

JUNE 2026



"Come and See"  
John 1:39

## 'CHIRPS' FOR FORKS FOLLOWERS

Forks Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church 253 Forks Church Rd. Leechburg, PA

Local Interim Pastor Wayne Gillespie

Forks Church Office: 724-845-6627

Email: [churchforks@gmail.com](mailto:churchforks@gmail.com)

Forks Church Website: [www.forkschurch.com](http://www.forkschurch.com)

*Forks Church is where God lifts our spirits through creative worship, as we build God's Kingdom.*

**COME AND SEE.**

**COME AND GROW.**

**COME AND SERVE!**

## WEEKLY WORSHIP

**SUNDAY ~**

**11:00 am Traditional Lutheran Worship Service**



## JUNE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

### ASSISTING MINISTER

6/7 Julie Batiz  
6/14 Tom Walker  
6/21 Tara Malucci  
6/28 Julie Batiz

### GREETER

Richard Long

### ALTAR CARE

Glenda Paul  
Kim Zimmerman

## JUNE SPONSORSHIPS

### FLOWERS

6/7 Richard Long  
6/14 Sandy Heilman  
6/21 Helen Gondell  
6/28 Lois Byers

### BULLETINS

Bob & Nancy Wright  
Mark Long  
Glenda Paul  
Kim Zimmerman

### CANDLES

Sandy Hess

***Note:** If paying by check for **flowers (\$37/wk)**, **bulletins (\$15/wk)**, or **candles (\$20/mo)**, please make checks payable to **"Forks Church"**, place in the pocket on the secretary's office door or mail to the church, 253 Forks Church Rd., Leechburg 15656*

JUNE 2026



| Sun  | Mon | Tue                        | Wed                                 | Thu   | Fri                                      | Sat  |
|--|-----|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
|  | 1   | 2                          | 3                                   | 4   | 5  | 6  |
| 7<br>11:00 am<br>Worship<br>John Smail,<br>presiding   | 8   | 9<br>2:00pm<br>Pantry Team | 10                                  | 11  | 12<br>Pantry Open<br>5:00pm –<br>6:30 pm | 13<br>COT Awareness<br>Walk<br>10:00am<br>Roaring Run<br>Trail, Apollo   |
| 14<br>11:00am<br>Worship<br>Harry Harbaugh,<br>presiding   | 15  | 16                         | 17<br>6:30 pm<br>Council<br>Meeting | 18<br>Deadline for July<br>Newsletter<br>articles | 19                                       | 20<br>9-1<br>Clothing Closet<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Lutheran in<br>Leechburg |
| 21<br>11:00am<br>Worship<br>Pam Augustine,<br>presiding<br><br> | 22  | 23                         | 24                                  | 25  | 26                                       | 27   |
| 28<br>11:00am<br>Worship<br>Pastor Wayne<br>Gillespie,<br>presiding  | 29  | 30                         |                                     |   |  |  |



**COT AWARENESS WALK**

Saturday, June 13, 2026

Starts at 10:00 am

Roaring Run Trail, 681 Canal Rd, Apollo

The COT Awareness Walk is a fundraiser to help spread awareness around poverty and holistic poverty alleviation. We hope to bring awareness to the daily struggles of many families in our communities.

For more info: call 724-882-9627

email: [sarawrona@communitiesoftransformation.org](mailto:sarawrona@communitiesoftransformation.org)

## A Message from Pastor Wayne

*“We will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of Him who is the head, that is, Christ” ~ Ephesians 4:14-15*

The transition from Spring to Summer is important.

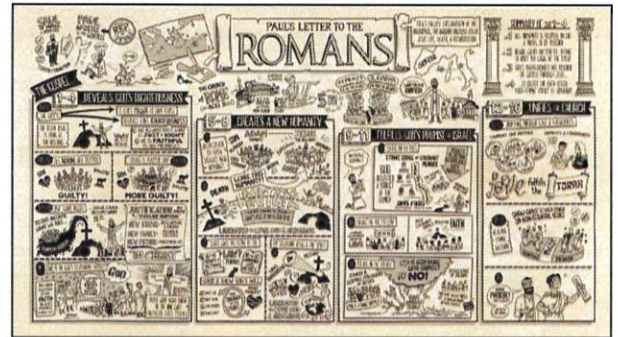
Spring is a time of hope and renewal when new life pops up all around us. Flowers emerge, and birds build nests. Newborn bunnies appear, and birds begin to bring their newborns to the feeders in our backyards. I look for yellow flowers on the forsythia bush in my backyard because they are also a sign that it's almost time to hunt for mushrooms. And, of course, Easter reminds us of the living hope we share because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.



