

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN



March 2025

Rev. Dr. Mark Rich

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

Worship Sundays at 10 a.m. on Facebook until Easter

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	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Worship 10	3 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	4	5 Lenten Luncheons Noon @ St Paul	6	7	8
9 Worship 10 Lenten Series Following worship	10 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	11 Council 6	12 Lenten Luncheons Noon @ St Paul	13	14 Trip to Temple Israel	15
16 Children's Worship 10 Lenten Series Following worship	17 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	18	19 Lenten Luncheons Noon @ St Paul	20	21	22
23 Worship 10 Lenten Series Following worship	24 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9	25	26 Lenten Luncheons Noon @ St Paul	27	28 Family Game Night 6p.m.	29
30 Worship 10 Lenten Series Following worship	31 Rotary 11-2 AA 7-9					

A message from Pastor Mark



Lent is coming, and so is our Lenten study! A group of folks from our congregation will be going to Shabbat service at Temple Israel in Bexley on Friday March 14, so that will affect our study schedule. Because that particular service will be a celebration of Purim, our first study session will be about the story of Esther – a book in the Bible which we Protestants almost never read! Then our next session will be a debriefing of that visit, and we will talk about the bad history that Lutherans have with the Jewish people. Somewhere in those two weeks we will also look at the very different views that are expressed in the New Testament about the historic covenant that God made with Israel. As I've said before, there is no one voice within the Bible about almost anything, and that includes this issue of the relationships between Gentile Christians and Jewish believers in the same God.

So, here's the schedule:

March 9 – The story of Esther

March 16 – The bad history of Lutherans toward Jews

March 23 – Is there a limit to God's grace and
forgiveness?

March 30 – Welcoming strangers

April 6 – What is true in the Bible? Part one – what and
who is the truth?

April 13 – What is true in the Bible? Part two – the very
different voices within the Bible

Please remember our Ash Wednesday service on March 5 at 7pm! And we'll have more information about Holy Week services in next month's newsletter.

Shalom lekolnu – peace be to us all!

Pastor Mark

Church Council News



Council met on February 11th Dan Altvater, Marty Denney, Skip Glover, Janine McMillan, Renee Nieset, Chad Stoneburner, Jesse Weir and Mary Wright all present. Pr. Mark and Kristin Ealy attended as well.

Pastor Mark opened with Prayer and his report.

Interested persons going to Synagogue with Pr. Mark on March 14, Lenten series being planned, participate in Holy Week podcasts. Will be on a trip February 24-Mar 1

Kristin Ealy, secretary reported that the NA Group has disbanded and no longer using the church on Tuesdays, family fun night scheduled for February 28, Lenten Luncheon schedule received and posted, she will be meeting with risk management of the Hastings Insurance company.

Old Business: Amendment to the Constitution will be voted upon on March 9th.

Committee Reports:

- Finance- Skip had met with Larry to go over reports and have a briefing on where we are. Kristin helped to explain where to find in the reports the information they need. Pointing out the coming in and going out of the church's money, demographic giving info and to see different funds.
- Facilities- The fan in the Cross Hall men's room was replaced. On the schedule for fuse box replacements in March.
- Outreach- committee looking to revitalize Home Communion, will be advertising in paper for Easter and Christmas.
- Worship & Music- met for a meeting to go over tasks, spoke about liturgies and prayers.
- Christian Ed- met in January, discussed Sunday School, Lenten study and Activity/Snack Bags for children.
- Transition Team is nearing completion of their duties, creating the Ministry Site Profile in cooperation with Council and then passing onto the Call committee. Process should be rolling along with Call Committee selected in March.

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

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.

Interested in a Baptism for your little one...



or any age?

Contact the office today!



Christian Food Center

STOCK THE SHELVES!

CEREAL, SOUPS, CANNED FRUITS, CANNED VEGGIES, PANCAKE MIX/SYRUP, ALL PASTAS and SAUCE, PEANUT BUTTER, MACnCHEESE, DISH SOAP, TOILET PAPER

please leave in baskets in South Room

REACHING OUT FOR THIS UPCOMING LENTEN SEASON!

Care Packages will be assembled and
delivered to some of our family and friends
just before Holy Week!

How you can help!!

DONATE ITEMS THROUGH April 11th

Individually Wrapped Snacks
Cheese Crackers
Granola Bars
Fruit, Cutie or Halo Oranges, Apples, Bananas
Peppermint Candies Sugar Free Candy
Candy (avoid peanuts) Cookies
Little Debbie snacks Lip Balm
Tissue Packs Hand Sanitizers
Hand Cream/Moisturizer Travel Size Toiletries
Large Print Puzzle Books
(Search-a-word, crossword, etc)
Coloring Pages Colored Pencils

ASSEMBLE & DELIVER

we will be assembling & delivering these out after service on
April 13.

