

**June/July 2025 Lantern**  
**“FRIENDS LOVING CHRIST.**  
**FRIENDS LOVING COMMUNITY”**

First Lutheran Church  
109 West Third Avenue  
814-723-6450

Check us out on Facebook and at [flcwarren.com](http://flcwarren.com)



Greetings, church family!

Well, summer is finally here, and – especially after such a harsh and cold winter – a welcome season! This year, we welcome summer with two special worship events in June:



**CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY – JUNE 1:** Plato once said, “Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything.” And it’s true! Life without music would be flat (get it?!). Our choirs are wonderful in pulling back the curtain to heaven just a little bit so we get a taste of the concert we will experience (and be a part of) in heaven! Join us at 10:00 a.m. (8:00 a.m. worship as usual)

**PENTECOST – JUNE 8:** On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path. Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ’s love and the freedom of God’s grace with all the world. (worship is at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.)

We hope you will join us as we celebrate the gift of music and the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out on all people! See you in church!

Shalom,  
Pastor Jeff



**CONSTANT AND UNCHANGING**

Summer’s arrival feels positive to many people but may not be smooth for all. Families who rely on regular school meals for their children must stretch grocery dollars further. Heat poses risks for elderly people who lack air conditioning. Work can be difficult to find in the summer months, and uncertainty looms for recent graduates. Meanwhile, concerns such as wars, natural disasters and health problems don’t take a summer break.

St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582) prayed, “May you be blessed forever, Lord, for being constant and unchanging, amidst all the changes of the world.” Her prayer is as appropriate today as nearly 500 years ago. When all around us is unstable and unreliable, God’s love and faithfulness are constant and trustworthy.



**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE FROM MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR**

**DAY IS 8:00 A.M. AND 10:00 A.M.** BRING YOUR FAMILY, INVITE FRIENDS! IT’S A GREAT WAY TO START THE WEEK! AND YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT THAT WILD GOOSE (THE HOLY SPIRIT) IS GOING TO DO AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT! TRAIN YOUR

EYES TO SEE THAT SPIRIT MOVING IN, THROUGH AND IN SPITE OF US! YOU WILL BE AMAZED AT WHAT YOU SEE!





## Rummage Sale June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

That's right, it's back! Tell your friends! This year's sale will be in the church basement on Friday and Saturday. Mission Trippers (and anyone who would like to help): remember to help set up on the 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. All proceeds go toward housing costs for our trip to Michigan to serve the underserved in and around Detroit.

## Synod Assembly

This year's NWPASynod assembly at Thiel College takes place on June 11 (virtual) and June 13 -14. First Lutheran's representatives are Addy Landrio and Mary Worley. This year's theme is "I Love to Tell the Story, Part 2". Again, as always, prayers are appreciated! Ask God to continue to reveal God's plan for us to share God's story and God's love in northwestern PA and beyond.



## WARREN COUNTY PRIDE DAY SET FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Warren County Pride Day 2025 will be held on June 14<sup>th</sup> at Betts Park from 11 AM to 4PM. The purpose of Pride Day is to both celebrate and support the LGBTQ+ community, so bring your lawn chair and enjoy a day of celebration along the Allegheny River. The event is free to all. We will need volunteers to represent FLC at our table. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex soon. This is a fun day!

## CONFIRMATION CAMP SET FOR JUNE 15-20

Once again this year we will be heading to Lutherlyn for a week of learning and fun! This year we are combining with another confirmation camp and theme-teaching. This year's theme is: Amazing Grace – no strings attached! Please keep the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders from all the churches participating (along with their pastors ☺) in your prayers!!



## Produce Express

### *Produce Express Scheduled for TUESDAY, June 17<sup>th</sup> (note day change) and THURSDAY, July 17<sup>th</sup>*



Thanks to all the volunteers who help register folks, load the shopping carts, take food to the cars, load the vehicles, direct traffic, clean-up and more!! Word about the Produce Express is getting out, too! You can volunteer between 1:30 – 3:30! We meet in the garage! We need about 15-20 folks to make this a smooth operation and an effective ministry and outreach. Want to help? Simply show up or touch base with Colleen Witmer!

**JUNETEENTH** is a holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It recalls how the states of Louisiana and Texas heard the news that President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Slavery continued in those two states for more than two years after the proclamation was signed because the word had yet to travel there. Texas and Louisiana finally got the good news on June 19, 1865. Former slaves broke out in spontaneous celebration. These were dangerous times. Even in the face of resistance and threat, the formerly enslaved Africans found ways to give voice to the wide range of thoughts and emotions at the announcement of the end of legalized slavery in the United States of America.



## 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY WATER GIVE AWAY

The winds of the world whirl around us as we see our neighbors thirsting for a place to wet their whistle! First Lutheran has a long, wonderful history of filling that thirst during our Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Water Giveaway. We reach out to those with common need and offer a sip of peace, hope, and love! Please look for more info in upcoming bulletins plus a sign-up sheet! Thank you for all past and present volunteers and we hope that you might add your name to the list.





## DID YOU KNOW...

...Thomas Jefferson was only 33 years old when he was commissioned to write the Declaration of the Independence for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress?

...1777 was the first year fireworks were used in an official Fourth of July celebration? Congress authorized using fireworks to help mark the first anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

...There was an estimated 2.5 million people living in the 13 colonies on July 4, 1776? Now there are over 300 million people living in the U.S.

...Fourth of July became a federal holiday in 1870?

Happy Birthday, America!



**FRIDAY NIGHT OUT dinner details will be listed in the bulletins so keep an eye out for them!**

## *Mission trippers heading to Detroit July 20-25!*

Please keep the mission trip folks in your prayers as they head out to be "God's Hands" for the underserved. Although we do not know what specific work we will be doing, we look forward to serving and to the adventure that is a First Lutheran Church Mission Trip!



