

First Evangelical Lutheran Church



January 2024

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	4	5	6
7 FIRSTS@First 9 a.m. Worship 10a.m.	8 AA 7-9	9	10	11	12	13
14 Worship 10 a.m.	15 AA 7-9	16	17	18 Council 7 p.m.	19	20
21 Children's Worship Council Installation 10 a.m. Annual Meeting to Follow	22 Rotary 10-2 AA 7-9	23	24	25	26	27
28 Worship 10 a.m.	29 Rotary 10-2 AA 7-9	30	31			

A message from Pastor Mark



First of all, thank you to everyone who gave me cards and gifts in December! I don't even know most of you yet, but you all have been very gracious and welcoming – Thank you!

Looking ahead to this year, here are some things I see coming up:

Lent and Holy Week – Ash Wednesday will be Feb 14, so we'll be starting Lent quite early! That also means that Holy Week will be early, with Palm Sunday on March 24 and Easter on March 31.

Solar eclipse – just a week and a day after Easter will come the solar eclipse! The county is expecting some 40,000 to 60,000 visitors to the county that weekend and that day!

Camp Hopewood – I'd like to know who all is interested in attending Lutheran camp this summer. Whether it's a family outing or a youth retreat or an adult retreat, there are many, many opportunities for the fun and learning of camp!

Children! – I just came from serving a church that had exactly one child attending, so I'm seeing A LOT of children here at First!! I'm looking forward to finding out how we can learn the love of God together.

See you all in worship!

In the peace of Christ, Pastor Mark Rich

COUNCIL

Council will resume with meetings on January 18th at 7 p.m.

This will be their yearly organizational meeting.

Following the Council Voting Meeting on December 17th, Chad Stoneburner came to seek a seat on Council being as though there was availability and more seats open than nominees, so he has been added for a term on Council.

At this meeting they will be choosing which committee they will be a chair of. We will be focusing on all of our committees this year, strengthening them and adding to them. Please consider joining into one of the available committees. They are the ones responsible for making these happen and since this is everyone's church, let's get more of everyone involved!!

Here are the Committees we currently have:

Christian Ed- help to bring the Word to those in our Church Family and beyond. Helps to create VBS for the community and also supports bible studies and assists in finding ways to reach a higher level of learning about Christ and his teachings.

Facilities – oversees the building and grounds to make sure needed areas are taken care of and repaired if need be.

Finance – looks over our financial assets and payables. Works to make sure the money of the church is properly accounted for and looks for ways for our church to be sustainable and also in accordance with taxes and such.

Outreach- Takes care of not only our church family but the community. Looks for the needs in the community and world that we "aid" Finds ways for us to share our love to the world!

Worship & Music- works alongside the minister to create and carryout worship. Aides in the choosing of the hymns and works to find ways to bring the love of God into our Sanctuary!

COUNCIL INSTALLATION January 21

2024 First Evangelical Lutheran Council
Dan Altvater, Dorothy Blackburn,
Kristin Ealy, Maureen Hawkins,
Karen Magers, Tom Martin,
Chad Stoneburner, Mary Wright
Brenda Zeigler

ANNUAL MEETING January 21 2024 following worship



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.

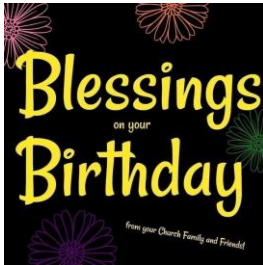
HOW TO CONTACT & STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHURCH

Church Phone: 419.294.3544 Pastor Rich: 614.381.4520
Kristin: 419.310.0107



<http://www.upperfirstlutheran.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/FELCUpperSandusky>

Celebrations



- 2- Laura Wines
- 4- Rosemary Hawkins
- 10- Skip Glover
- 12- Dorothy Blackburn
- 14- Nicholas Wines
- 15- Karl Wines
- 16- Carolyn Hall
- 21- Deb Rashleigh
- 22- Jenna McCartney
- 23- Brenda Zeigler
- 26- Ray Grogan



- 14- Jim and Pastor Kathy
- 16- Mark and Kathy Kimmel



BISHOP BEAUDOIN has come up with the “YEAR of” for a few years now and for 2024 it is the YEAR OF REST!

Follow along on the NWOS Facebook Page. Here is the January Calendar for ideas on how to achieve a restful 2024!

January '24	Mental	Sensory	Emotional	Social	Creative	Spiritual	Physical
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
"He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat." Mark 6:31		1 Close your eyes, breathe deeply for 1 minute	2 Listen to your favorite song	3 Give someone a compliment	4 Find God in nature	5 Write a prayer based on the verse	6 Go for a walk
"He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' Exodus 33:14	7 Observe the people around you and pray for them	8 Turn off screens 1 hour before bed	9 Write down a moment you tried something new	10 Have a conversation with a friend	11 Take a picture that reminds you of the verse	12 Spend some time in nature	13 Spend 5 minutes stretching
"I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me." Psalm 3:5	14 Spend some time in nature	15 Enjoy a favorite food	16 Spend time with a friend today (in person or on the phone)	17 Write down names of people who bring you peace	18 Spend 30 minutes away from a project or problem	19 Sign up to volunteer with an organization you value	20 Take a short nap
"In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat - for he grants sleep to those he loves." Psalm 127:2	21 Spend 1 hour unplugged (no technology)	22 Light a candle or sit with your favorite smell today	23 Respond honestly when someone asks "How are you?"	24 Observe or interact with an animal/pet	25 Find local art in your community	26 Write an affirmation based on the verse	27 Spend 5 minutes being still
"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7	28 Stay off social media today	29 Spend some time in silence	30 Write about a time when you felt at rest	31 Reconnect with an old friend			

"So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God" Hebrews 4:9

2024

Verse of the Year

JANUARY

acolyte schedule

7- Averie Rowlinson
14- Jake Nieset
21- Dalton Shock
28- Kloe Ealy

January

greeters

7- Sally Kirian
14- Nieset Family
21- YOUTH
28- -----

JANUARY

scripture reader

7- Joyce Kuenzli
14- Pat Denney
21- YOUTH
28- Kristin Ealy

JANUARY

communion prep

7- Ealy Family
14- -----
21- -----
28- Ealy Family

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING FIRST AT THE SYNOD
ASSEMBLY< PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW 😊

2024 NWOS Assembly
June 1, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Bowling Green



Sunday Scriptures



JANUARY 7 *scriptures*

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

JANUARY 14 *scriptures*

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

JANUARY 21 *scriptures*

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

JANUARY 28 *scriptures*

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

Monthly Mission Focus



We will be supporting Religious Education for the month of January! We will be splitting our generosity to both Wyandot Cares and the School Ministries Ohio!

All loose and designated monies will go towards these awesome ministries!

CAMP and RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

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

“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!”

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

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

“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.”

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



HopeWood
Outdoors

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

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