



THE CHIRPS FOR FORKS FOLLOWERS

Forks Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

253 Forks Church Road Leechburg, PA 15656

Church Office: 724-845-6627 email: forkschurch@windstream.net

Website: www.forkschurch.com



..." The Wise Men went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:9-12)

What do laundry detergent, canned vegetables, and an iPad have in common? They were all items shared with our neighbors as a result of your generosity this Christmas season. You helped us restock our Feed My Sheep Pantry, so that we can start the New Year off with fuller shelves and give our guests a greater sense of hope and security. The Social Ministry team assisted in the purchase of an iPad for a child with a disability who needed it to communicate at home and at school.

While these gifts may not be quite the same as the gold, frankincense, and myrrh that the Wise Men offered to Jesus, they are just as precious to him. (Even the humble green beans in a can.) Maybe your gift this season was something different: the gift of service or friendship. I could try to name all the folks who have donated or helped in the past few months, but I would certainly be missing someone along the way!

Thank you, Forks Church. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for sharing the good news of Jesus with our friends and neighbors. Thank you for the hours you have shared in volunteering on committees or leading worship or visiting our members who cannot attend church. May the grace and generosity that has filled this place continue onward into 2019!

Pastor Elizabeth Arter



During the month of January, Pastor Elizabeth will present a Sunday morning series called "Tell Me the Story of Jesus", based on the old hymn. We will look at familiar scriptures/stories of the Wise men, Baptism of Jesus, etc.) and learn about how the story can be renewed in our hearts and lives.

FORKS CHURCH WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY MORNING 10:30 am - Traditional Lutheran Worship Service

WEDNESDAY EVENING RENEWAL 6:00 pm – “Come As You Are” Worship Service

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

- **Sunday Morning Sunday School for children:** Following the Children’s Message during the 10:30 am Worship Hour, the children will accompany their teacher(s) to the Social Hall.
- **Tuesday Evening Bible Study:** meets 6:30 pm at the Forks Church Parish House. 1st, 2nd, 4th Tuesdays of the month.

Please consider serving on one of the **Forks Church Ministry Teams:**

Adult Faith Formation; Altar Guild; Children, Youth and Family; Choir; Finance; Property; Grateful Response; Outreach and Community Engagement; Parish Life; Social Aid; Special Funds; WELCA

Ministry Team Descriptions

Finance Team: *This team will meet monthly* to discern together the use of the finances (The General Operating Account), for safe deposit and recording of the funds, monthly remissions of offerings for missions, the prompt payment of salaries and bills as authorized by the congregation, and submit a monthly accounting to the Congregation Council with recommendations. This team will prepare and submit an annual budget, review the budget and recommend to the Congregation Council necessary improvements or revisions.

Special Fund Team: *This team will meet at least quarterly* to be the custodian of the Mission Endowment Fund, together with the Abiding Memorial Fund. This team is appointed by the Congregation Council. Members of this team are to be the custodian of these funds so that the distribution is deemed as necessary to accomplish the goals of the church’s vision, for example: Outreach into the community; development and implementation of ministry to make Christ known in our community and elsewhere, making the mission and ministry of the congregation, its services and programs known to the community.

Property/Facilities Team: *This team will meet at least once per month.* These members are responsible for the major repairs of the facilities, replacement of the congregation’s buildings and equipment, and responsible for making annual inspection of church properties and equipment for the purpose of safety and budget preparation.

Worship and Music: *This team meets once every month.* The members will plan and coordinate all congregation worship events, set policies for the use of the sanctuary – weddings, funerals, etc..., and set guidelines for the approval of all forms of worship, including liturgies and music, seeing that all styles are within Lutheran theology.

Altar Guild: *This team will meet at a minimum of quarterly.* Members are responsible for the proper care, use, and maintenance of the communion ware, the altar and its furnishings, and vestments; provide adequate supply of expendable worship items.

Adult Faith Formation: *This team will meet at a minimum monthly.* These members will have a special concern for the spiritual, emotional, and physical wellbeing of individual adult members of this congregation. This team will provide multiple and varied opportunities for growth spiritually, emotionally, in physical well-being, and encourage active participation of every adult in Bible study, daily devotions, and worship.