## PENTECOST CELEBRATION



Pentecost is June 8<sup>th</sup> this year. In celebration, please bring red geraniums to place on the altar and wear red to the service. If you are worshiping 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!

## MOVERS RETURNS JUNE 3

Movers is a time of worship through movement followed by a brief devotional time. All are welcome to join. No skill level required. We meet on Tuesdays at 4:30PM in Niewoehner Hall.



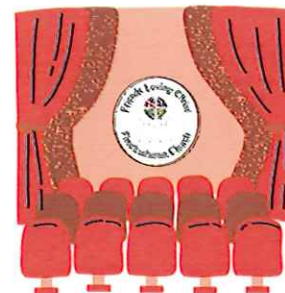
## Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs at Christian Theological Seminary

After a year of reflection, research, and writing, our application (written by Tom Pierotti, Penny and Gary Lester, Elsa Redding, Denny Pearson, and Pastor Jeff and Kari Ewing) was received by the Lilly Foundation the beginning of March. We will be notified at the end of August whether or not we receive a grant for the summer of 2026 that would enable Pastor Jeff to take a sabbatical while at the same time providing an opportunity for renewal for the congregation. We pray for all clergy who seek time for renewal in the midst of proclaiming the Good News while shepherding their congregations.

## LITTLE THEATRE PROJECT:

We were very pleased to receive funding for this project from the Special Gifts Fund at the annual meeting. We met with Property Committee and they are securing the services of an electrician for a major electrical upgrade. After that is completed, Property Committee will paint the basement stage (floor, walls, ceiling, and steps).

They will also remove the old red, vinyl stage curtain, and the track it is suspended from will be removed and installed at the back of the stage. Options for back and side curtains, and lighting are being explored. Questions may be directed to Denny Pearson, Jen Check, Kevin and Adri Hunt, Jessica Long, Patrick Hunt, Mary Worley, or Kevin Downey.





## SHARE THE BOUNTY TABLE

Don't forget to stop by the Share the Bounty Table in the narthex. As we enjoy warm weather, we may find we have excess veggies and other items. Baked goods are also welcome. Please leave them on the table, and recipients are welcome to take them. If you can, leave a donation in the Share the Bounty box. All donations will be given to Lutheran World Hunger relief efforts.



## ALL LUTHERAN PICNIC

**SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025 @ 2:00 PM**

St John's Lutheran Church in Warren, PA has set the date for the Annual All Lutheran Picnic. We are hopeful you will mark the date on your calendar and attend the event in person! More information will be shared as the date approaches.

## Church Council Meeting Update

May 19, 2025

School's almost out for the summer....stay tuned:

- **PRIDE** will be held on **June 14<sup>th</sup>** at Bett's Park. RIC will host the FLC table and frisbee golf!
- **Vacation Bible School** will be hosted by Grace United Methodist Church **July 27<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>**. Come and see what adventures are planned!
- **Watch for information on Confirmation Camp.** A new curriculum will focus on where we find God's Amazing Grace.
- **Family Fun hours** will be held this summer in June and August at various playgrounds. Dates will be posted soon. Come and join in the outdoor fun!
- **Watch for news of an upcoming printer recycling drive....**
- **Reservations are being taken for our Community Mini Garden Boxes.** Twenty-seven planters for raised beds will be available.

**Enjoy God's Creation !**

## MEETING MINUTES



## Produce Express



## PRODUCE EXPRESS UPDATE

Ever wonder about the impact that Produce Express has in our community? Well, in May we provided food for 99 families, 6 of whom were new to the program. That breaks down to 224 Individuals; 62 Children, 113 Adults, and 49 Seniors. Thank you for your support of this vital ministry.

**What is a father?** Being a male species does not make a man a father, for a dad is a special blend of hero; disciplinarian; a friend; someone to look up to; someone to model ... someone with a touch of the "mother" in him; someone who is big enough to say, "The fault was mine" ... someone who lives the kind of life that makes you want to say, "I, too, shall follow him!" —Alton Kaul



## MARK YOUR CALENDERS, WE HAVE A NEW FAMILY MINISTRY PROGRAM...*FAMILY FUN HOUR!*

On Mondays, starting June 9th, from 3:30PM to 4:30PM, we will meet in different community playgrounds. If it is a Monday that it is raining, we will just meet at the church. Families, grandparents, babysitters, kids of all ages; all are welcomed!! Within the hour, we will do some fun activities and have a healthy snack. Bring friends and come and have some fun. Mark your calendars

for Mondays June 9<sup>th</sup> (Beaty), 16<sup>th</sup> (Lacy), 23<sup>rd</sup> (Crescent), June 30<sup>th</sup> (North Warren), July 28<sup>th</sup> (Betts), August 4<sup>th</sup> (Russell), and August 11<sup>th</sup> is to be determined . If you have any questions, please call Cheri @ 814-723-6450 or 814-688-0640.





## PENNSYLVANIA DAY

National Pennsylvania Day on July 20 recognizes the second state to join the Union. Once the home of the temporary capital of the United States in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is also known as the Keystone State. While the source of the nickname has been forgotten, the meaning is not lost. Bridge builders know leaving the vital keystone out of their structure would be folly, leading to collapse.

Pennsylvania played many roles that could be considered keystones. To begin with, its vote for independence split between eight delegates. Because of this, the split played a vital role in deciding to move toward independence and cementing the union of the newly formed country.

Celebrate National PA Day this year by indulging in uniquely Pennsylvanian treats like Philly Cheesesteak, Hershey's Chocolates, Heinz Ketchup and more. Did you know that Newcastle, PA is the Fireworks Capital of America? Or that Kennett Square in PA is the mushroom capital of the world?