Help will be needed to get this done!

BIBLE DRIVE

Got an extra bible in your house? Why not donate it to Mission Cry? Since 1956 Mission Cry has taken donations of bibles and bible resources and sent them around the world to 179 nations to Christians, pastors and missionaries who lack the resources to get them. English and Spanish bibles are accepted.

Please dropoff your donations of new or used bibles or bible resources in the designated container at St Paul Lutheran Church when you come for ANY the Lenten Luncheons. It will be located in the Fellowship Hall.

JoAnn Rollison who is with Mission Cry will be the speaker the last Lenten Luncheon on April 9th. Come and listen to this inspiring project to share, send and plant the seeds of God's love with Mission Cry.



Celebrations

March Special Days

BIRTHDAYS

1st Dean Clausing & Ruth Reier

3rd Ashton Miller

5th Donna Kimmel & Melanie Shock

13th Terry Walter

16th Leah Newell

17th Debbie Harbour & Lynn Mack

18th Nora Weir

19th Tom Zeigler & Ross Powers

21st Ryan Rife

22nd Jodi Kimmel

30th Mike Gillen

ANNIVERSARIES

29th Matt and Jesse Weir

31st Fred and Connie Gillen

MARCH

Communion Prep

- 2- Renee Nieset
- 9- _____
- 16- Kristin Ealy
- 23- _____
- 30- Renee Nieset

MARCH

Greeters

- 2- Sally Kirian
- 9- Skip & Pat Glover
- 16- Pat & Marty Denney
- 23- Dan Altvater
- 30- Nieset Family

MARCH

Scripture Readers

- 2- Marty Denney
- 9- Pat Denney
- 16- YOUTH
- 23- Skip Glover
- 30- Dan Altvater

MARCH

Flowers

- ✿✿✿✿✿✿✿✿
- 2- Pam Karg
- 9- _____
- 16- Weir Family
- 23- _____
- 30- Ealy Family



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

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

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)



Monthly Mission Focus

Our focus for the month of March will be on

Lutheran Disaster Response

All loose offerings and designated line items on envelopes will be sent to them in April. Thank you for your continued support of our monthly missions.

Missions for 2025

January- WMH Annual Campaign for Recliners February- HopeWood Outdoors
March- Lutheran Disaster Response April- Christian Food Center
May- Synod Global Mission

LENTEN SERIES

Each Sunday of Lent following Worship

March 9 – The story of Esther

March 16 – The bad history of Lutherans toward Jews

March 23 – Is there a limit to God’s grace and forgiveness?

March 30 – Welcoming strangers

April 6 – What is true in the Bible? Part one – what and who is the truth?

April 13 – What is true in the Bible? Part two – the very different voices within the Bible



**Community
Lenten Luncheons**
held at St Paul Lutheran - 120 North 8th Street - @ Noon

**March 5 - Host: Transfiguration of our Lord
Meatless Spaghetti - Speaker: Kara Frey**

**MARCH 12 - Host: Community Christian Center
Tuna Noodle Casserole - Speaker:**

**MARCH 19 - Host: First Presbyterian
Chicken Salad Croissants - Speaker: Kyle McColly**

**March 26 - Host: Trinity Evangelical
Meatball Mac N Cheese - Speaker: Janet Dunlap**

**APRIL 2 - John Stewart Methodist
Chicken Sandwich - Speaker: Scott Moore**

**APRIL 9 - Lutheran Churches
Scalloped Potatoes & Ham - Speaker: JoAnn Rollison**

Free Will Donations Accepted -
If No School, Luncheon Will Be Cancelled

Monthly Scriptures



MARCH 9

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)

Romans 10:8b-13

If you confess that Jesus is Lord, you will be saved

Luke 4:1-13

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days

MARCH 16

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The covenant with Abram and his descendants

Psalms 27

In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (Ps. 27:5)

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Our citizenship is in heaven from where we expect a Savior

Luke 13:31-35

I have desired to gather Jerusalem as a hen gathers her brood

MARCH 23

Isaiah 55:1-9

Everyone who thirsts, come to the water; seek the Lord

Psalms 63:1-8

O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you. (Ps. 63:1)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Israel, baptized in cloud and seas, ate the same spiritual food as Christians

Luke 13:1-9

Unless you repent, you will perish: parable of the fig tree

MARCH 30

Joshua 5:9-12

Israel eats bread and grain, the produce of the land

Psalms 32

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord. (Ps. 32:11)

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The mystery and ministry of reconciliation

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The parable of the prodigal father and the repentant son

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