

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



Ixoye  
ICH-THUS  
Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior

## Pastoral Perspectives—October 2020

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

I realized that the Covid 19 virus wasn't going away anytime soon when the church supply catalogues began selling liturgical face masks for the clergy in all the colours of the church season. The South Strabane FD -44 is also looking at getting masks made with the department logo on them. Now that there is a distinct chill in the morning air the 2020 season of colds and flu is approaching.

Major pandemics and plagues have been evident in this world for well over two thousand years. Our Holy Bible, in the Book of Exodus, records the ten plagues against Egypt when the pharaoh would not grant God's people, the Israelites, freedom from slavery.

The world has survived even when it seemed like it would end such as in 541 A.D. when the Justinian Plague started in Egypt and went through the entire Mediterranean world. In 1347 A.D. twelve Genoese galley ships arrived in the port of Messina and brought with them the dreaded Bubonic Plague (also known as the 'Black Death') and within five years it spread across the world; it is estimated between twenty-five to fifty million people died of the Black Death! There were also outbreaks of cholera and influenza in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Now, once again, we are experiencing a pandemic which has infected people across the globe. We are inundated daily with ever changing information concerning what we should or should not do. However, during the month of October, as we commemorate the onset of the Reformation in 1517 with the posting of the 95 Theses by Martin Luther, I think it is worthwhile to look back at how he dealt with pandemics in his time.

**The basis of the letter is that city officials, doctors and pastors are bound to remain in place!** Martin Luther looked to the Holy Scriptures of St. John 10:11 and St. Matthew 25:43 (your homework to look up) for answers on how to act during times of pandemics.

We at First Lutheran have carefully and safely carried out what Luther had recommended be done as the Body of Christ. By visiting the sick in their homes, preaching and administering the sacraments, preaching the Gospel, comforting the sick and dying. Luther went so far as to turn his home (the former black cloister of the Augustinian Order) into a hospital which was run by his wife Katie and assisted by their children!

Following what Luther had penned nearly 500 hundred years ago we at FLC never closed our church doors! We have continued to clean and disinfect the church and offer the Lord's Supper in a way that could be a model for churches around the world! We offer hand sanitizer and social distancing at all times. Kimberly and I continue to daily check our temperatures and wear face masks in public (7 months and counting). We have had the support of the church council since the beginning of this pandemic and, thankfully, William Penn ensured that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania cannot have authority over the church in its freedom to worship; it is not just a true gift from God but also illustrates the power of the Lord through time and time again!

As we continue to gather and worship in Christ Jesus at His holy church in Washington PA, may we trust in the Lord and keep steadfast in His Word during Covid 19 pandemic!

Amen

Your servant in Christ Jesus

Rev. Robert B. Grewe



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author

Dear First Lutheran Church Family,

Where has the time gone? It is already pumpkin spice season!!

Our fundraising has been a tremendous success so far. Thank you to everyone who has supported us. We continue to stand strong as a church and to move forward and I hope to see everyone back at our weekly Bible study groups, Sunday school, youth group and choir.

I write this article as I sit here in the parking lot in Bethel Park waiting for my son to finish hockey practice. Why? Because as I watched our service on Facebook, Pastor Grewe reminded us about articles being due, and I had forgotten about writing one. You may not see me in church very often now, but I did watch the end of the service live on Facebook. At noon, the church bells rang from the local church by the rink. What a wonderful ending to a wonderful service.

We are still working on bids for a new sound system for the sanctuary. It has been more difficult than anticipated getting bids. It will be nice to get a new system so that Pastor Grewe will have a wireless microphone that works properly and updated speakers. Once we get a few reasonable bids, they will be discussed at council and we will move on from there.

It is wonderful that the roof of the Sunday School wing is fixed, and we no longer need to have all of our buckets upstairs catching all the water. With that in mind, please remember to send in your weekly donations. I know many of us will be busy now, not only with our children's after school activities, but also with preparing for the upcoming holidays and whatever else life throws at us at a most inconvenient time. We have been able to keep up with our loan payments, but the sooner we pay it off, the better we will be.

