

MAY 2024

THE ENLIGHTENER

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Feeding our Soul

33 Broadway Street
Shelby, Ohio 44875
Ph 419-347-7675

Email:
firstlutheranshelby@gmail.com

Grace and peace to you from Christ our Lord,

Spring, like all times of transition, is full of potential and uncertainty. For those of us just trying to plant our garden the uncertainty is more centered on whether the rain will stop long enough, and the ground dry enough, for us to get seeds in the ground that don't rot. But, for our young people graduating from one grade to another, or even entirely out of school, the future's variable outcomes are much more high stakes. How to choose the right classes, how to choose the right career, how to choose the right spouse, and on and on the decisions go. In the end the outcome is a bit more serious than whether or not my tomatoes will produce early or late. Increasingly our young folks have to make these trying decisions without the benefit of faith or God's direction. It is little wonder that Generation Alpha (Kids born after 2013) are being renamed "Generation Anxiety" by public health officials who estimate that a full 60% of kids (Psychology Today, Clay Drinko, Ph.D.) in that generation are suffering from clinical levels of anxiety and/or depression. I believe the cause is directly related to the decline in faith.

Humans simply are not designed to live without faith. In the absence of God's direction every fear and doubt become an insurmountable challenge. Even Dr. Richard Dawkins, the famously outspoken English atheist writer, has recently complained that society seems to be collapsing without the benefit of the Christian faith. He has gone so far as to describe himself now as a cultural Christian, or a non-practicing Christian, and is encouraging others to at least embrace the Christian worldview. This strikes me as similar to someone who burns their house down and then complains that they have nowhere to sleep. However, it certainly drives home the point when even the most outspoken opponent of Christianity in the 20th century is nostalgic for the good old days when Christianity was holding the fabric of society together.

For people who live surrounded by vast wealth and treasure it is easy to lose sight of the value of such fortune. We often wonder why millionaires (and now billionaires) never seem to appreciate the scope of their good fortune, and yet...Here we are surrounded by the inestimable wealth of God's grace, love, and wisdom. Do we recognize the riches we live with daily? Increasingly the spiritually impoverished world we live in crowds around us showing us the true deprivations that those without Christ suffer.

If we wake to the poverty of the world we live in and see the vast sea of wealth we swim in daily, we must be motivated to reach out and offer hope and rescue to this failing world. We do so not because we are better than the world we live in, but because we know that we ourselves have been saved by the riches of grace we enjoy.

God Bless,
Pastor Rus



MUSIC NOTES – Paul Martin, Ministry of Worship & Music

Upcoming Music Events:

We are now taking donations to bring the Kingsmen Quartet in Concert to our church on Sunday, June 9, 2024, at 6:00pm

Sunday, June 16, 2024 (at 10:00am) - Timothy & Hosanna Noble in Worship

Sunday, July 7, 2024 (at 6:00pm) - Gloryway in Concert

New Music Opportunity:

We are putting together a wind instrument ensemble. If you play a wind instrument (such as flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and so on), we can use you! We would like to see this ensemble present special music in worship and accompany hymns. Please contact **Paul Martin if interested (flcshelby@gmail.com)**.



FOOD PANTRY – Louise Hunter, Food Pantry Director

Food Pantry donation request for May – CEREAL

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY – Al and Sue Vogel



Our first Mobile Food Pantry of the season began April 16th. The truck was a little late as the line kept growing.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that came out to assist in passing out the produce!

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY DATES –

May 21st, June 18th, July 16th, August 20th,

September 17th

10:00am ... Bring bags

Volunteers needed. Contact Al or Sue.



ORGAN DONATIONS...DOUBLE YOUR GIFT!

An anonymous donor will match dollar per dollar up to \$15,000 to go toward the Organ Repair Fund. (April totals are not available at the time of this printing.)



