



February 2026

# FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

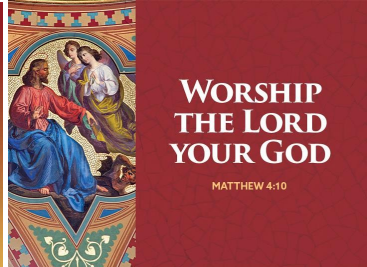
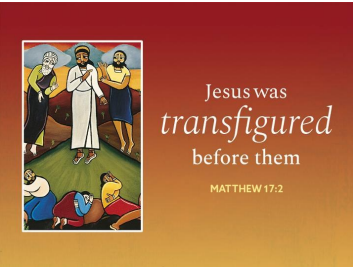
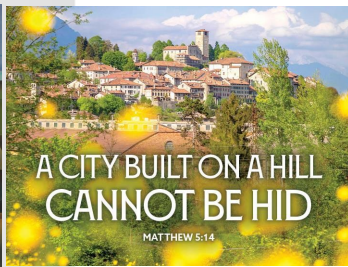
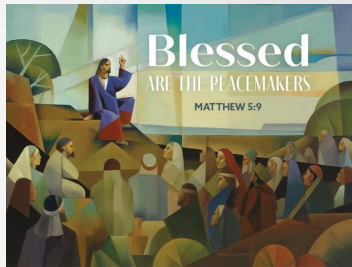
601 North Sandusky Avenue-Upper Sandusky, OH 43351 firstevangelical@gmail.com 419.294.3544

**1**  
**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**  
Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

**8**  
**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 112:1-10  
1 Corinthians 2:1-16  
Matthew 5:13-20

**15**  
**Transfiguration of our Lord**  
Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

**22**  
**1st Sunday of Lent**  
Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Psalm  
32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew  
4:1-11



**LENTEN LUNCHEONS**

**February**

- 18- Community Christian- MacNcheese-Dan&Susan Kayer
- 25- Transfiguration of the Lord-Baked Spaghetti-Br. Randy Kin

**March**

- 4-First Presbyterian-Chicken Salad Croissant-Finn&Jenni Laursen
- 11-Trinity Evangelical-Meatball/MacNcheese-Deanna Oney
- 18-John Stewart Methodist-Chicken Sandwich-Jon Morris
- 25-Lutheran Churches-Scalloped Potatoes/Ham-Erin Smith

Held @ St Paul Lutheran 120 North 8th Street  
NOON-1p.m.

Free will donations accepted-Upper Schools cancel, no luncheon

**Please RSVP by Feb. 13th**

**Church Family Bowling Party**

**February 15th**  
**Noon-2:00 PM**  
**Wyandot Lanes**

Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship!

- Pizza will be provided
- Bowling time included
- Snack bar will be open

Even if you're not bowling, please come anyway—  
This is a time to gather, laugh, and enjoy being together  
as a church family. Everyone is welcome! ❤️

## A message from Pastor Mark



Grace and peace to you all from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!  
Lent starts soon (Yikes!!), and so will our Lenten studies on Sunday mornings after worship.

I'm thinking of using this Lenten series by John Dominic Crossan  
<https://homebrewedchristianity.lpages.co/jesus-in-galilee-info-page/>  
Crossan is one of the foremost scholars in what's known as Historical Jesus studies, and he's still going strong *in his 90s!! He has produced four videos for use in churches, discussion groups, or by individuals, to talk about:*

### **Week 01: ISRAEL & ROME**

How the Romanization of Israel resulted in both Violent Rebellion & Nonviolent Resistance

### **Week 02: BAPTISM & JORDAN**

How John's "baptism" was so distinctive that he was nicknamed "Baptist" by both Josephus and Mark

### **Week 03: TRADITION & TRACTION**

How the biblical vision of distributive justice got socio-political traction from Antipas' lake enclosure

### **Week 04: MEDIUM & MESSAGE**

How Jesus' Parables were a Participatory Pedagogy for a Participatory Divine Rule on Earth

I (Pastor Mark) would be the one to sign up for the class, and we can then use the videos during our class time each Sunday after worship.

Now I did say back in early January that I would be open to other topics or formats for our Lenten Study, and that's still true. If folks would like to go another way, we can certainly do that – but we need to make up our minds pretty soon.

See you in church and in study discussions!

Pastor Mark

# 2026 Council met for their first meeting of the year!



Members of the Council this year include: Dan Altvater, Marty Denney, Skip Glover, Janine McMillan, Renee Nieset, Lisa Rife, Chad Stoneburner, Laura Wines and Mary Wright. They just met for their organizational meeting this past week where they elected Chad Stoneburner as President, Dan Altvater as Vice President. Appointed Kristin Ealy as council secretary, Kurt Kimmel as treasurer and Larry Bennett as Financial Secretary.

Also will continue to be blessed to have Dorothy Blackburn and Brenda Zeigler to be money counters. While in session, the council discussed changing out thermostats in the church to programmable units and facilities will be looking at the most cost effective way to handle. Fundraising for the proposed Digital Sign was discussed and scheduling of the Annual Meeting for February 15th was also decided.