Famous Pennsylvanians include William Penn, Daniel Boone, Louisa May Alcott, Arnold Palmer, Reggie Jackson, President James Buchanan, and, of course, WACKO Extraordinaire Gary Lester. *Source: nationaldaycalendar.com*



### 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 1<sup>st</sup> - and you get first dibs!!

The Stewardship of Life committee, with a special thanks to the Property committee, have been taking reservations after service for adoption 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!



### 2024 Community VBS is Almost Here!!! "True North"

**Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, At 6-8:15pm, at Grace Methodist Church**

We will have groups of 5-year-olds through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. One registration per child if possible.

The registration forms are in the Narthex. If at all possible, we would prefer you to pre-register before VBS. However, on Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup>, come at 5:45pm if you have not already turned your child(ren's) registration forms to Cheri. Each evening your child(ren) will enjoy some music, games, snacks, story time, and experiments. We will try to have as much of VBS outside and restrooms will be available. We are excited to see little children and their smiling faces. If you have any questions, please call Cheri @ 814-723-6450 OR 814-688-0640.



**We Need VBS Volunteers of All Kinds!!** This year VBS needs more volunteers than before. We will need Crew Leaders and Crew Helpers, Snack Helpers, Craft Helpers, Music Helpers, Helpers with the Games, Helpers to sanitize the play equipment after each station, Helpers to make sure the groups are going in the right direction. Helpers can be from 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 100ish years old! If you're 18 years or older you MUST have your clearances. If you find a job you would like to help with, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or call Cheri @ 814-723-6450 or 814-688-0640.





## SCHORMAN CENTER ME MORY GARDEN OPENING!

1 Main Avenue ♦ Warren, PA

June 3, 2025 ♦ 5PM

All are invited to join in remembering those you have loved and lost. The new Memory Garden is located in the back yard of the Schorman Center. This free public event will begin with a candlelight vigil at 5PM, with light refreshments to follow.

### FIRST LUTHERAN HERB GARDEN

Despite the harsh winter, we have some herbs that are all ready for your use: parsley and chives. We will be planting additional herbs, as soon as the temperatures are consistently warm enough at night. Be on the lookout for basil, dill, oregano, thyme, and sage. Feel free to stop by and cut herbs for your use.



### HOLY GROUND



For me, there's nothing quite like taking off my sandals in the summer and walking through the grass. But when our sons were infants, neither shared that love of going barefoot. When we'd attempt to lower them to play outside, they'd raise their legs, trying not to touch the tickly, prickly, green ground.

"Do not come any closer," the Lord warned Moses through the burning bush. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground" (Exodus 3:5, NIV). In God's presence, Moses faced a turning point: either resist God's instructions or obey, leading the Israelites out of Egypt.

Maybe taking off my sandals this summer can remind me that I'm standing in God's presence. I may not hear a booming voice, and I might just be standing at the kitchen sink doing chores. Or I might be at a barbecue, with the opportunity to truly listen to my neighbors. God's presence permeates life's big moments as well as the mundane. How can you "take off your sandals" and enter what God has for you?

—Janna Firestone

**Save the date: June 29<sup>th</sup>! Losers Youth Sunday Group (6<sup>th</sup>-12 Grader)** At 6:00pm we will meet at the church (hopefully outside) we will have a PIZZA and a devotion. Then we will make some SLIME! Please sign-up in the Narthex, so I can buy enough pizza and slime supplies. Any questions, call Cheri @ 814-723-6450 or 814-688-0640.



### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING SENIOR!**



**Blake Ristau** is the son of Shawn and Shelly Ristau. His future plans are to attend Chatham University, where he was accepted to the 5-year accelerated program to earn both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Counseling Psychology, and become a Mental Health Therapist. While at college, Blake plans to participate in the Chatham University Choir. During high school, Blake has been involved in the Struthers Library Theater ARTE program, All-County Musicals, President of the Warren Area High School Acapella and Madrigal Choirs, Spanish Club, Art Club, Chemistry Tutoring Club and Academic Quiz Bowl. Additionally, he volunteered at First Methodist Church's Monday night meals and has helped his family recycle at First Lutheran Church.

**FLC is very PROUD of this young adult! Your future awaits your goals in life!!**

## JUNE SUNDAY SCRIPTURE SCHEDULE

**Late Service is streamed on Facebook, and posted the next day on our website: [flewarren.com/worship](http://flewarren.com/worship)**

I would encourage you to open your bible and read the upcoming week's scripture passages on Wednesday in one sitting. Let them soak into your spirit and reflect on them throughout the week. Look to see what the threads are that connect the readings together. What themes do you see? Our regular devotional book, *Christ in Our Home*, has readings on the week's lectionary readings beginning on Thursday. – PJ