FINANCE – Brian Crum, Treasurer

Hi Everyone,

First off, thank you everyone for your patience with me as I navigated my first tax season owning my own firm. It was quite the learning experience! I am still digging my way out of the tax season backlog, but it does appear that revenues for Lent were down a little this year, and post Easter has not been stellar either. I do want to thank all of the volunteers who are working so hard to staff the office. Our office hasn't been this busy since before Covid, and we wouldn't be able to do this financially with a paid staff person right now. So, my deepest thanks to all of you who are giving your time to keep this place open. While our operating costs are exceeding our revenues, we do still have a cash balance which is invested in CD's which will help offset the costs. We have not heard anything yet on our amended payroll returns to claim the Employee Retention Credit. Hopefully we will get good news on that front soon. On the ABC side, we are still showing some small losses, but nothing compared to our losses last year. We are working on some marketing efforts to really bump up our numbers for the summer season.

I greatly appreciate all of your support and friendship! Thanks everyone!

Brian A Crum, CPA, LLC



YOUTH GROUP – Brian Crum

The Youth Group has been very busy the last month. We have had a few in house adventures where we staged our own movie night, had a Bible Charades night, and spent an evening making Easter gifts for our members that can't make it out of the house easily. One day we had an outing for lunch after Church. Upcoming events include going to the movie theater to watch a Christian movie, another coffee house night with Pastor, and of course our annual retreat to Kalahari waterpark. We have had a blast this year, and I look forward to wrapping up the school year and doing some awesome activities this summer.



BUS STOP KIDS – Brian Crum

Our bus stop ministry is also going well. We still have about two dozen kids stopping in every day. I have gotten to know some of them very well and I am hoping to do some year-end activities with them and the Church staff in the hopes that they get to know everyone better.



ABC LEARNING CENTER – Heather Murry, ABC Director

ABC learning center is growing. We have new staff and children starting. Of course, we will enroll more children and staff as we can. The month of May is going to be a busy one for ABC learning center. The week of May 6 th - 10 th is teacher appreciation week. We will be doing a few things to show our appreciation for all the hard work that the teachers do all year long. If you see the teachers, please show your appreciation to them for their hard work. On Saturday May 11 th we are having a carnival from 11 am to 1 pm. This is a community event so bring your children, invite people, and if you can we can always use extra help with the event. We will be having a bounce house, carnival games, and food. This is to help promote our school age summer program. Also, on Friday May 17 th we will be holding our preschool graduation for those children that are going to kindergarten in the fall. It’s always nice to see how hard the children have worked and learned while they have been here. Thank you for your continued prayers for the children and staff as we keep moving up as a center.

**ABC LEARNING CENTER
PRESENTS
END OF SCHOOL CARNIVAL
COME OUT AND MEET US !!!!
SIGN UP FOR SUMMER SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM!
GAMES!!
FOOD!!
BOUNCY HOUSE!!
WHEN: SATURDAY MAY 11, 2024
WHERE: 33 BROADWAY STREET, SHELBY
TIME: 11AM TO 1PM**

**FIRST LUTHERAN ABC
LEARNING CENTER
33 BROADWAY
SHELBY, OHIO 44875

PRESENTS

CAPTIVATING NATURE
June 3rd – August 16th, 2024

See attached flyer**



RUBY’S PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Oh God, grant us grace to Act in Crisis Today. Let us act in response to a personal call from our Lord. Let us answer His call, that it might take us away from a life of “getting something” to a life of “giving something”. We would serve God by passing His gifts on to those who have not received as much. Remind us constantly, that, to ACT is to love, to ACT is to care, to ACT is to give, to ACT is to share. We would love in action and deed, for Jesus’ sake.

Amen.

LET US PRAY...Prayer request for the month of April.