**Finance—Skip Glover**

**Facilities—  
Chad Stoneburner**

**Christian Ed—Lisa Rife  
Dan Altvater-Laura Wines**

**Outreach—  
Marty Denney & Janine  
McMillan**

**Worship & Music— Mary  
Wright & Renee Nieset**

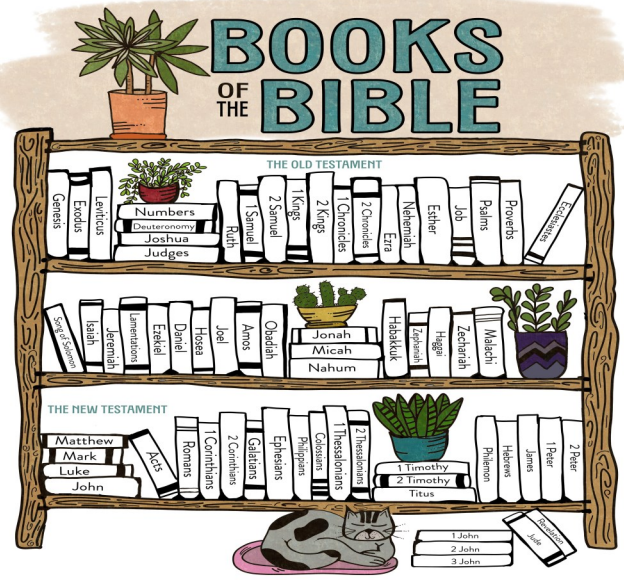
**All will have meetings soon  
and invite anyone that is in-  
terested to join in!**



**January— WMH Annual Campaign**  
**February— WXML Radio**  
**March— Christian Food Center**  
**April—Hopewoods Outdoor**  
**May—VBS**  
**June—Open Door**  
**July—the HUB**

Monthly Missions are planned for all loose money in plate and any designation on envelopes to go towards the mission that month. In the event an emergent need arises, the above list may be amended.

We will collect everything for the pantry this month! We encourage you to bring food and or non food items as well. Some ideas of non food items include paper products and soaps, toothpastes etc. Please leave in South Room near the piano.



# CARE FUND

@First Evangelical

First Evangelical created a fund for its members to share love during a difficult time. If you or someone you know within our congregation has a hardship and would benefit from some financial help, please reach out to the Council President, Outreach Chairperson or the Minister for assistance. This is confidential and only the above mentioned members know who benefits from this fund.

Northwest Ohio Synod  
year long effort titled  
**The Way of Love**  
resources on website  
[nwos-elca.church](http://nwos-elca.church)

## 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.

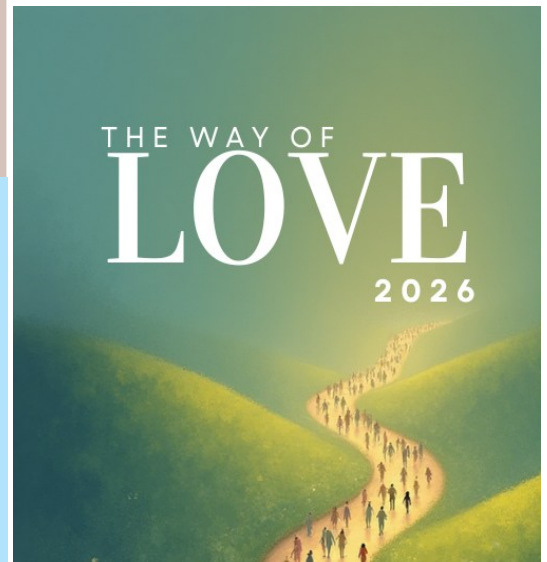
To reach out to those that are in area care facilities, please use the addresses below. Please remember that we do not know if you or a loved one is hospitalized or now living somewhere else, unless we are told.

Wyandot County Home- 7830 OH-199 Upper Sandusky Ohio 43351  
Lisa Reinschell, Michael Huntley, Brenda Zeigler(rehab)

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)

Vancrest- 850 Marseilles Avenue Upper Sandusky OH 43351  
Dean Clausing





Currently there are openings for altar flowers for all of February and March 1,8,15,22

# ALTAR flowers

2nd — Rita Bennett  
 2nd — Ellie Stoneburner  
 6th — Dante Major  
 11th — Pat Denney  
 14th — Al Stoneburner  
 16th — Kurt Kimmel  
 16th — Kyle Kuenzli  
 17th — Pat Tong  
 18th — Scott Ritter  
 19th — Sally Kirian  
 28th — Keri Newell

13th  
 Mike & Rhonda Kuenzli

17th  
 Larry & Rita Bennett



**FEBRUARY**  
 1—Mary Wright  
 8—Kristin Ealy  
 15—Pat Denney  
 22—Dan Altvater

**FEBRUARY**  
 1— \_\_\_\_\_  
 8— Ealy  
 15— \_\_\_\_\_  
 22— \_\_\_\_\_



We are looking for more communion prep and greeters...please let Kristin know if you are ready to be added to the list!

## GREETERS SCHEDULE

**FEBRUARY**  
 1- RIFE  
 8- J&E STONEBURNER  
 15- KIRIAN  
 22- MARTIN

**MARCH**  
 1- NIESET  
 8- C&R STONEBURNER  
 15- DENNEY  
 22- WINES  
 29- KIRIAN



**FEBRUARY**  
 1-JAKE  
 8-BRYSON  
 15-KLOE  
 22-NICK

**MARCH**  
 1-JAKE  
 8-BRYSON  
 15-KLOE  
 22-NICK  
 29-JAKE

# First Evangelical Lutheran

601 North Sandusky Avenue  
Upper Sandusky OH 43351



## February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00am Worship	2 7:00pm AA	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:00am Worship	9 7:00pm AA	10	11	12	13	14
15 10:00am Worship 11:00am Annual Meeting 12:00pm Church Family Bowling Party	16 7:00pm AA	17 6:00pm Council Meeting	18 12:00pm Lenten Luncheon 7:00pm Ash Wednesday	19	20	21
22 10:00am Worship 11:00am Lenten Series	23 7:00pm AA	24	25 12:00pm Lenten Luncheon	26	27	28