June 1 – Church Music Sunday

**Acts 16:16-34** - *While in prison, Paul speaks to the jailer, who is then baptized*

**Psalms 97** - *Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous. (Ps. 97:12)*

**Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21** - *Blessed are those who wash their robes*

**John 17:20-26** - *Jesus prays that the disciples will be one and abide in his love*

June 8 – Pentecost

**Acts 2:1-21** - *Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds*

**Psalms 104:24-34, 35b** - *Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30)*

**Romans 8:14-17** - *The Spirit makes us children of God*

**John 14:8-17 [25-27]** - *The Father will give you another Advocate, the Spirit of truth*

June 15 – Holy Trinity/Father's Day

**Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31** - *Wisdom rejoices in the creation*

**Psalms 8** - *Your glory is chanted above the heavens. (Ps. 8:2)*

**Romans 5:1-5** - *God's love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit*

**John 16:12-15** - *The Spirit will guide you into the truth*

June 22 – Lectionary 12

**Isaiah 65:1-9** - *The prophet sent to a rebellious people*

**Psalms 22:19-28** - *In the midst of the assembly I will praise you. (Ps. 22:22)*

**Galatians 3:23-29** - *In baptism, clothed with Christ; no longer Jew or Greek*

**Luke 8:26-39** - *Jesus casts out demons possessing a man of the Gerasenes*

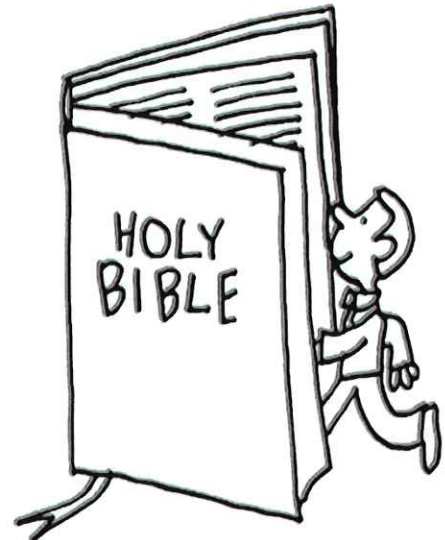
June 29 – Lectionary 13

**1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21** - *Elijah says to Elisha, Follow me and do not continue plowing*

**Psalms 16** - *I have set the LORD always before me. (Ps. 16:8)*

**Galatians 5:1, 13-25** - *Love is the whole law, gift of the Spirit*

**Luke 9:51-62** - *Jesus says, Follow me and do not look back*





## JULY SUNDAY SCRIPTURE SCHEDULE

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July 6 – Lectionary 14

**Isaiah 66:10-14** - *Jerusalem, a nursing mother giving life to her children*

**Psalms 66:1-9** - All the earth bows down before you and sings out your name. (Ps. 66:4)

**Galatians 6:1-6** **7-16** - *Do what is right now and reap at the harvest time*

**Luke 10:1-11, 16-20** - *Jesus sends out seventy disciples into the harvest*

July 13 – Lectionary 15

**Deuteronomy 30:9-14** - *The LORD will take delight in your fruitfulness*

**Psalms 25:1-10** - Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. (Ps. 25:4)

**Colossians 1:1-14** - *The gospel is growing, bearing fruit in the whole world*

**Luke 10:25-37** - *The parable of the merciful Samaritan*

July 20 – Lectionary 16

**Genesis 18:1-10a** - *The hospitality of Abraham and Sarah to three visitors of the LORD*

**Psalms 15** - LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)

**Colossians 1:15-28** - *Hymn to Christ, the firstborn of all creation*

**Luke 10:38-42** - *Jesus says: Martha, your sister Mary has chosen the better part*

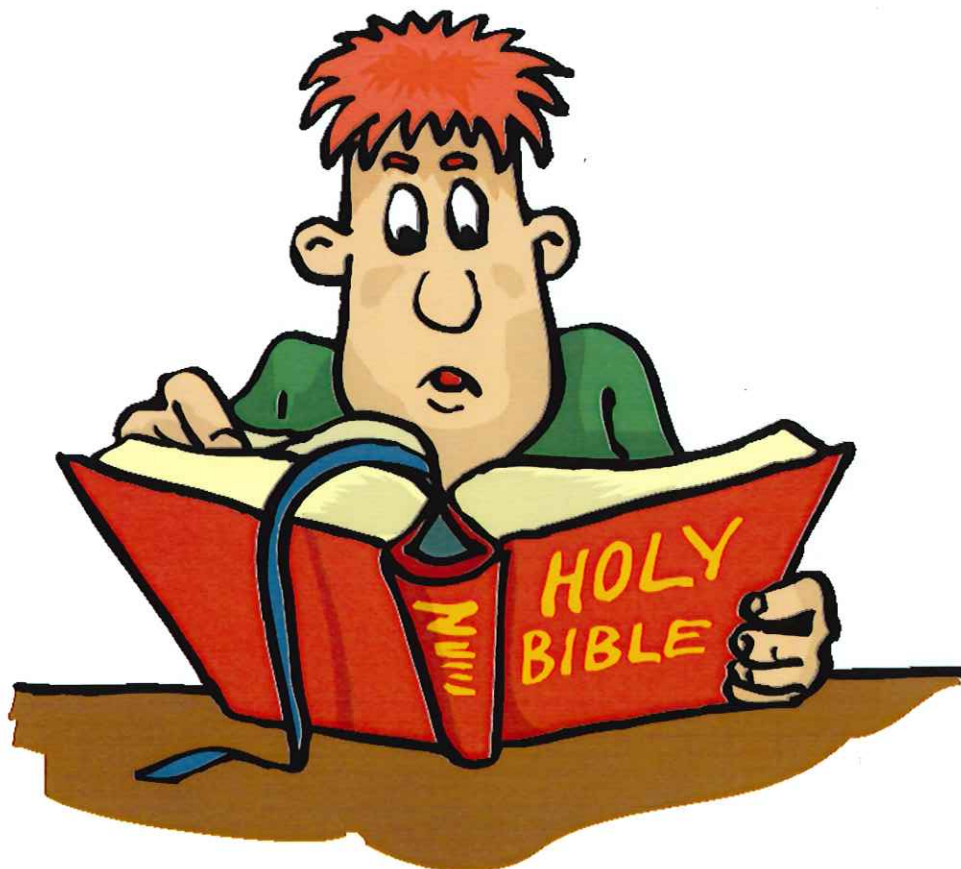
July 27 – Lectionary 17

**Genesis 18:20-32** - *Abraham bargains with God for the righteous of Sodom and Gomorrah*

**Psalms 138** - Your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands. (Ps. 138:8)

**Colossians 2:6-15** **[16-19]** - *Buried with Christ in baptism, raised with him through faith*

**Luke 11:1-13** - *Jesus teaches the disciples to pray*





## SERVING SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

*Please be sure to note when you are scheduled to serve this month.*

<b>CANTORS</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
June 1	Carolyn Worley	Adri Hunt
June 8	Anne Benson	Brenda Hunter
June 15	John Beard	Scott Rose
June 22	Carolyn Worley	Bob Holt
June 29	Anne Benson	Colleen Witmer