But Easter is closely followed by Pentecost – a festival in the Church year that we just celebrated on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Some of us dressed in red when we came to worship. We recalled the gift of the Holy Spirit which inspires us and empowers us in life and in ministry. And we enter into what many people call the “green season” right after Pentecost. We cover our altar with green paraments, and the green stole that I will be wearing when I'm with you on June 28<sup>th</sup> points us toward growth and maturity. Rebirth and new life are given to us on Easter; but then, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we grow and mature as both individuals and as the Church – the body of Jesus Christ in the world today.

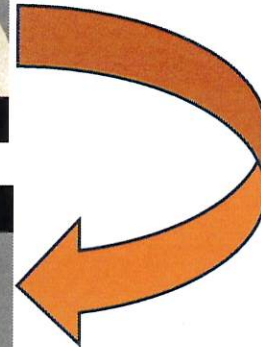
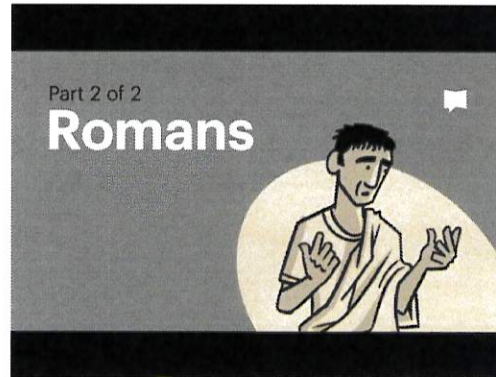
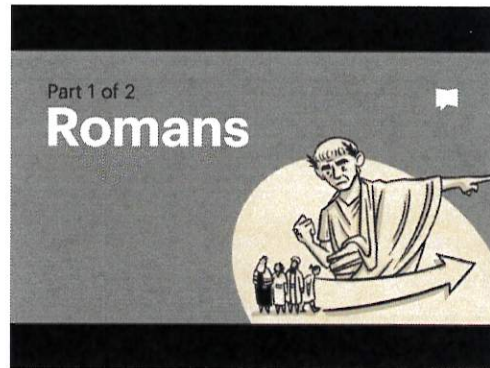
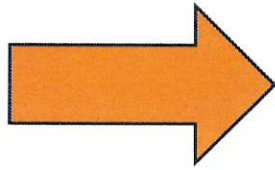


I'd like to invite you to join me on a journey of faith this summer. Much of what we believe and teach as Christians is found in St. Paul's letter to the Romans. Paul writes about sin and about how we are made right with God through Jesus Christ. Paul writes about what it means to be “alive in Christ” and to know that there is nothing in all of Creation that can separate us from the love of God. Finally, Paul writes about what it means to be a faith-filled citizen and a part of a community of faith that's filled with love and people who are “wise in what is good.” It's a short letter (only 21 pages in my Bible), but it's a letter that can help us to grow in faith and understanding as we move through a season of growth and maturity.



I hope you'll embrace this challenge and join me in reading this book in the Bible as we move through the summer. To pique your interest and to help you get started, I've included links to short videos that will help you to gain a bird's-eye view of the book of Romans. All that you need to do to watch these videos is click on the pictures below. If you want to watch the videos on a larger screen, you can watch them on YouTube by following the second link that you'll see after you click the link below. What a great way to learn a little bit more about an important book in the Bible and to grow as a Christian and follower of Jesus!

Pastor Wayne



### June Birthdays



- 1 Cassidy Wright
- 2 Beau Anthony
- 7 Hannah Gross; Paul Shearer
- 12 Christina Gross
- 20 Mark Heilman
- 22 Sandy Bowser
- 23 Helen Gondell; Rhiannon Rearick
- 24 Louise Dyess
- 29 Tom Walker



### June Anniversaries

- 14 Chuck and Amy Eyerman
- 15 Randy and Roxanne Loudon

### FZLC Income & Expense Summary

#### **April 1 – May 31, 2026**

Income received \$23,868.80

Expenses \$18,904.96

**Difference \$ 4,963.84**

Income includes a gift of \$10,000 from a church member. We are very grateful for this gift.

Expenses include Property & Workman's Comp insurance totaling \$2,226.10 and \$605.00 for fire system maintenance check.

