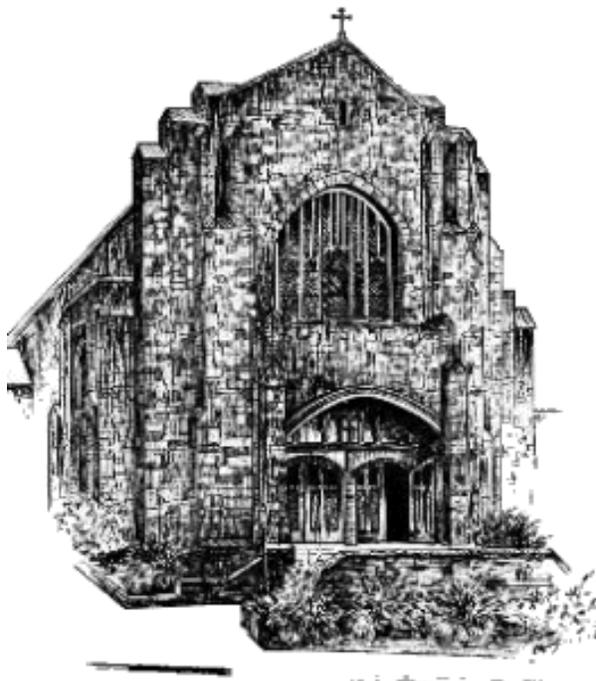
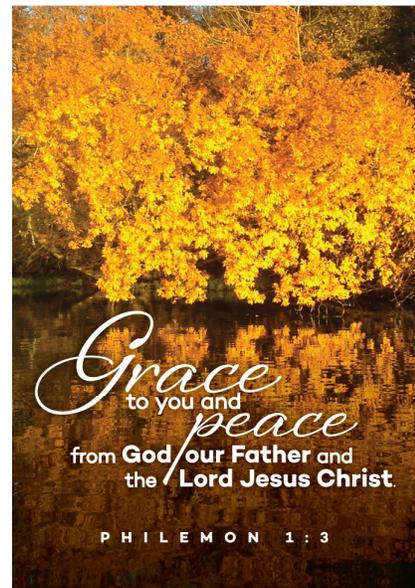




*First Lutheran Church
92 W. Walnut Street
Washington, PA 15301*



*First Lutheran Church
Washington, PA*



OCTOBER 2016

Pastoral Perspectives

Grace and peace to you from God the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit.

This month, as you may well know, is important to Lutherans around the world!

On October 30, 2016 we will celebrate Reformation Sunday in honour of the day that Martin Luther posted/nailed his 95 theses for debate on the Castle Church doors in Wittenberg, Germany. Having visited and studied in this city several times it is an amazing site to see!

On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther posted these 95 theses for debate with the church Catholic. This is known to be the beginning of the Reformation! It has been 499 years since that momentous event and next year will mark 500 years of reform.

One Sunday, I was surprised when the congregation seemed unfamiliar with the hymn, ***Out of the Depths I Cry to You***, written by Martin Luther. The reformer Luther was well known for his hymn writing. He had written almost 40 hymns and yet our new Lutheran hymnal (ELW) contains only 19 of them! Shockingly, many of these remain unknown to the church? As we near 2017, and the celebration of 500 years of Reform in the church, perhaps it is time for us as a congregation to dust off these incredible hymns which shaped the early Lutheran Church and sing them again! There is more to Luther's love of music and hymnal works than hymn #505 ***A Mighty Fortress is our God***.

Yet, Martin Luther was not the only gifted pastor/hymnist of note; there were other great pastor/hymnists such as Philipp Nicolai—who wrote hymn #436 ***Wake Awake, for Night is Flying***, hymn # 308 ***O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright***, or Johann Heermann— whose hymn #349 ***Ah Holy Jesus*** is sung during Holy Week and has to be one of the most powerful hymns ever written; even JS Bach used this hymn in his beautiful work ***St. Matthew Passion***.