Children, Youth, and Family: *This team will meet at a minimum of monthly.* These members will have a special concern for the spiritual welfare of all youth of the congregation with a focus on deepening their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Social Aid: *This team will meet once a month* to encourage the congregation to extend Christian compassion and provide serve to the community of this church and our community in the name of Jesus Christ. These members will actively seek opportunities where relationships can be built while we serve.

The Grateful Response Team: *This team will meet monthly* to creatively find ways to promote the Biblical principles of total stewardship, evoking the expression of Christian faith in daily living though teaching the Christian use of, time, talents/spiritual gifts, treasures, and being caretakers of God's creation. Team members will be responsible for the annual stewardship campaign, encouraging members to higher levels of first fruits proportionate giving, in response to what God has first given us.

Fellowship: *This team will meet at a minimum of once per month.* Its members will strive to strengthen and build mutual cooperation, trust and relationship among all members of the congregation by offering varied fellowship opportunities throughout the year; recognize and welcome new members as needed.

Outreach and Community Engagement: *This team will meet at a minimum of once per month.* Its members are to look for opportunities where relationships can be built in our community, look for ways to engage in community programs and festivals, and provide outreach opportunities within the congregation; for example, "Feed My Sheep Pantry."

WELCA (Women of the ELCA): *This team will meet monthly.* Women come together to actively seek ways to engage in the community, work with other Lutheran Churches, and deepen the relationships among all women within the congregation, our community, and Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

The Cemetery Team: *This team will meet a minimum, of quarterly.* Its members are charged with the care of the cemetery and funds allocated to the maintenance and perpetual care of the cemetery.

Forks Church Choir: *The Forks Church Choir meet every Wednesday evening* to practice for the upcoming Sunday and future events. Please see Glenna Stitt if you would like to be a part of this amazing ministry.

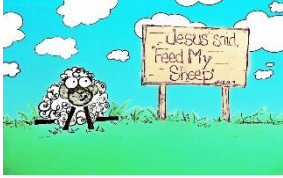
Committee sign-up sheets may be found in the narthex.

The Council meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

We sincerely thank the following member of Council who served her term and is now 'retired' from Council duties: **Sandy Kotvas**

The newly elected Council members for 2019 are: **Delinda Bish and Nancy Vogel.**

Thank you to ALL those who serve or have served as a Council member.



Feed My Sheep Pantry Team meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 8 @ 5:30 pm.

The Pantry will be open to the public on Jan. 11th, 5:30-7:30 pm.

Donations requested for Jan and Feb are: salad items, such as dressings, croutons, bacon bits, dried cranberries, raisins, sunflower seeds, walnuts, black and green olives, garbonzo beans.

Relay for Life Team Planning

Anyone who is interested in supporting the Leechburg Lutherans Relay for Life team is invited to attend a planning meeting on **Thursday, January 10 at 6:00 PM in First Lutheran's parlor.**

We not only need team members, we need people willing to support our fundraisers.

If you have any questions, please call Janice King 724-845-7826

or the First Lutheran Church office 724-845-7518.

A.L.I.C.E. TRAINING

Considering the shooting back in October at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill, we ALL need to be looking at a training program prepared for this type of situation.

There **IS** a program available known as **A.L.I.C.E.**

A – Alert, L – Lockdown, I – Inform, C – Counter, E – Evacuate

Sgt. Christian Disciscio from the Kiski Township Police will present training on this program at the **Leechburg First United Methodist Church, 251 Main Street, Sunday, January 13, 2019 ~ 12:30 p.m.**

We extend an invitation to the public to join us in this training session. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Please call Sandy Hess at the Forks Church church office, 724-845-6627 by January 6th if you are interested or planning on attending or send an email to the First United Methodist Church at lfumc251@comcast.net.