Actual amount in General Fund to cover budgeted expenses as of May 31, 2026: **\$5,553.40**

**If you would like more information, please contact me. ~Karen Disciscio**





*“He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. Psalm 107:29*

**Please keep the following people in your prayers:**

Marilyn Smail, Dee Bish, Mary Walker, Paul Heilman, Betty Black, Brenda Ribet, Dale Altman, Bob Lawrence, Lou Fondrk, Sherry Gray, Blair Shick, Nikki Paul Akins, Jeff Crowe, Mary Czonka, Debbie Munko, Joe Gibson, Kathi Finley Jendrzejewski, Josh Klingensmith, JoyAnna, Andy Mason, Chris Schultz, all of our servicemen and women.

**FORKS CHURCH HOMEBOUND LIST**

**Dale Altman**

108 Jack Rd., Vandergrift, Pa 15690

**724-842-7252**

**Betty Black - Concordia**

Rm 2139 Lund Care Center, 134 Marwood Rd. Cabot, PA 16023

**Fran Coffman – Oertal Care Center**

Room 207, 615 N. Pike Rd.; Cabot, PA 16023

**Grace B. Van Dyke - Concordia**

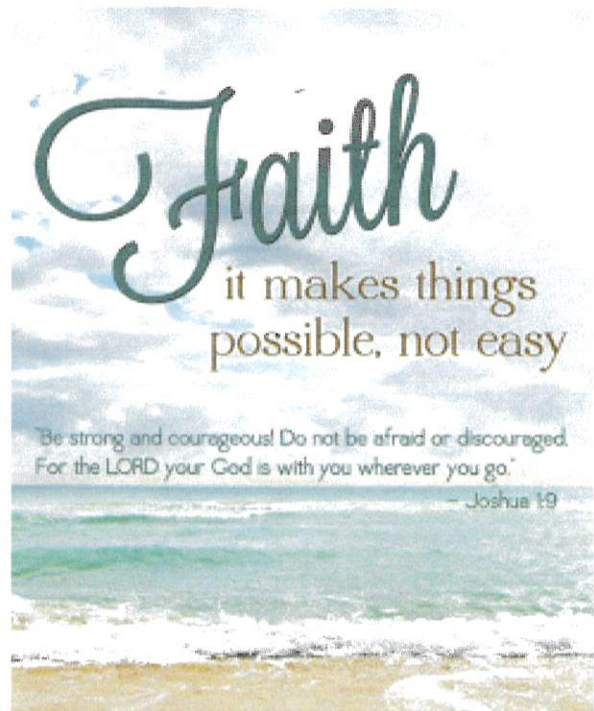
134 Marwood Road, Lund - Room 2155 Cabot, PA 16023

**724-524-1505**

**Mary Walker – Concordia**

134 Marwood Rd., Room 2131; Cabot, PA 16023

**724-524-1125**



***With broken hearts and countless tears, Sam and I said our final goodbye to our son, Sam, on May 21, 2026. We thank you for your many prayers over the last 4 years for him and his wife, Maegen.***

***Sam’s funeral service was held in Chambersburg on May 26, 2026.***



**Feed My Sheep Pantry**

To help: Pantry Team will pack bags on Tuesday, June 9, 2:00pm.

**The next OPEN Pantry date is Friday, June 12, from 5:00pm-6:30pm.**

*The Pantry is supported by the Ethel Verney Grant.*

**2026 WELCA OUTREACH is “Reagan’s Journey”**

The goal of Reagan’s Journey is to make life better for children with special needs and to keep offering critical and life-sustaining services while continuing to grow to meet the needs of even more families.

To make a donation, make check out to SWPA Women of ELCA and mark on check Reagan’s Journey. Mail to Janet Fishovitz, 136 Clearwater Drive, Ellwood City, PA 16117



## **Congratulations to all 2026 Graduates!**

Forks Church wishes to spotlight  
**Angeline Klingensmith**  
**Julianna Saxion**

**Angeline Klingensmith** will graduate from Leechburg Area High School.

While attending Leechburg, she participated in powder puff football, Spanish club, cheerleading, and honor classes.

Angeline enjoyed hanging out with her friends and her boyfriend.

After graduation, Angeline plans to return to France to go to college. She works at Ryan's Creechouse Restaurant.

Angeline's parents are Michael Klingensmith and Florence Valtat. Her grandparents are Chester and Fernetta Klingensmith; Denise Valtat.

