

First Evangelical Lutheran Church



February 2025

Worship Sunday 10 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Mark Rich

601 North Sandusky Avenue Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351 419-294-3544

First Evangelical wishes to acknowledge and give our gratitude to the Wyandotte Nation, who once called the land our church sits on their home.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Worship 10 Walking 5p	3 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	4 Walking 530p	5 Walking 9:30a	6 Walking 530p	7 Walking 9:30a	8
9 Worship 10 Outreach Mtg after church Walking 5p	10 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	11 Walking 530p Council 6	12 Walking 9:30a	13 Walking 530p	14 Walking 9:30a	15
16 Children's Worship10 Chris Ed Mtg after church 4H Camp Training 1230-430 Walking 5p	17 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	18 Walking 530p	19 Walking 9:30a	20 Walking 530p	21 Walking 9:30a	22
23 Worship10 Walking 5p	24 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	25 Walking 530p	26 Walking 9:30a	27 Walking 530p	28 Walking 9:30a Church Family Game Night 6pm	

A message from Pastor Mark



Hello everyone! Grace and peace to you all from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

As we finish up our sermon series studying the Lord's Prayer (with a few surprises in it!), let's look ahead to adult and youth classes in Lent.

Kristin sent out an email survey to find out what topics people want to discuss. **THIS IS YOUR TIME TO TELL ME WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS IN THE CHURCH!** (Ok, no more shouting...)

Please respond to that email, or fill out the short card in the bulletin at church, or call us, etc., and let us know what's on your mind that you want to discuss.

We'll do those discussions during Lent, in March and April, like we did last year.

Our Southeast Conference of the Northwest Ohio Synod will also be hosting some wider discussions about the Nicene Creed, because this year is the 1700th anniversary of the work on that creed. (See more in this newsletter!)

More importantly than those, the Christian Education committee is putting together a renewed Sunday School. **Stay Tuned For More Info** - and ways you can help!

See you in church - and in class!

In the peace of Christ, Pastor Mark

Ways to support your church:

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

Volunteer: our services aren't hard to create for you, but having help is always good! Reading, Greeting and other tasks within our services helps to bring us together. 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 so important to the life our church. 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.

February Special Days

BIRTHDAYS

2nd Rita Bennett

2nd Ellie Stoneburner

6th Dante Major

11th Pat Denney

14th Al Stoneburner

16th Kurt Kimmel

17th Pat Tong

18th Scott Ritter

19th Sally Kirian

28th Keri Newell

ANNIVERSARIES

13th Mike & Rhonda Kuenzli

17th Larry & Rita Bennett

Council Organizational Meeting for 2025- January 14

Dan Altvater, Marty Denney, Skip Glover, Janine McMillan, Renee Nieset, Chad Stoneburner, Jesse Weir Mary Wright

Also present: Pastor Mark Rich and Kristin Ealy

Opening Prayer/Devotions- Pr. Mark asked us to share what we are grateful for today. Members shared around the table.

Pastor Mark Report: Installation of Council will be this Sunday. He will be attending the Rostered Ministers Meeting in Columbus January 21-23. He will be gone for a wedding anniversary getaway last week of February, but not missing Sundays. Ash Wednesday is March 5 and Easter April 20. Exploring a few studies to present to the congregation for Lent.

Election of Officers

President – Chad Stoneburner Vice President – Dan Altvater

Appointments: Dorothy Blackburn and Brenda Zeigler will be our money counters for 2025 and Kristin Ealy will be the Council Secretary. Kurt Kimmel and Larry Bennett already committed to Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

Committee Assignments

Finance- Skip Glover Christian Education- Dan Altvater & Jesse Weir

Outreach- Janine McMillan & Marty Denney Facilities- Chad Stoneburner

Worship and Music- Mary Wright & Renee Nieset

All Committees urged to make a time to meet with Pastor and Kristin for a brief overview of their committees. After that they should schedule a full committee meeting soon, inviting others to become part of their group.

New Business:

-Council will continue to meet on the 2nd Tuesday at 6 p.m. until May, then will reevaluate timing.