<b>ASSISTING MINISTERS</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
June 1	Elizabeth Dustin	Cyndy Granger
June 8	Don Reed	Denny Pearson
June 15	Lori Nowacki	Linda Ross
June 22	Kris Whitacker	Cathy Southwell
June 29	Randy Britton	Donna Trubic

<b>ACOLYTES</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
June 1	Jen Kersey	Justin Klenowski
June 8	Jen Kersey	Allison Bussoletti
June 15	Jen Kersey	Ryan Klenowski
June 22	Jen Kersey	Madison Bussoletti
June 29	Jen Kersey	Charles Bielawski

<b>GREETERS</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
June 1	Debbie Backhus	Charlie Merroth
June 8	Andy Beardsley	Karen Schumacher
June 15	Randy & Sandy Britton	Roamine Stanton & Elsa Redding
June 22	Barb Hill	Sunny & Siby Thomas
June 29	Carol Johnson	Meoldy Traub

<b>USHERS</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
	*Tim Bleech	*Ralph Farone
	Don Reed	Cheri Kellogg
	Mark Genberg	Jim Pearson
		Gary Candraia
		Earl Ross
		Larry Labowski

<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
	Gloria Genberg	Sue Candraia
	Carol Johnson	Sally Hawkinson
		Liz Horsely

<b>CHILDREN'S MESSAGE</b>	
June 1	Anna Bielawski
June 8	Cheri Kellogg
June 15	Adri Hunt
June 22	Pastor Jeff
June 29	Cynthia Klenowski

<b>DIGITAL DEACONS</b>	
June 1	Denise Whipp
June 8	Heidi Colosimo
June 15	Keith Hedges
June 22	Penny Lester
June 29	Denny Pearson

<b>COUNTERS</b>	
June 1	Kerry Bussoletti & Dave Campbell
June 8	Dave Campbell & Cathy Hall
June 15	Cathy Hall & Barb Hill
June 22	Barb Hill & Addy Landrio
June 29	Addy Landrio & Steve Horsely



## SERVING SCHEDULE FOR JULY

*Please be sure to note when you are scheduled to serve this month.*

### CANTORS

**8:00AM**

**10:00AM**

July 6  
July 13  
July 20  
July 27

Linda Ross  
Donna Trubic  
Dave Campbell  
Colleen Witmer

### ASSISTING MINISTERS

**8:00AM**

**10:00AM**

July 6  
July 13  
July 20  
July 27

John Kersey  
Elizabeth Dustin  
Lori Nowacki  
Kris Whitaker

Denise Whipp  
Colleen Witmer  
Heihi Colosimo  
Joan Griesbach

### ACOLYTES

**8:00AM**

**10:00AM**

July 6  
July 13  
July 20  
July 27

Jen Kersey  
Jen Kersey  
Jen Kersey  
Jen Kersey

Max Enos  
Aaron Gausman  
Olivia Hecei  
Andrew Gausman

### GREETERS

**8:00AM**

**10:00AM**

July 6  
July 13  
July 20  
July 27

Barry & Irene Keller  
Kersey Family  
Lori Nowacki  
Diane Stenstrom

Denise Whipp  
Bonnie Abplanalp  
Jen Check  
Heidi Colosimo

### USHERS

**8:00AM**

**10:00AM**

\*John Hyde  
Bob Beurkle  
Andy Beardsley

\*Jim Rapp  
Joe Whipp  
Tim Huber  
Mark Simpson  
Steve Horsely  
Mike Wachter

### ALTAR GUILD

**8:00AM**

**10:00AM**

Denice Bleech  
Cathy Hall

Lori Howard  
Brenda Hunter  
RoseMary Landon

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

July 6  
July 13  
July 20  
July 27

Anna Bielawski  
Cheri Kellogg  
Pastor Jeff  
TBA

### DIGITAL DEACONS

July 6 Denise Whipp  
July 13 Heidi Colosimo  
July 20 Keith Hedges  
July 27 Penny Lester

### COUNTERS

July 6 Steve Horsely and Addy Landrio  
July 13 Addy Landrio and Lyn McDaniel  
July 20 Lyn McDaniel and Siby Thomas  
July 27 Siby Thomas and Sandy Wachter





## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



### JUNE

- 6/2 Nickolas Brooks, Linda Philhower,  
Shelby Rhoades
- 6/3 Jim & Alice Rapp (25)  
Victor & Beth Vierra (19)
- 6/4 Connie Buerkle, Erika Stevenson  
Ed & Bonnie Abplanalp (42)
- 6/5 Nick Carr, Meera King,  
Matt & Wendy Andersen (13)
- 6/6 Curtis Dunn, Nathan Labowski,  
Diane Smith,  
Roger & Shelle Tubbs (33)  
Andy & Amy Kuppertz IV (33)
- 6/7 Haley Ferrie, Chuck Olson
- 6/9 Chris & Caroline Check (19)  
Kevin & Elizabeth Dustin (7)
- 6/10 Bill Kramer,  
Bill & Twila Kramer (53)
- 6/11 Ed Abplanalp, Mike Cronmiller, Erica  
Littlefield, Lydia Renninger, Barb Luce,  
Marina Bussoletti
- 6/12 Brian & Melissa Marfink (26)
- 6/14 John Kersey
- 6/15 Denny & Vonda Hedges (68),  
Shelly Ristau
- 6/16 Cole Chimenti, Robin Kersey
- 6/17 Kayla Hunter, Russell Stenstrom  
Shawn & Shelly Ristau (20)
- 6/18 Meredith McIntosh
- 6/19 Easton Moore
- 6/20 Lily Lindell, Sandy Wachter
- 6/21 Amy Kuppertz,  
Richard & Linda Philhower (56)
- 6/22 Olivia Hecei, Brandon Williams
- 6/23 Brad Smith
- 6/24 Nathan Britton, Jennifer Kersey, Dash Enos
- 6/25 Melanie Ewing, Bob Gregersen
- 6/26 Jack Hemink, Kevin & Adri Hunt (15)  
Don & Kate Reed
- 6/27 Jim & Denny Pearson (44)
- 6/28 Charlotte Brown, Sally Hawkinson,  
Irene Keller, Rodger Taraska, Bob Holt
- 6/30 Kyle Robb, Dick & Connie Coon (64)