I hope to see you in church when my schedule permits.

God bless,

Jennifer Black, FLC Council President



## **Fundraising Update**

**Mum Sale:** The mum fundraiser is complete and was a great success! We raised over \$800 for our roof fund! Thanks to the Group family for leading this fundraiser.

**Pierogie Sale:** We are in the middle of our second pierogie sale this year. Our first one was very popular so we decided to do this fundraiser again! Orders are due September 27 and pierogies will be distributed on Sunday October 11th before church service. If you cannot come to church and need help with orders or delivery, please give Heather Quedenfeld a call or text (724-263-3253) or email (heather.quedenfeld@comcast.net) and we'll help you out.

**Dinner Night Take Out or Eat In:** Michelle Williams has made arrangements to do a restaurant fundraiser with Texas Roadhouse on Sunday Oct 4 from 11 am – 10 pm. When you order from the Roadhouse on that day, please present the flyer and our church will get 10% of sales. Eat in or take out that day to support the church and earn money for the roof fund!

**Painting with Friends:** We will have another painting fundraiser event on October 10th at 2 pm at Thistledown Boutique. Cost is \$30 and part of the fee will go to the church roof fund. Thanks much to Judy Sarver for arranging this fundraiser. I hope to see you all there!

**Oktoberfest:** We will hold another Oktoberfest on October 18th. Please plan to attend this fun event! Thanks to all of you for your continued support.

Heather Quedenfeld

## **WREATH and SWAG SALE**

As we prepare for the Christmas season please watch for First Lutheran Church's Wreath and Swag Sale. Order forms will be available on November 1st. This fundraiser will support The Roof Fund. All your support is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,

Caitlyn and Vickie Group

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## **THANK YOU**

I thank everyone for your prayers, cards and phone calls during my three month stay in rehab when I broke my leg. Receiving cards and phone calls were a bright time in my day.

Fondly,  
Sonie Rea

## Fundraiser Painting with April Ryan

October 10, 2020

2pm at Thistledown Boutique

151 S. Main Street

Washington, Pa 15301

Cost \$30.00

\*\*\*\*This painting slightly modified with fall flowers and a cross in background

Make checks payable to Judy Sarver, money due October 4<sup>th</sup>



## WNALC

Women of the WNALC mourn the death of Emogene Salvucci, a wonderful friend, faithful worker and baker. She will be greatly missed.

Circle meetings are still being cancelled due to the virus.

Sunday, Oct. 18, after church the Apple/Octoberfest will be held in the social room.

Paster Grewe and Kimberly will supply brats and buns.

Dennis Schmidt will supply root beer.

Everyone else is asked to bring a covered dish.

Tableware will be provided.

All safety measures will be followed. Gloves will be provided.

Because our picnic had to be canceled this summer, we plan to sell \$5.00 raffle tickets for the beautiful quilt made by Linnea Cavanaugh.

The picture donated by Olivia Lyons of the Main Pavilion at Washington Park will also be drawn.

Tickets for the Chinese auction baskets made for the picnic will be sold.

We are looking forward to a day we can safely enjoy food and fellowship.

Please sign up on sheets available to have a better count of the folks planning to attend.