Let us not forget Paul Gerhardt— a prolific hymnist who wrote over 130 hymns and yet only 9 were put in the ELW hymnal? Gerhardt is the Lutheran pastor who penned my favourite hymn of all, ***O Sacred Head, Now Wounded!*** I was blessed to stand outside the home where he wrote this passionate hymn near the City Church in Wittenberg, Germany.

Gerhardt is known as the greatest of all Lutheran hymn writers!

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as we approach the quinentennial (500th) anniversary of the Lutheran Church, it is time for us to learn or become reacquainted with these hymns that changed the world. Hymns that were written in the language of the people; hymns that the members of the church could understand and relate to!

The gift these great German hymnists gave to the world is the fact that many of these hymns are also mini sermons when one sees how they are biblically based on God's holy Word!

So be prepared as we move toward the year 2017 to sing more Lutheran hymns than ever before!

As Psalms 98 and 100 remind us ***Sing to the Lord and Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord!***

Peace and Blessings in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

From Council

Articles of Incorporation

Many thanks to our Council and Congregation for their unanimous approval of the amendments to our Articles of Incorporation.

Current Financial Conditions

I am very encouraged that we have not had to dip into our savings for each of the last five months. Wonderful. However, our interim income projections show that we need about \$500 additional weekly plate income to cover operating expenses. Because we have about 100 members in attendance every Sunday, this means that if each member, adjusted per household, increases giving by \$5, we'll have it made. Please consider this increased giving to sustain our Church!

Budget

Speaking of money, Council is now working on our 2017 budget, which for the first time will include estimated income. The budget will be presented at our regular November congregational meeting.

More Amendments

Council has approved the NALC recommendations designed to protect and preserve our Lutheran confessional beliefs, especially with respect to sexual issues, particularly regarding gay marriage. Please see the proposed amendments to our constitution, included in this newsletter, which will also be presented at our November Congregational meeting.

Future Outlook

Pastor Rob and Kimberly are now permanent residents of the United States of America -- they're Yankees! We're headed in the right direction financially. We're a family. We're in service to our community. We're safely in the house of God.

Robert R. Tracht

Financial Summary for August 2016

| Date | | Attendance | General Fund & Maintenance | Expenses |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 8/7/2016 | | 81 | \$4,474.00 | |
| 8/14/2016 | | 77 | \$1,735.00 | |
| 8/21/2016 | | 93 | \$2,242.11 | |
| 8/28/2016 | | 86 | \$2,378.00 | |
| Total | | | \$10,829.11 | |
| Average | | 84 | \$2,707.28 | |
| Aug | Beginning Balance | | \$7,110.00 | |
| | Other Deposits | | \$3,417.98 | |
| | Total | | \$21,357.09 | \$16,406.60 |
| | Transfer from Savings | | | \$0.00 |
| Aug | Ending Balance | | | \$4,950.49 |

First Lutheran Church of Washington, Pennsylvania

Amendment I to the Church Constitution Chapter 2 Section C2.08

Doctrine on Marriage and Sexuality

First Lutheran Church believes and confesses the “canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God and the authoritative source and norm of its proclamation, faith and life.”

The Triune God reveals a clear, consistent word regarding marriage and sexuality in Holy Scripture. He establishes marriage as the intimate relationship of a man and a woman to be ended only in death:

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them (Genesis 1:27)

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Genesis 2:24)

Our Lord Jesus Christ quotes these two verses when asked about divorce:

He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, “Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one self”? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” (Matthew 19:4-6)

Furthermore, God commands that sexual relationships are for marriage alone. All forms of sexual behavior and relationships outside the marriage of one man and one woman are prohibited. The commandment, “You shall not commit adultery,” (Exodus 20:14) is primary, and Leviticus 18 records detailed, explicit prohibitions. Two of the many other Scriptural prohibitions are:

“You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” (Matthew 5:27-28)

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. (1Corinthians 6:9-10)

Article 6 of The Common Confessions, the Appendix to the NALC Constitution, summarizes the Scriptural witness of God’s will for marriage and family:

We believe and confess that the marriage of male and female is an institution created and blessed by God. From marriage, God forms families to serve as the building blocks of all human civilization and community. We teach and practice that sexual activity belongs exclusively within the Biblical boundaries of a faithful marriage between one man and one woman.