January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 	2 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Choir	3 6:30-8:00 pm Jr. Girl Scouts	4	5
6 10:30 am Worship Installation of Council members	7	8 5:30 pm Pantry Meeting 6:30 pm Bible Study	9 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Choir	10 6:00 pm Relay for Life Team planning meeting @ First Lutheran	11 5:30-7:30 pm Pantry Open	12
13 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm A.L.I.C.E. Training, 1 st United Methodist Church, Lchbg	14	15 6:30 pm Council Meeting	16 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Choir	17 6:30-8:00 pm Jr. Girl Scouts	18	19 9am-1pm Clothing Closet @ First Lutheran
20 10:30 am Worship	21	22 6:30 pm Bible Study	23 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Choir	24	25	26
27 10:30 am Worship	28	29 6:30 pm Bible Study	30 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Choir	31		

***Should there be a need to cancel worship services,
due to weather conditions, etc.,
please tune into KDKA (channel 2), WTAE (channel 4), or WPXI (channel 11)
for a notice of cancellation***

SPONSORSHIPS

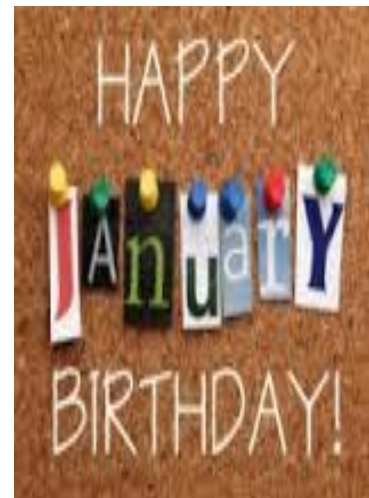
	<u>FLOWERS</u>	<u>BULLETINS</u>	<u>ALTAR CANDLES</u>
6	Cindy Brient	Jack Thompson	Beulah Mitchell
13	Erin Saxion	Beulah Mitchell	
20	Evelyn Booth	Evelyn Booth	
27	Fran Coffman	Jill Lebetz	

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>HEAD USHER</u>
6	Sandy Kotvas	Cody Marangoni	Ed Shearer
13	Rhiannon/Cole Rearick	Jack Rearick	
20	Patty Newton	Ella Adams	<u>ALTAR CARE</u>
27	Tom Walker	Colin Saxion	Cindy Walker

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Madison Artman
- 2 Kim Ferris
- 3 Erica Rearick
- 4 Patty Newton; John Lange
- 6 Tom Shank; George Reesman
- 12 Ed Paul
- 13 Kendra Bailey; Justin Zimmerman; John Young; Claire Hess
- 14 Bob Bish
- 17 Howard Hepler – age 101**
- 18 Matt Crawford
- 19 Ruby Shearer; Tyler Riggle
- 20 Jill Lebetz
- 23 Jennifer Gray
- 24 Karen Marangoni; Jessica Riggle
- 26 McKenzie Kotvas
- 27 Eileen Coyle; Jacquelyn Kennedy
- 29 Sonya Reesman
- 31 Glenda Paul; Benjamin Gregg



SPONSORSHIPS *****



The cost for flowers is \$32.00/wk, bulletins are \$15/wk, candles are \$20/mo

Checks should be made payable to **Forks Church** and money/checks placed in the pocket on the secretary's office door, **prior to sponsorship date.**

Any questions please speak with Sandy Hess, church secretary.

Unpaid sponsorships may result in names being removed and new sponsors assigned.

The God we serve is able to deliver us. ~ Daniel 3:17

We can rely on His constant and loving presence.

Lord, thank You for being with us, no matter what we are going through.



Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Layten Bowser, Dale Altman, George Lebetz, Lois Shearer, Sulinn Mathews, Ralph Maskrey, Matt Crawford, Maddix Paul, Russell Lobaugh, Donna Lobaugh, Tim Caramellino, Audrey Finley, Diana Lydon, Ben Belfield, Nick Malucci, Stewart Lamison, George Shearer, Brittani Kemerer, Alice Newton, Louis Fondrk, Deb Knepshield, Andy Jeffers, Dana Clark, Dorothy Reichard

Homebound

Jean Burton 1098 St Rte 66, Vandergrift 15690

Hazel Myers 548 Pitt St., Leechburg 15656

Leota Wolfe 635 St Rte 66, Leechburg 15656

Assisted Living

Howard Hepler – Rivercliff Terrace

322 North McKean St., Kittanning 16201

Don Nichols – Memory Meadows

321 Godfrey Rd, Leechburg 15656

Independent Living

John Lange - Concordia

148 Marwood Rd, Apt 1317, Cabot, PA 16023

*Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Pastor Lloyd Riggle** who passed away on Christmas Day.*

*Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of **Bob Venterini** who passed away on December 27. Bob was a neighbor of Marie Catlos.*

Please keep the families of these men in your prayers during this difficult time.