-It was found that an Amendment will be needed for the Constitution made in 2023. Council approved this change and will present to Congregation for a vote to make the change. All the information will be given to the Congregation regarding this Amendment by February 9th by mail and or electronic mail (as stated in Constitution with a 30 day notice) and the Congregational Meeting to vote on this change will happen on March 9th following worship. Stay tuned for the needed information!

Monthly Mission Focus

Missions for 2025

January- WMH Annual Campaign for Recliners February- HopeWood Outdoors

March- Lutheran Disaster Response April- Christian Food Center

May- Synod Global Mission

Remaining months will be decided in May or as needed to fill current or emergent needs.

Formerly known to us as LOMO camps, HopeWoods Outdoors is a worthy benefactor to our monthly mission donations! All loose and designated to them offerings will be given to them to help ensure they can continue to bring worthy programming to those that want that little bit of adventure along with learning more about Jesus!

"After my first summer camp I knew this was more than just a place."

"It is difficult not to experience Christ at camp through God's creation with the lake, eagles and amazing sunsets and sunrises."

"Camp is my summer home."


"Camp is always a good week to escape from whatever is happening in the rest of the world and focus on God and nature."

"The youth are the future and camp gives them experiences that will help them grow into a future I would like to be a part of."

"She goes back each summer. Looks forward to it every year. She must experience God in a special way there....just like I did as a kid!"

"She spent more time reading the Bible and seeing Jesus in people other than family and church family."

"She was super nervous about sleep over camp, but the experience not only helped her grow in faith, but gave her more self confidence."



2025 SUMMER STAFF APPLICATIONS
LIVE NOW
APPLY TODAY!



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMMING at HopeWood Outdoors (LOMO) see bulletin boards in Cross Hall or go to <http://www.hopewoodoutdoors.org>

Care and Prayers

Our Prayer List is everchanging, if you or someone (with their permission) would like added to our weekly prayers, please let Pastor or Kristin know.

If you feel like you or someone you know within the congregation is in need of some visits, we have a few different ways to help:

Eucharistic Team - Trained individuals that will go out and administer Holy Communion to those that are possibly homebound or that find it difficult to make it to church.

And of course....our own minister, Pr. Mark will provide needed visits, when requested.

To reach out to those that are in area care facilities, please use the addresses below. Please remember that we do not know if you or a loved one is hospitalized or now living somewhere else, unless we are told.

Wyandot County Home- 7830 OH-199 Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351
Phil Walton, Lisa Reinschell, Michael Huntley

Westbrook- 101 Westbrook Blvd. Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351
Jean Factor and Dorothy Sammet

Sandusky Veterans Home- 3416 Columbus Avenue Sandusky OH 44870
Francis Ronald Wright (make sure you use full name)

Interested in
a Baptism for
your little
one...



Or any age?
contact the
office today!

A LUTHERAN WELCOME TO
HOLY BAPTISM



Christian Food Center



This month let us
focus on Toothpaste,
Boxed Helper Meals,
Canned Meats



-Robert McClure

February
COMMUNION PREP

2- Ealy Family
9- _____
16- _____
23- Laura Wines

February
FLOWERS

2- Chad & Ronda Stoneburner
9- _____
16- _____
23- _____

February
READERS

2- Kristin Ealy
9- Janine McMillan
16- YOUTH
23- Dorothy Blackburn

February
GREETERS

2- Chad & Ronda Stoneburner
9- Martin & McMillan Family
16- Larry & Rita Bennett
23- Karl & Laura Wines



**ACOLYTE
SCHEDULE**

February
2- Kloe
9- Jake
16- Nick
23- Bryson

March
2- Nick
9- Jake
16- Kloe
23- Bryson
30 Jake



Sunday Scriptures



February 2

Malachi 3:1-4

My messenger is a refiner and purifier

Psalm 84

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord.