Therefore in obedience to our Lord and in submission to the authority of Scripture over all matters of faith and life, First Lutheran Church strives to ensure that all of its preaching, teaching and practices are in accord with God’s will for marriage and sexuality.

Evangelism Report

Unsearchable

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable. Psalm 145:3.

The artist Chester Harding visited the aged Daniel Boone in 1819 to paint the explorer's portrait. During their time together, Harding asked Boone if he had ever been lost in the wilderness. "No, I was never lost," Boone replied, "but I was bewildered once for three days."

When it comes to our relationship with Christ, we're not lost, but we are often bewildered. Our God is limitless and incomprehensible. Though He has revealed much of Himself to us, our minds are too finite to grasp His full glory. He does things that are "unsearchable, marvelous things without number" (Job 5:9). Isaiah said, "The everlasting God.....neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable" (Isaiah 40:28). The apostle Paul exclaimed, "Oh the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable!" (Romans 11:33). According to Ephesians 3:8, His riches are unsearchable.

Though we cannot search Him out, He searches for us. He died for us and three days later rose again. We're still bewildered by it all --- and incredibly blessed!

Turning Point

Thy love is most unsearchable, and dazzles all above; They gaze, but cannot count or tell the treasures of Thy love!
Charles Wesley

God Bless,
George Salvucci

Stewardship

Candle Fundraiser

- Thank you to everyone who participated in our candle fundraiser! We made over \$500 for our church.

Gift Cards

- Orders for October are due by October 2, 2016 (think of Halloween candy, decorations and costumes)
- Orders for November are due by November 6, 2016 (think of Thanksgiving meal shopping and Black Friday Shopping)
- **THE LAST ORDER for 2016 will be due by November 20, 2016.** This will ensure that the gift cards will arrive by Christmas! (think of Christmas meals and presents)
- If you have not yet purchased gift cards through this fundraiser, this is the perfect time of year to begin.

Vendor and Craft Event

- We are hosting another Vendor and Craft Event on October 15, 2016 from 9-3pm. Please pass the word around to friends and family! Our last event was very successful and we are hoping for an even larger crowd this time! If anyone would like a flyer to share, please see me. Let's support these ladies in their businesses, at the same time help our Church and do some Christmas shopping! The ladies of the church will again have a lunch available for purchase. We will also have a basket auction and a 50/50 raffle. Please come and join in the fun!!!

Ornaments

- We are now taking orders for our next ornament, the altar window. Orders and payments are due by October 16, 2016. The cost is \$20 per ornament. Please know that we will not be placing a second order this year.

In Christ,
Kim (724) 777-3981

**First Lutheran Church
Vendor and Craft Event
92 West Walnut Street
Washington, PA 15301
October 15, 2016
9am to 3pm**



- Celebrating Home
- Diane Chadwick~Homemade Hard Tac Candy and treats
- Kingbiz~Pittsburgh Apparel
- Ladies of First Lutheran Church~crafts
- Longeberger Baskets
- Lula Roe
- McKean Chiropractic
- Mary and Martha
- Origami Owl
- Paracords for a Cause
- Steeped Tea
- Tastefully Simple
- Thirty-One
- Touchstone
- Tupperware
- Uppercase Living
- Lynn Wessell~Homemade Soaps

Please join us for a Vendor and Craft Event to benefit our Church.

Please contact Kim Chadwick @ (724) 777-3981 with any questions!

WNALC



A great big "Thank You" for all the delicious pies donated for our fundraiser at the Oak Springs Firehall. We raised \$1330 for our church. Joyce Streater had a great working crew including Pastor Rob and Kimberly. Great job folks!