God bless,

Sonie Rea

### **Oct. Lay Readers**

- 4 Kris Briggs
- 11 Kyle Glozier
- 18 Heather Quedenfeld
- 25 Dennis Schmidt

### **Oct. Altar Flowers**

- 4 Lacko's
- 11 Quedenfeld
- 18 Cindy Linville
- 25 Kathleen Black

### **Oct. Acolytes**

- 4 Caroline Quedenfeld & Maria Sobocinski
- 11 Heidi Walsh and Cole Johnson
- 18 Bryce Berry and Collin Berry
- 25 Lillah Clark and Elijah Clark

### **Oct. Ushers**

- 4 K. Carl, C. Group, C.R. Group, G. Salvucci, D. Lacko
- 11 A. Serbak, J. Sarver
- 18 K. Behrens, D. Looman, E. Oliver, H. Snyder
- 25 J. Hoffer, C. Krcil, R. Williams, N. & L. Williams

### **Oct. Counters**

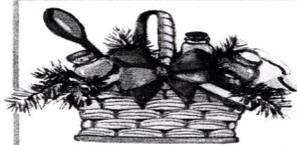
- 4 C. Group, J. Ulanich, R. Williams
- 11 D. Bassi, S. Rea, L. Sten
- 18 V. Group, H. Quedenfeld
- 25 J. Black, L. Coleman, D. Schmidt

### **Oct. Altar Team**

- S. Rea and J. Marker

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

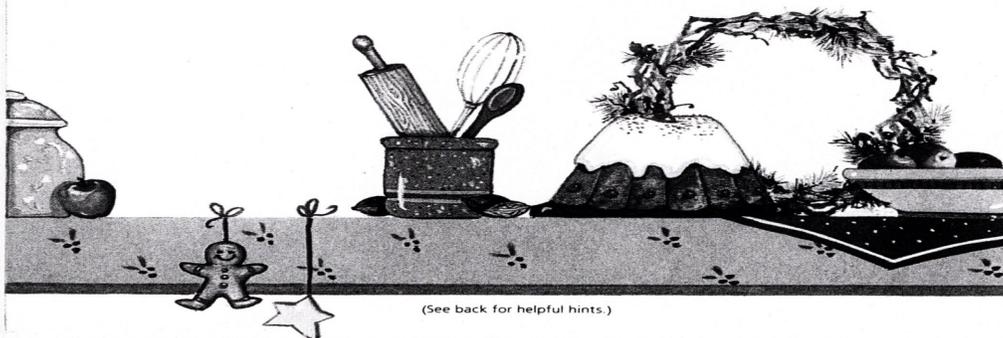
- 5 Laurie Carl  
Tammy Streator
- 6 Eveline Reihner
- 9 Shelby Kubacki
- 13 Bonnie Johnson  
Gertie Sten  
Lauren Conkle
- 14 Scott Berry
- 15 Kristine Briggs
- 16 Kara Clark  
Richard Hager
- 17 Wesley Black
- 18 Janine Dyson
- 19 Jim Conkle
- 21 Joan Sakerka  
Kim Luketich  
Janet Burke
- 23 Neil Bassi
- 24 George Walz
- 25 Caitlyn Group
- 28 Dennis Schmidt  
Karen Coleman
- 29 Joshua Hoffer



## SCRIPTURE CAKE

2½ cups	2 Samuel 13:8	¾ cup	Jeremiah 6:20
5 tsp.	Galatians 5:9	1	Isaiah 10:14
½ tsp.	Mark 9:50	¾ cup	1 Corinthians 3:2
¾ tsp.	1 Kings 10:10	1½ cups	Proverbs 25:11
3 TB.	Proverbs 30:33	½ cup	1 Samuel 30:12

*Follow Numbers 11:8.*



(See back for helpful hints.)

## SCRIPTURE CAKE APPLE RAISIN CAKE

2½ cups flour	1 egg
5 tsp. baking powder	¾ cup milk
½ tsp. salt	1½ cups apples, pared, cored and diced
¾ tsp. cinnamon	½ cup raisins
3 TB. butter	
¾ cup sugar	

Preheat oven to 350°. Sift dry ingredients together. Cream butter and sugar. Add egg to butter mixture and mix. Add dry ingredients alternately with milk. Mix in apples and raisins by hand. Pour into a greased loaf pan about 9¼ x 5¾ x 2¾ inches. Bake about 45 minutes, until golden brown. When toothpick comes out dry, cake is done.