of us is important to God.

Draw a one-of-a-kind person sitting near you.





Refrigerator Schedule

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETS **Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday** **at 6:30 PM**

*HP/Hansen Parlor; NH/Niewoehner Hall; OFH/Old Fellowship Hall,
YR/Youth Room, UC/Upstairs Classroom, SY/Sanctuary, CR/Choir Room
UCC/Upstairs Couch Classroom, N/Narthex, K/Kitchen*

Sunday, May 18	8:00 AM	Communion Service (SY)
	9:31 AM	Sunday's Cool (NH)
	10:15 AM	Confircamp Parents Meeting (HP)
Monday, May 19	11:00 AM	Communion Service (SY)
	12:15 PM	Mission Trip Meeting (NH)
	6:00 PM	Losers (OFH)
	1:00 PM	Mahjongg (HP)
	1:00 PM	Joan Nabert Circle (NH)
	6:00 PM	Christian Ed (NH)
Tuesday, May 20	6:00 PM	ESOL (UC)
	7:00 PM	Council (NH)
	5:00 PM	Widows Group (HP)
	6:00 PM	Ukrainian Bible Study (YR)
Wednesday, May 21	6:30 PM	Master Gardeners (NH)
	12:00 PM	Bible Study (NH)
	5:00 PM	Grief Yoga (OFH)
	5:15 PM	Handbells (SY)
	6:00 PM	ESOL (UC)
Thursday, May 22	7:00 PM	Choir (CR)
	10:00 AM	Prayer Shawl (HP)
	1:00 PM	Social Garden Club (NH)
	6:00 PM	Camera Club (NH)
Friday, May 23	Rummage collection begins.	
Saturday, May 24	12:00 PM	Shakespeare (OFH)
Sunday, May 25	ASSCENSION SUNDAY	

BLESSING OF THE BIKE HELMETS

8:00 AM	Communion Service (SY)
10:00 AM	Communion Service (SY)
4:00 PM	Rouse Worship
6:00 PM	Losers (OFH)