Tuesday, October 11th a Holiday Happening workshop will be held at 12:30 pm in the lounge. As most people are doing their crafts at home we will attempt to determine what crafts to expect. We will also need baked goods for the bake sale table. Our sale date is November 5, 2016, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.



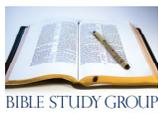
Thursday, October 13th at noon our women will travel to Bethlehem Lutheran for our combined luncheon. All women are welcome and we will meet at our church parking lot at 11:15 am if you wish to carpool. Please let Sonie Rea know if you plan to attend. Lunch and entertainment are free.

Saturday, October 15th Kim Chadwick will be holding a vendor sale. Our church women will be serving food again.



Saturday, October 22nd the women will be traveling to Kittanning for a retreat. We will meet in the church parking lot at 7:15 am to carpool.

Sunday, October 23rd we will hold the Apple/Oktoberfest dinner after church in the social room. Bring your favorite apple recipe or delicious German dish. Come and enjoy good food and fun entertainment. Remember we have a chair glide if steps area a problem.

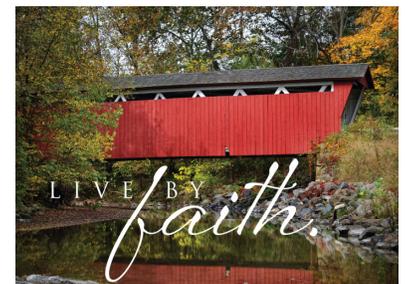


Thursday, October 27th at noon the Circle meeting will be held in the social room. Kimberly Grewe will be leader and Linda Coleman and Michelle Williams are hostesses.

AMI refreshments will be furnished each Friday in October.

A busy month but lots of fun!

God keeps blessing us,
Sonie Rea





October Ushers

2nd Ken Carl; Robert Fritz; Carl Group; C. R. Group; Tom Wright
9th Craig Burda; Alexander Chadwick; Matthew Mazzotti; George Salvucci; Joe Sarver
16th Klaus Behrens; Tim Fritz; David Looman; Ernest Oliver; Herb Snyder
23rd Joshua Hoffer; Chester Krcil; Jackson Quedenfeld; Rick Williams; Logan Williams
30th Chris Gosnell; Hayden Gosnell; Jonathan Luketich; Shane Ringer; Dennis Schmidt

October Acolytes

2nd Bailey DeWalt; Joshua Hoffer
9th Sophia Dragich; Hayden Gosnell
16th Joshua Hoffer; Ashley McCartney
23rd Aiden DeWalt; Bailey DeWalt
30th Nathaniel Black; Andrew Serbak

October Altar Team

Karen Adams
Sonie Rea

October Altar Flowers

2nd The Chadwick Family
9th The Lacko Family
16th Lisa Hager
23rd OPEN
30th Jeff Ulanich

October Lay Readers

2nd Bob Tracht
9th Jill Sabol
16th Emogene Salvucci
23rd Donna Bassi
30th Kimberly Grewe

Please remember to turn your
clocks back one hour beginning
November 6th at 2:00 am.



Congregational Meeting



The Fall Congregational Meeting will be held
Sunday, November 13, 2016 immediately
following the worship service.



Lights, Camera, Action!

Films and Food!

First Lutheran Church is going to start showing movies to its members once a month here at the church and with the film will be a meal!

The films will all be based on a Christian theme. Some films will be more entertaining and others more dramatic in their content. We will be going with oldies but goodies and new films as well. Discussion can follow the film if time permits.

The range of films will consist of classics such as “*Martin Luther, the man who changed the world forever (1953)*”, “*Lilies of the Field (1963)*”, to new thought provoking films like “*Do You Believe? (2015)*” and “*Risen (2016)*”.

Please join us after the Sunday service on October 30, 2016!



Since we have had a call for monthly youth events here at our church, First Lutheran will be answering the request! We were blessed with a large confirmation class over the last two years and now that these youth have grown into the church there will be programming to meet their needs.