### JULY

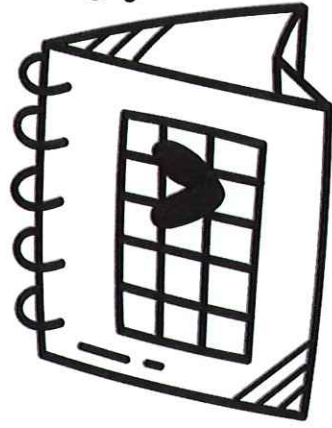
- 7/2 Eric Smith,  
Kevin & Amy Downey (43)
- 7/3 Jessica Long
- 7/4 Debbie Biel, Frances Eyler, Ruth Long
- 7/6 Amy Downey, Gary & Penny Lester (52)  
Nathan & Vicki Brooks (25)  
Craig & Kris Whitaker (46)
- 7/7 Tammy Rice, Ron Stewart,  
Randy & Tammy Rice (35),  
Mark & Gloria Genberg (35),  
Rodger & Diane Danielson (46)
- 7/8 Claire Abplanalp, Donna Kavinski
- 7/9 Jerry Huber, Lynne Rich, Meg Stewart,  
Mike Taraska
- 7/10 Charmaine Check, Arden Tremblay
- 7/11 Erica Kridler, Alayna Robb
- 7/12 Elizabeth Dustin, Jack Berquist
- 7/14 Al Dennis, Bob Ewing, Scott Koerselman  
Brian & Brianna Check (22)
- 7/15 Randy Britton,
- 7/16 Rodger & Elaine Taraska (54)
- 7/17 Carol Johnson, Ray Kavinski  
Isabella Knupp, Todd Phillips  
Walt & Joan Griesbach (16)  
Nathan & Gayle Neidig (27)
- 7/20 Dane Reed
- 7/21 Twila Kramer, Mary Kay Young
- 7/23 Karen Caldwell, Blake Ristau,  
Darren Williams, Lindsey Kramer
- 7/24 Christie Hillard, Stephanie Rowland  
Debbie Suppa, Anthony Tridico,  
Jim Young, Meredith Hanks
- 7/26 Hanna Marfink, Kim Sealy, Cathy Southwell
- 7/27 Rick & Lori Eaton (41)
- 7/29 Aaron & Lisa Feeney (25)
- 7/30 Bruce & Kathy Davis (48)
- 7/31 Don Trubic, Blaine Williams  
Kyle & Jennifer Young (15)



### PENTECOST IS JUNE 8

Pentecost is the beginning of the Christian Church. That is why Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The story of the Pentecost miracle tells us that God is present in the world again. Just as God was present in His son Jesus, God is now present through His Holy Spirit. The fellowship that was built around Jesus when he lived here on earth, died and rose from the dead was to be extended to the entire world.





# Special Dates to Remember

## SPECIAL DATES IN JUNE

- National Say Something Nice Day, *June 1, 2025*
- National Trails Day, *June 7 2025*
- Pentecost, *June 8, 2025*
- National Golf Cart day, *June 13, 2025*
- Flag Day, *June 14, 2025*
- World Blood Donor Day, *June 14, 2025*
- Trinity Sunday, *June 15, 2025*
- Father's Day, *June 15, 2025*
- Juneteenth, *June 19, 2025*
- First day of summer, *June 20, 2025*
- International Being You Day, *June 22, 2025*
- National Hydration Day, *June 23, 2025*
- PTSD Awareness Day, *June 27, 2025*

## SPECIAL DATES IN JULY

- National Postal Worker Appreciation Day, *July 1, 2025*
- International Plastic Bag Free Day, *July 3, 2025*
- Independence Day, *July 4, 2025*
- National Mac & Cheese Day, *July 7, 2025*
- Cheer Up the Lonely Day, *July 11, 2025*
- National Play Day, *July 19, 2025*
- Pennsylvania Day, *July 20, 2025*

## LANTERN DUE DATE- JULY 14

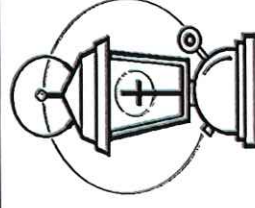
If you have any information for the August Lantern, please have it to the office by July 14. You can email it to Jess at [office@flcwarren.com](mailto:office@flcwarren.com) or drop it by the office any time Monday through Friday between 9AM and Noon or 1PM and 4PM.

## LANTERN ASSEMBLY- JULY 22- 10AM

Join us for a time of fun, fellowship, and service as we assemble the July Lantern. All are welcome!



**PELICAN** — In the Middle Ages, the pelican came to represent Jesus' sacrifice of his blood for the world. According to legend, a mother pelican, in times of famine, would pluck open her chest and feed her young with her own blood. An alternate myth was that she fed her dying young with her blood to revive them, losing her own life in the process. The depiction of a pelican with a drop of blood on her chest is called "the pelican in her piety."