***Our greatest comfort in sorrow is knowing God is with us.
We don't see Him, but He's everywhere.***





Don't forget to direct Choice Dollars®

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until **March 31, 2019** to direct any remaining 2018 Choice Dollars.

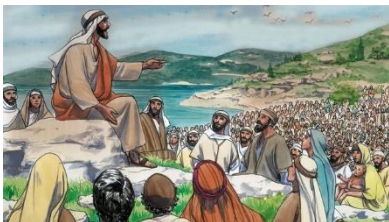


THE 2019 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON WILL BE ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2019 AFTER MORNING WORSHIP.

Council will provide meat, rolls and beverages. You are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert.

All 2018 year-end reports from Committees, Activity Chairpersons and Treasurers need to be submitted to the church secretary by **February 10th**.

You may email your reports, if you wish, to forkschurch@windstream.net. Please send them as an attachment.



You can go on a bus trip to see JESUS
April 8-10, 2019
at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster

Cost is \$359 per person, double occupancy
Minimum - 35 people

Call the church office, 724-845-6627 or speak with Sandy Hess for more information.

Deadline to sign up is January 6, 2019

Four Churches – One Lutheran Community

St. Paul's Highfield Lutheran Church – Dime Road, Vandergrift

Bible Study – Wed - 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

New Hope Food Pantry

To receive a box, a person must call Vandergrift Methodist Church at 724-568-5575
Boxes are distributed the third Tuesday of
every month.

Donations of non-perishable food and monetary donations may be taken to St. Paul's Highfield.

Dresses and Britches

This group of women makes clothing and send them to Christian Appalachia Project (CAP) in Kentucky. CAP is a non-denominational Christian organization that provides multiple services to the residents of the Appalachian Mountains in Kentucky.

If you have any questions, call Glenda at 724-567-6494. All are welcome. If you don't sew, there is always something that you can do - or we can teach you.

Forks Zion Lutheran Church, Gilpin

Bible Study – 1st, 2nd, and last Tuesday of the month – 6:30 PM

Wednesday service – 6:00 PM

“Come as you are” mid week service of renewal.

Feed My Sheep Pantry

The Pantry is designed to supplement other food banks with items such as personal hygiene products, paper goods, diapers and other items that most food banks don't offer.

The pantry is open to the public on the second Friday of each month from 5:30 – 7:30 PM.

Donations are always welcome and may be dropped off at the Forks Church office, during secretary's office hours (Mon-Thurs, 9am-2pm) or on the 1st Tuesday at 5:30 pm, during the Pantry Team planning meeting, located in the Parish House.

January 2019 Open Date is: Jan 11, 5:30-7:30 pm

Pantry Phone: 724-236-4329

WELCA

Women of the ELCA – ALL women are invited

First Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm

Locations alternating monthly between
Forks Church and Hebron.

**WELCA does NOT meet in the months of
January and February.**

The next meeting will be Tues, Mar 5, 1 pm at Forks

Hebron Lutheran Church, Leechburg

Bible Study – One Friday evening a month 6:00 PM

Quilting

Sewing is held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month

First Lutheran Church, Leechburg

Bible studies – 2nd & 4th Wed at 9:00 AM and at 6:00 PM

Fellowship & Prayer breakfast

2nd Saturday of the month @ 9:00 AM at the Leechburg King's Restaurant

Clothing Closet Ministry

Sale the 3rd Sat of every month

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

New faces are always welcome!

Sorting every wed 9:00 AM – Noon

GriefShare

Mon from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences.

Fall/winter session begins Mon, Sept 10th and will run for 14 weeks ending Dec 10th

Relay for Life Team

Anyone who is interested in helping to support our **Leechburg Lutherans** Relay for Life team is invited to attend a planning meeting on Thursday, January 10 at 6:00 PM at First Lutheran Church.

We will need help with fund raisers and recruiting walkers. This is for ALL four churches!

FORKS ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
253 Forks Church Road
Leechburg PA 15656

JANUARY CHIRPS 2019
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