The youth gatherings will take place on the last Friday of every month! The youth will have full say as to what they want to do.....within reason. I am all for a trip in 2017 to Wittenberg (but we do not have the funds. :))

The limits to what the youth do, either inside or outside the church, are only limited by your imaginations and the reality of our funds.

Please join us Friday evening 7- 9 pm October 28, 2016!



SPAGHETTI DINNER BENEFIT

WE ARE HOSTING A SPAGHETTI DINNER IN MEMORIAM OF SCOTT TANEYHILL AND ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE FAMILY, PLEASE JOIN US AS A COMMUNITY TO HELP SUPPORT THE FAMILY IN THIS TIME OF TRAGEDY.

WHEN: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7TH 2016

PLACE: FIRST LUTHERN CHURCH SOCIAL ROOM~ LOCATED AT 92 WEST WALNUT STREET, WASHINGTON PA

TIME: 4PM-7:30PM

MENU TO INCLUDE:

-Spaghetti w/meatballs

-Salad

-bread w/butter

-various desserts

-non-alcoholic beverages



COST IS AS FOLLOWS: ADULTS \$10 CHILDREN \$5(See Kandi DeWalt for tickets, tickets will also be available at door)

****TAKEOUT IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST****

****THERE WILL BE A CHINESE AUCTION HELD AT SPAGHETTI DINNER TICKETS WILL BE 10 TICKETS FOR \$5.****



MUSIC HISTORY

Giuseppe Verdi Biography

Famed composer Giuseppe Verdi was born Giuseppe Fortunino Francesco Verdi on October 9 or 10, 1813, in the community of Le Roncole, near Busseto in the province of Parma, Italy. His mother, Luigia Uttini, worked as a spinner, and his father, Carlo Giuseppe Verdi, made a living as a local inkeeper.

Verdi first developed musical talents at a young age, after moving with his family from Le Roncole to the neighboring town of Busseto. There, he began studying musical composition. In 1832, Verdi applied for admission at the Milan Conservatory, but was rejected due to his age. Subsequently, he began studying under Vincenzo Lavigna, a famous composer from Milan.



Verdi got his start in Italy's music industry in 1833, when he was hired as a conductor at the Philharmonic Society in Busseto. In addition to composing, he made a living as an organist around this time. Three years later, in 1836, Verdi wed Margherita Barezzi, the daughter of a friend, Antonio Barezzi.

In 1838, at age 25, Verdi returned to Milan, where he completed his first opera, *Oberto*, in 1839, with the help of fellow musician Giulio Ricordi; the opera's debut production was held at La Scala, an opera house in Milan. While working on *Oberto*, the composer suffered what would be the first of many personal tragedies: His and Margherita's first child, daughter Virginia Maria Luigia Verdi (born in March 1837), died in infancy on August 12, 1838; just one year later, in October 1839, the couple's second child, son Verdi Icilio Romano Verdi (born in July 1838), died, also as an infant.

Verdi followed *Oberto* with the comic opera *Un giorno di regno*, which premiered in Milan in September 1840, at Teatro alla Scala. Unlike *Oberto*, Verdi's second opera was not well-received by audiences or critics. Making the experience worse for the young musician, *Un giorno di regno's* debut was painfully overshadowed by the death of his wife, Margherita, on June 18, 1840, at age 26.

Dispirited by the loss of his family, Verdi entered the 1840s disheartened, struggling to find inspiration to continue creating music. He soon found solace in his work, however, by composing two new, four-part operas in 1842 and '43, *Nabucco* and *I Lombardi alla Prima Crociata* (best known simply as *I Lombardi*), respectively. Both pieces earned the composer a great amount of success. Subsequently, Verdi held a prominent reputation in Italy's operatic theater scene and, later, in the country's political scene as well. He became known for his skill in creating melody and his profound use of theatrical effect. His rejection of the traditional Italian opera for integrated scenes and unified acts only added to his fame.