**Julianna Saxion** will graduate from Greensburg Central Catholic High School.

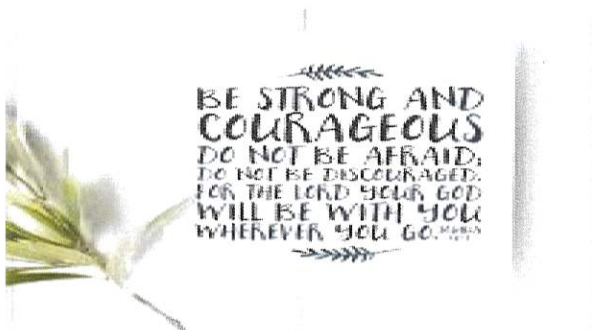
Julianna was inducted into the National Honor Society and the PSI Alpha Honor Society.

Julianna was the Vice President of her Senior Class, was a member of Future Masters of Medicine at St. Vincent College; was a Student Council Representative; member of the Hungry Hearts Club, Interact Service Club, and GCC Flag Football.

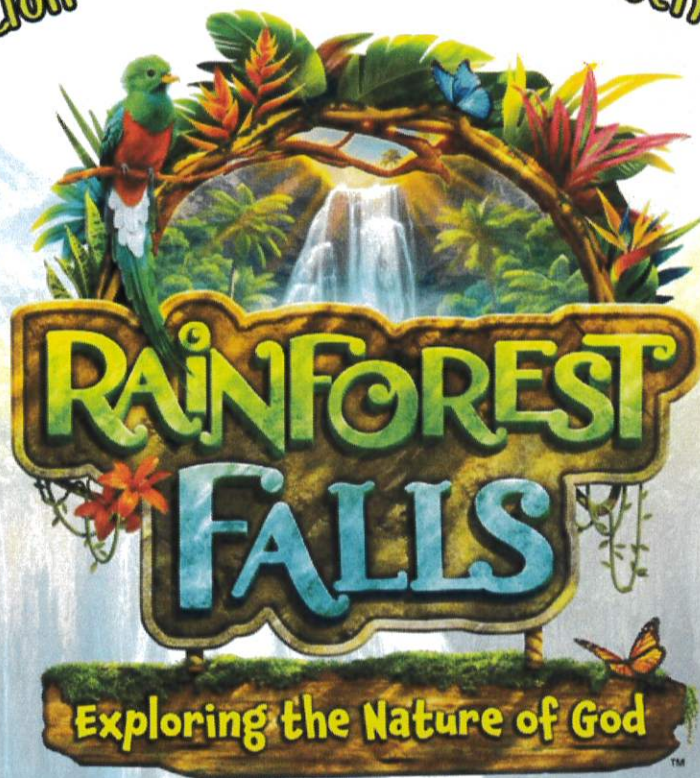
Plans for the future include attending Slippery Rock University, majoring in biology. She received early acceptance into the accelerated Physician's Assistant program.

Julianna's parents are Sam and Erin Saxion. Her grandparents are Bob and Dee Bish.

***We wish Angeline and Julianna  
continued success in their future  
endeavors.***



Vacation Bible School in Leechburg!



Monday, July 13 – Friday, July 17

5:30pm until 8:30pm

Includes Dinner

@ First Evangelical Lutheran Church

358 Main St. Leechburg

To register, contact our sponsoring congregations:

First United Methodist Church

724-845-8761

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

724-845-7518

Cross Roads Community Presbyterian Church

724-845-1901

REGISTER ONLINE:

[MYVBS.ORG/15656](http://MYVBS.ORG/15656)



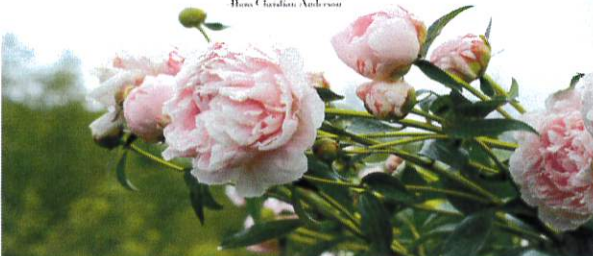
***FORKS ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH***

253 Forks Church Road

Leechburg, PA 15656

Just living is not enough  
one must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower.

— Hans Christian Andersen



**JUNE**

**2026 CHIRPS**