# June 2025

6PM NA

6PM NA

6PM NA

6PM NA

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY</b> <b>8AM Worship</b> <b>10AM Worship</b> 	<b>2</b> <b>1PM Mahjongg</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b>	<b>3</b> <b>4:30PM Movers</b> <b>6PM Ukrainian Bible Study</b> <b>7PM RIC</b>	<b>4</b> <b>12PM Bible Study</b> <b>5PM Grief Yoga</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b>	<b>5</b> <b>10AM Prayer Shawl</b>	<b>6</b> <b>9AM—2PM</b> <b>Rummage Sale</b>	<b>7</b> <b>9AM—12PM</b> <b>Rummage Sale</b> <b>1PM Anniversary Party</b>
<b>8 PENTECOST</b> <b>GRADUATE RECOGNITION</b> <b>8AM Worship</b> <b>10AM Worship</b> 	<b>9</b> <b>1PM Mahjongg</b> <b>3:30PM Family Fun</b> <b>Hour @ Beatty</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b>	<b>10</b> <b>8AM Carpet Cleaning</b> <b>4:30PM Movers</b> <b>5PM Widows' Group</b> <b>6PM Ukrainian Bible Study</b> <b>6PM WP Oliver Team</b>	<b>11</b> <b>12PM Bible Study</b> <b>5PM Grief Yoga</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b> <b>7PM Broadway Night @ 1st Presby</b>	<b>12</b> <b>10AM Prayer Shawl</b>	<b>13</b> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<b>14</b> <b>11AM—4PM</b> <b>Warren County Pride</b>
<b>15</b> <b>8AM Worship</b> <b>10AM Worship</b>	<b>16</b> <b>1PM Mahjongg</b> <b>3:30PM Family Fun</b> <b>Hour @ Lacy</b> <b>6PM Christian Ed</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b> <b>7PM Council</b>	<b>17</b> <b>PRODUCE EXPRESS</b> <b>4:30PM Movers</b> <b>6PM Ukrainian Bible Study</b>	<b>18</b> <b>12PM Bible Study</b> <b>5PM Grief Yoga</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b>	<b>19</b> <b>10AM Prayer Shawl</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>8AM Worship</b> <b>10AM Worship</b>	<b>23</b> <b>1PM Mahjongg</b> <b>3:30PM Family Fun</b> <b>Hour @ Crescent</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b> <b>6PM Shakespeare Reh</b>	<b>24</b> <b>4:30PM Movers</b> <b>6PM Ukrainian Bible Study</b> <b>6PM Book Club</b> <b>6PM Shakespeare Reh</b>	<b>25</b> <b>12PM Bible Study</b> <b>5PM Grief Yoga</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b> <b>6PM Shakespeare Reh</b>	<b>26</b> <b>10AM Prayer Shawl</b> <b>1PM Social Gardening Club</b> <b>6PM Shakespeare Reh</b>	<b>27</b> <b>6PM Shakespeare Reh</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>8AM Worship</b> <b>10AM Worship</b> <b>6PM Loser's Slime Day</b>	<b>30</b> <b>1PM Mahjongg</b> <b>3:30PM Family Fun</b> <b>Hour @ N. Warren</b> <b>6PM ESOL</b> <b>6PM Shakespeare Reh</b>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>				





# July 2025

6PM NA

6PM NA

6PM NA

6PM NA

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1  
4:30PM Movers  
6PM Ukrainian Bible Study  
6PM Shakespeare Reh

2  
12PM Bible Study  
5PM Grief Yoga  
6PM ESOL  
6PM Shakespeare Reh

3  
10AM Prayer Shawl  
6PM Shakespeare Reh



4 OFFICE CLOSED  
5

Pastor Jeff on vacation!

6  
8AM Worship  
10AM Worship

7  
1PM Mahjongg  
6PM ESOL  
6PM Shakespeare Reh

8  
4:30PM Movers  
6PM Ukrainian Bible Study  
6PM Shakespeare Reh

9  
12PM Bible Study  
5PM Grief Yoga  
6PM ESOL  
6PM Shakespeare Reh

10  
10AM Prayer Shawl  
7PM A Midsummer  
Night's Dream  
Performance

11  
7PM A Midsummer  
Night's Dream  
Performance

12  
7PM A Midsummer  
Night's Dream  
Performance

13  
8AM Worship  
10AM Worship  
11:15AM Mission Trip  
Meeting  
2PM A Midsummer  
Night's Dream  
Performance

14 Lantern Info Due  
1PM Mahjongg  
6PM ESOL

15  
4:30PM Movers  
5PM Widows' Group  
6PM Ukrainian Bible Study

16  
12PM Bible Study  
5PM Grief Yoga  
6PM ESOL

17  
10AM Prayer Shawl  
Produce Express

18

19



20 MISSION TRIPPERS  
GOSPEED  
8AM Worship  
10AM Worship

21  
1PM Mahjongg  
6PM ESOL

22  
10AM Lantern Assembly  
4:30PM Movers  
6PM Ukrainian Bible Study

23  
12PM Bible Study  
5PM Grief Yoga  
6PM ESOL

24  
10AM Prayer Shawl  
1PM Social Garden Club

25

26



27  
8AM Worship  
10AM Worship  
2PM All Lutheran  
Picnic @ St. Johns  
4PM Watson Home  
Worship  
5:45PM VBS @ Grace  
UMC

28  
1PM Mahjongg  
3:30PM Family Fun  
Hour @ Bets  
6PM ESOL  
6PM VBS @ Grace  
UMC

29  
4:30PM Movers  
6PM Ukrainian Bible Study  
6PM VBS @ Grace UMC

30  
12PM Bible Study  
5PM Grief Yoga  
6PM ESOL  
6PM VBS @ Grace  
UMC

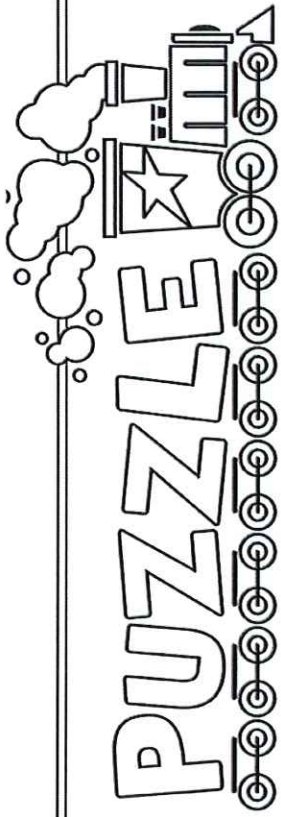
31  
10AM Prayer Shawl  
6PM VBS @ Grace UMC



July 27-30 ♥ 6PM-8:15PM

Grace UMC





## TINY TEAMWORK

The focused teamwork of ants is astounding! How can we learn from them?