Hebrews 2:14-18

Jesus shares human flesh and sufferings

Luke 2:22-40

The child is brought to the temple

February 9

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Isaiah says, Here am I; send me

Psalm 138

I will bow down toward your holy temple.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

I am the least of the apostles

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus calls the disciples to fish for people

February 16

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Blessed are those who trust the Lord, they are like trees by water

Psalm 1

They are like trees planted by streams of water.

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Christ has been raised, the first fruits of those who have died

Luke 6:17-26

Jesus speaks blessings on the poor and hungry; woes on the rich and full

February 23

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph forgives his brothers

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11)

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

The mystery of the resurrection of the body

Luke 6:27-38

Love your enemies

COMMITTEES

Would you like to be part of any of the committees of the church? From time to time our committees will be seeking help from the congregation and we would love to compile a list of those interested in being called on for meetings or events. Please check out these descriptions and see if there is one you would like to be put on a contact list for! Any questions, reach out to the council member(s) on that committee!

Christian Education – Jessica Weir & Dan Altvater

Help to form and enrich programs for our members like Bible Studies, Catechism/First Communion Instruction, and other ways to keep learning of our Lord and our religion.

MEETING FEBRUARY 16th following worship!!

Outreach – Janine McMillan & Marty Denney

It's in the name...OUTREACH our loving arms to our congregation and our community. Find ways to bring mission and ministry to those that need. **MEETING FEBRUARY 9th after CHURCH!**

Finance – Skip Glover

Any and all aspects of the church's money and funds. This committee helps to protect the gifts the church is given and offers direction when needed for budgets and expenditures.

Facilities – Chad Stoneburner

Priority to our building and its care to ensure that it will be a place for us in the future.

Worship & Music – Mary Wright & Renee Nieset

From special services and song to recognition of our people is the focus of this committee. Working alongside the minister to bring the best to our worship.

HOW TO CONTACT & STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHURCH

Church Phone: 419.294.3544

Pastor Mark: 614.381.4520

Kristin: 419.310.0107



<http://www.upperfirstlutheran.org>

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

601 North Sandusky Avenue, Upper Sandusky OH 43351

Proposal for an Amendment to Our Most Recent Constitution 10/2023*

Existing:

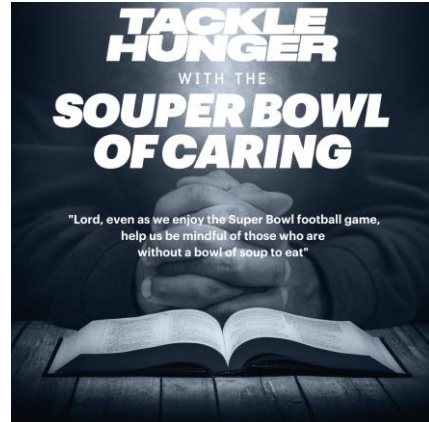
C12.02. The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) [and deacon(s)] shall be elected at a legally called meeting of this congregation during the month of December. Their term of office shall be for 3 years, with the term of office beginning on 1/1(month and day) and ending on 12/31(month and day). Newly elected Congregation Council members shall be installed at worship at a time appointed by the Congregation Council.

Proposed change to include duration of term with limits in place.

C12.02. The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) [and deacon(s)] shall be elected at a legally called meeting of this congregation during the month of December. Their term of office shall be for 3 years, with the term of office beginning on 1/1(month and day) and ending on 12/31(month and day). **Two consecutive terms of 3 years each may be allowed. Members will have one year that they are not eligible to serve on council after completing two consecutive terms.** Newly elected Congregation Council members shall be installed at worship at a time appointed by the Congregation Council.

*At such time the existing Constitution was written it had gone through council without the term limits included and later approved by Congregation. It was then found to be missing this key clause and determined to be important enough for an amendment to be created.

Council has approved this amendment to our Constitution and now it is being put to the congregation and will be voted upon at a Meeting called for March 9th, following worship. This terminology was used in previous constitutions and just omitted from the most recent. According to our Constitution, congregation should have a 30-day notice of such meeting and be notified by US Mail or Electronic Mail. This is that notice. Any questions, please feel free to reach out to a council member or Kristin.



