

First Evangelical Lutheran Church



DECEMBER 2023

Pastor Mark Rich
10 a.m. each Sunday
601 North Sandusky Avenue Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351 419-294-3544

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Worship 10a.m.	4 Rotary 10-2 AA 7-9	5	6	7	8 Salvation Army Bell Ring @ A&A	9
10 Worship 10 a.m.	11 Rotary 10-2 AA 7-9	12	13	14	15	16
17 Children's Worship Council Election 10 a.m.	18 Rotary 10-2 AA 7-9	19	20	21	22	23
24 Worship 10 a.m. Christmas Eve Worship 9 p.m. 31 Lessons & Carols 10 a.m.	25 Fantasy of Lights 530-8 AA 7-9	26	27	28	29 Last day for 2023 Financial Books	30

A message from Pastor Mark



Hello everyone!

I'm very glad to be able to be your pastor for the next while! Let me introduce myself to you a little.

I grew up in small towns (very small towns!) in Iowa, so I know small town life well. I got all my higher-ed degrees in the Chicago area – so I also know big city life. And my wife and I have lived and served for 10 years as missionaries in Africa – so we also know life there! Cynthia and I have been married 40 years. We've got three young adult kids, and we currently own a home in the Far South neighborhood of Columbus.

I've been ordained for almost 36 years, and I've served churches in ND, IL, MI, KS, and OH.

OK – enough about me for now. I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all too – and all ages of our congregation.

I'm also looking forward to us getting to know Jesus and his gospel together. There's only one really, truly great thing about the church, and that is the gospel of Jesus Christ. That's a gift that we always have to keep giving!

See you all in church!

Pastor Mark Rich

Ways to support your church:

Pray: not only for our church, but our family here; our community, our leaders and our world.

Volunteer: Having readers and greeters as well as other various little tasks help the services to run more smoothly. Please let us know how you can help or “raise your hand” when we ask for help.

Give: there are far better subjects to discuss, but finances are still important. By mailing your offerings, dropping them off, or by setting up a bill pay through your bank you can continue to financially support the work of your church.

HOW TO CONTACT & STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHURCH

Church Phone: 419.294.3544

Pastor Rich: 614.381.4520

Kristin: 419.310.0107



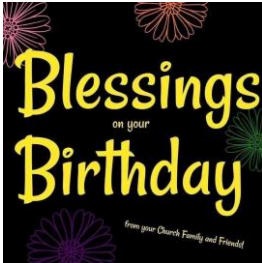
<http://www.upperfirstlutheran.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/FELCUpperSandusky>



DO YOU WANT TO SHARE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY without mailing them out? Place into the box in South Room and they will be given out!

Celebrations



- 2nd – Henry Slucher
- 5th – Betty Martin
- 5th- Carolyn Altvater
- 7th – Eric McMillan
- 10th – Jim Back
- 19th – Pam Karg
- 19th – Justin Stoneburner
- 20th – Casey Back
- 20th – Katie Back



- Steve & Mindy Bowman - 22nd
- Dan & Carolyn Altvater - 26th
- Pat & Marty Denney - 31st



First Lutheran Church
Upper Sandusky, OH

Please indicate how money is to be divided.

Current Expenses \$ _____

Benevolences \$ _____

Building Fund \$ _____

Other _____ \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Name _____

Prismare Envelope Service 01

Offering Envelopes will be available beginning December 17th!

December

greeters

10- Ealys
17- Youth
24- a.m. -----
24- p.m. Kidwell/Walton
31- Niesets

December

scripture readers

10- Kristin Ealy
17- Youth
24- Lisa Rife/Earl Kidwell
31- several involved

December

altar flowers

10- Steve & Mindy Bowman
17- Maggie Bower
24- Dan Altvater
31- Pat & Marty Denney

**are you looking
to become more
active in your
church?**

**add your name to
the ballot for
CHURCH
COUNCIL**

Christmas Eve
9 p.m.



*Holy Communion and
traditional Silent Night
by candlelight*

**CHRISTMAS
FAMILY INFO**



Tags for specific needs are on tree
in the South Room. Please take
tag(s), shop, wrap and return by
December 17th with the tag on it to
the nursery in Cross Hall :-)

Our loose and designated giving for
November is also for our Christmas
Family! We appreciate your support!



SCRIPTURES FOR DECEMBER 10th

Isaiah 40:1-11 *Good news of God's coming to a people in exile*

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13 *Righteousness shall prepare a pathway for God. (Ps. 85:13)*

2 Peter 3:8-15a *Waiting for and hastening the day of God*

Mark 1:1-8 *John appears from the wilderness*

SCRIPTURES FOR DECEMBER 17th

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 *Righteousness and praise flourish like a garden*

Psalms 126 *The LORD has done great things for us. (Ps. 126:3)*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 *Kept in faith until the coming of Christ*

John 1:6-8, 19-28 *A witness to the light*

SCRIPTURES FOR DECEMBER 24th

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 *The LORD's promise to David*

Luke 1:46b-55 *You, Lord, have lifted up the lowly. (Lk. 1:52)*

Romans 16:25-27 *The mystery of God revealed in Jesus Christ*

Luke 1:26-38 *The angel appears to Mary*

"I thank my God when I remember you."

It has been gift and pleasure to serve with you for the past six and a half years. Thank you for the wonderful celebrations of our time together in my last weeks with you. I am grateful for the generous gifts made to Open Door and the Upper Sandusky Community Library in my honor. Thank you for the warm hug wrapped in the beautiful shawl you gave me. Thank you for the pie plate given Jim (I look forward to tasty treats from it). Thank you for the generous gift card to our local bakery. You have been generous to us. May your generosity continue as you worship and share the good news of Jesus.

God bless you. Pastor Kathy Shuck

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
601 North Sandusky Avenue
Upper Sandusky OH 43351