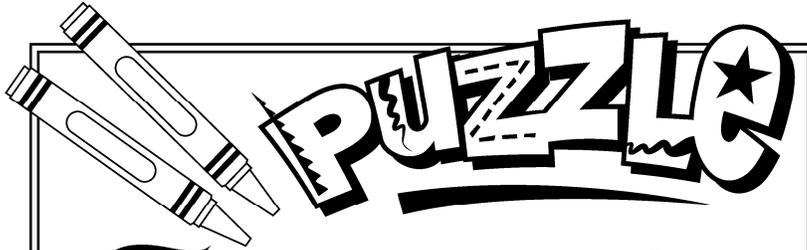
For the rest of the 1840s, and through the 1850s, '60s and '70s, Verdi continued to garner success and fame. Comprising a popular operatic series throughout the decades were *Rigoletto* (1851), *Il trovatore* (1853), *La traviata* (1853), *Don Carlos* (1867) and *Aida*, which premiered at the Cairo Opera House in 1871. Four years later, in 1874, Verdi completed *Messa da Requiem* (best known simply as *Requiem*), which was meant to be his final composition. He retired shortly thereafter.

Despite his retirement plans, in the mid-1880s, through a connection initiated by longtime friend Giulio Ricordi, Verdi collaborated with composer and novelist Arrigo Boito (also known as Enrico Giuseppe Giovanni Boito) to complete *Otello*. Completed in 1886, the four-act opera was performed for the first time at Milan's Teatro alla Scala on February 5, 1887. Initially meeting with incredible acclaim throughout Europe, the opera—based on William Shakespeare's play *Othello*—continues to be regarded as one of the greatest operas of all time.

Never one to rest on his laurels, even in his old age, Verdi followed *Otello's* success with *Falstaff*, another collaboration with Boito. Completed in 1890, when Verdi was in his late 70s, *Falstaff*—a comedic adaptation of the Shakespearean plays *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Henry IV*, and consisting of three acts—debuted at Milan's La Scala on February 9, 1893. Like *Othello*, early reactions to *Falstaff* were, by and large, tremendously positive, and the opera continues to earn great renown today.

Giuseppe Verdi died on January 27, 1901, in Milan, Italy.

Composing over 25 operas throughout his career, Verdi continues to be regarded today as one of the greatest composers in history. Furthermore, his works have reportedly been performed more than any other performers worldwide.



Friends in the Lord

Jesus offers a perfect example of friendship.
What does he do for his friends?

Directions: Follow the clues to fill in the blanks. Then write the completed Bible verse below.

- Better than; rhymes with *crater*: _____
- Opposite of hate: _____
- Opposite of yes: _____
- Three minus two: _____
- Not _____ but that; rhymes with *hiss*: _____
- To place something down; rhymes with *say*: _____
- Opposite of up: _____
- Opposite of death: _____
- Best buds: _____

“ _____ has _____
_____ than _____: to _____
one’s _____ for one’s _____.”

JOHN 15:13, NIV

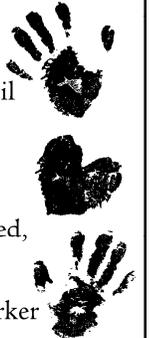
accept
others

FRIENDSHIP WALL HANGING

Make this with — and for — a special friend.

What you need:

- Paper and pencil
- Scissors
- Cardboard
- Aluminum foil
- Tape
- Acrylic paint (red, blue, green)
- Paintbrushes
- Permanent marker
- Twine
- A friend



What you do:

1. Trace a palm-sized heart in the center of the paper. Cut out the heart to use as a stencil.
2. Cover the cardboard with foil. Tape the heart stencil in the center.
3. Fill in the heart “hole” with red paint. Let dry. Remove stencil.
4. Cover your hand with blue paint, and make a handprint to one side of the heart. Cover your friend’s hand with green paint and have him or her make a handprint to the other side of the heart. Let dry.
5. Write “FRIENDS” at the top.
6. On the back, tape twine to make a hanger.

Answers: “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13, NIV



Friends in Christ

BRING YOUR FRIENDS