For over 30 years, the Souper Bowl of Caring movement has been inspiring people across the nation to tackle hunger in their local communities.

We coordinate efforts to tackle hunger through our digital platform of fundraising services created to support food charities large and small. Mobilizing grassroots resources including churches, schools, civic groups and caring individuals, this movement has created over \$193 million worth of support that stays completely local.

Over the last three years alone, thousands of groups collected over \$25 million in dollars and food donations for hunger-relief charities across the country. Over that period, our organization took \$1 **specifically donated to our mission** and created over \$18 for local food charities.

WE WILL BE COLLECTING ON SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9!

ALL DONATIONS HERE WILL GO TO OUR CHRISTIAN FOOD CENTER!

Personal Knowledge for My Church

If you would like to fill out for the church to keep on file, please do so and return to the church.

Name in Full _____

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Parents Names _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Children _____

Siblings _____

Other Significant Person(s) _____

(please indicate (A)alive (D)deceased)

Education _____

Organizations _____

Favorite Bible Verse(s) _____

Favorite Hymn(s) _____

Favorite Poem _____

FUNERAL PREPARATIONS

I have funeral setup with the following home _____

My Funeral Home preference _____

Service at Church or Funeral Home _____

I have or would like a plot _____ Where _____

My wishes are to be buried _____ cremated _____ unknown _____

Things I DO want at my
funeral/memorial _____

Things I DO NOT want at my
funeral/memorial _____

Any other pertinent information regarding your wishes _____

Christian Education will be looking at ways to bring Sunday School back to First. Whether it be each Sunday, twice a month...before or after worship...however it may work out.

Did you know that we have nearly **25 potential students** for a Pk-5th grade Sunday School? Imagine the fun we would all have. We understand some of those in that number are living in other cities and may attend a closer to them church. But we are confident that if we get some plans around to offer this programming that maybe, just maybe we can see more of them here.

Parents, we urge you to come to the next Christian Education Meeting. And we also want to let you know that you may be contacted for input as we try to design this. **YOUR** input is greatly appreciated!

Eucharistic Teams NOW forming!

---hot off the presses is a request from Outreach Committee! We are looking for new recruits to go out into the community and visit our people at home or in facilities that need a visit with Holy Communion. Pastor Mark will be involved, but we need a few other people that are willing to do these visits....and the more the merrier and the more means you go less 😊 Our teams go out and visit while sharing communion and a few scriptures etc. to have a little bit of Church. This is usually once a month but can be more depending on how many people are interested. This can also happen anytime of the week and day that best suits you and the individual(s) you are visiting. Want to help but work during the week? You can setup a time for Saturday or Sunday! Want to do it with a friend or family member...great! **Please let Janine or Marty know if you are interested.** A time will be setup to have a bit of "training" and then a schedule will be made.

Are you interested in receiving a visit? We have a list right now, but if you would like to be added, please let the office know.

Emanuel Lutheran Church invites you to a meaningful afternoon of prayer, study, and reflection as we commemorate the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea - where our Nicene Creed comes from.

When: Sunday, February 16th, at 4:00 PM

Where: Emanuel Lutheran Church
241 S Prospect St, Marion, OH 43302

Together, we will reflect on the timeless words of the Nicene Creed and the profound question from John 11:26: "Do you believe this?" Through prayer, study, and thoughtful conversation, we'll explore the significance of our shared faith expressed in the statement, "We believe."

This event is open to all. Please join us for this special gathering as we deepen our faith and understanding.

We hope to see you there!

In Christ, Pastor Adam Sornchai
St John Lutheran Church
Cardington

SAVE THE DATE!! FEBRUARY 28th at 6 p.m. we will hold a family game night! Open to ALL AGES!

We will have pizza and drinks-Euchre games-UNO-Phase 10 available!
RSVP is NOT necessary, but helpful for the pizza part 😊 Look at Cross Hall Bulletin Board for the RSVP list.

We would love to spend some time together, having fun and sharing in fellowship!

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