Directions: Answer the clues. Then write the words in order below to complete Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV.

This 6-legged arthropod can carry 20 times its own weight.

A sleepy, sloth-like and slow-moving person.

Having deep understanding and sound judgment.

A person in charge of military troops.

A person in authority.

The season when daylight hours are longest.

A substance you eat for nutrition.

When farmers reap the rewards of hard work.



Go to the \_\_\_\_\_, you \_\_\_\_\_;

consider its ways and be \_\_\_\_\_!

It has no \_\_\_\_\_, no overseer or \_\_\_\_\_

yet it stores its provisions in \_\_\_\_\_

and gathers its \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.



Proverbs 6:6-8, NIV

‘teuenu te poo; sti suahg pue ianuns i suopioad sti saots i; tek ‘iepu jo iaseano ou ‘sepuuuoos ou seti t; (seim be pue siem sti ‘iepiuuo ‘iebbis nok ‘tue seti oi os ‘isevne ‘pooj ‘ieunns ‘iepu ‘iepuuuoos ‘esim ‘iebbis ‘tue ‘isawsu

## Green Corner NWPA Synod Green Team

### RECYCLING WITH A PURPOSE



Is your community or organization interested in removing plastic waste from the environment AND receiving a beautiful park bench for your efforts? Here is an opportunity that has been successful in several counties in our Synod.

“Trex® is proud to sponsor local recycling programs in communities throughout the country. For example, for K-12 schools, civic organizations, houses of worship and university organizations etc. If your team can collect more than 1,000 pounds of soft film plastics and packaging in a 12-month span, we will award a Trex® furniture bench to your organization.” ([www.trex.com](http://www.trex.com)) Trex is a company that manufactures composite decking and furniture. This recycling program encourages groups to collect plastic such as: pallet wrap, case overlap (i.e., water bottles), produce bags, bubble wrap, and lots more. The items must be clean, dry and free of food residue. At Trex, Sustainability is not just a buzzword—it’s a founding principle of our company and part of our DNA. For more than three decades, we have continued to derive value from discarded materials, diverting waste from landfills and waterways. Our composite decking is made from 95% recycled materials, so recycling plays a considerable role in our day-to-day operations.” Bryan Fairbanks, President and CEO of Trex® Company.

Participation is SO easy....sign up <https://nextrex.com/view/recyclingchallenge>. You will receive helpful ideas, print-outs and other suggestions to make this project an easy one. Better yet, there are local groceries/stores (Tops, Wegman’s, Giant Eagle, Kohl’s and more) that provide collection points for your plastic, and provide weighing information. Once your organization is enrolled, you will need to collect 1,000 pounds of plastic within a 12-month period to be eligible for a park bench. Some of the organizations have cooperation agreements with dollar stores, etc., which allows the plastic to accumulate quickly.

If you know of other recycling opportunities, please share them with the Green Team so that we can share it as we care for our creation.

*The Green Team’s purpose is to “raise awareness of and advocate for the care of creation.” Our mission is to support and encourage creation care ministries, raise awareness, model creation care advocacy consistent with ELCA teachings in our faith communities and public life.*

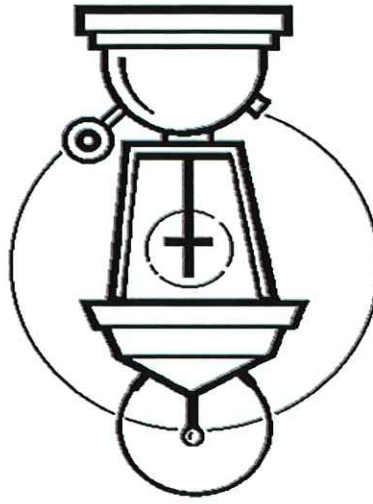
Like and follow us on Facebook: [Northwestern PA Synod Green Team – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](https://www.facebook.com/NorthwesternPA-Synod-Green-Team).

Contact us at: [nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com](mailto:nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com)

June 2025



# June/July 2025



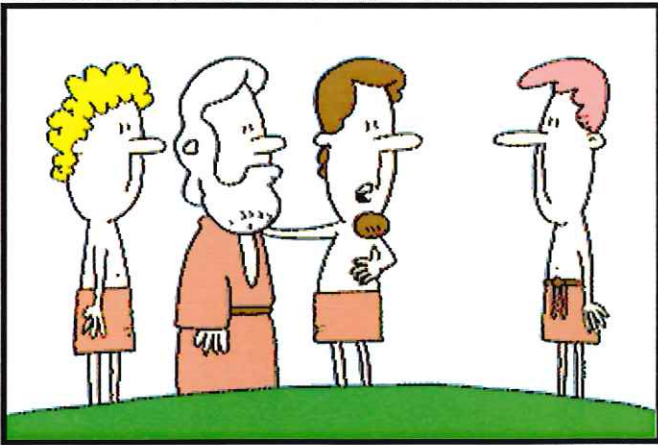
First Lutheran Church  
109 West Third Avenue  
Warren, PA 16365

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Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Warren, PA 16365  
Permit No. 17



12-29-1998

I'M ACTUALLY SECOND PETER, THIS IS FIRST  
PETER TO MY LEFT AND THIRD PETER IS ON  
FIRST PETER'S LEFT ... YOU'LL HAVE TO  
FORGIVE US AS WE ARE OUT OF ORDER AGAIN

*"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!"*