Sally Barley	Lew Friend	Earl Lynch, Sr	Myrna Spath
Greg Beeching	Rose Furr	Emanuel Martin	Bill Spoljarick
Brad Berberick	John Hancock	Joanne Martin	Carol Spoljarick
Annalisha Corwin	Phil Jennings	Tommy Morton, Jr	Chip Stephens

Barb Davies	Carole Jess	Carol Nelson	Diane Stiefel
Jackie Davies	Fred Lee	Judy Ream	Bob Stover
Sandy Ensman	Cohen Lewis	August Schreiber	James Vess
Dorothy Foreman	Becky Loveless	Joe Sparks	

VISITATION LIST - March 2024

Mildred House - CRYSTAL CARE OF ASHLAND-1251 E Main St Ashland 44805
Candy Potts - DAYSPRING ASSISTED LIVING-3220 Olivesburg Rd, Mansfield 44903
Veronica O'Keefe - GOOD SHEPHERD OF FOSTORIA-725 Columbus Ave, Fostoria 44830
Almeida McKown - LUTHERAN VILLAGE OF ASHLAND-330 Davis Rd Ashland 44805
Joe Sparks - MANSFIELD PLACE-1841 Middle Bellville Rd Mansfield 44904
Miriam Lambert - O'NEILL HEALTHCARE-4800 Clague Rd, Apt 116 North Olmstead 44070
Patricia Baird- ONTARIO ESTATES-2010 Walker Lake Rd, Ontario 44906
Joann Rigg - ONTARIO ESTATES-2010 Walker Lake Rd, Ontario 44906

Bob Adams THE WILLOWS-1050 Neal Zick Rd, Willard 44890
Mary Jane Burrer - THE WILLOWS-1050 Neal Zick Rd, Willard 44890
Gerald Sisinger - THE WILLOWS-1050 Neal Zick Rd, Willard 44890
Jane Beeching, 47 Marvin Ave, Shelby.....419-347-5255
Ruby Bonecutter, 65 Marvin Avenue, Shelby.....419-347-6234
Dorothy Foreman, 551 Bendle Avenue, Shelby.....419-612-1696
Ruth Greter, 2877 Stiving Rd, Mansfield 44903..... 419-347-1435
John Hancock, 31 Sherwood, Shelby.....419-543-0392
Bob & Carol Jess, 84 Shelby Ave, Shelby.....567-844-0253
Patricia Knapp, 25 Riverview, Shelby.....419-564-5227
Pat Rank, 4 Park Village, Shelby.....419-347-4211
August Schreiber, 3391 St Rt 96E, Shelby.....419-989-1322
Renee' Simpson, 5690 Racoon Valley Rd, Alexandria 43001.....740-924-2061
Jeannie Sisinger, 634 McBride Rd, Mansfield 44905 WILLOWS (Geralds daughter)
Jim & Shirley Stine, 18 W Maxwell, Shelby.....419-631-9761

OUR SYMPATHY...

To the families of Carolyn Bricker

To the families of John Yetzer

To the families of Roger May. Roger died on March 28th in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He was a retired Air Force Captain and a Vietnam Veteran. Surviving is his wife, Valeria of 50 years, two children, six grandchildren. Siblings, Mary Ellen Hall of Westerville, Ohio (mellen100@gmail.com), Carol Wagner of Grafton, WI (dirtdiva1@gmail.com), and Sally Ann Fridley of Mansfield, Ohio (mrsfrid@yahoo.com)

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

CHURCH BREAKFAST ... May 18th, 8:00-10:00am

MEET ME ON MONDAY ... May 20th, Noon...Legends.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SUMMER LUNCHESES 2024, JULY 8 – 12
Stuff the Lunch Bag Day, July 7th after church.

OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to an open house for
Issiah Beck
on Sunday, June 2nd from Noon to 3:00

DONATING MADE EASIER

You may give securely online to the ministry of First Lutheran Shelby by using this QR Code, or by visiting flcshelby.org



For offering with a credit card go to:
<https://secure.myvanco.com/YH2C/campaign/C-YJP2>
Or, scan the above QR Code.

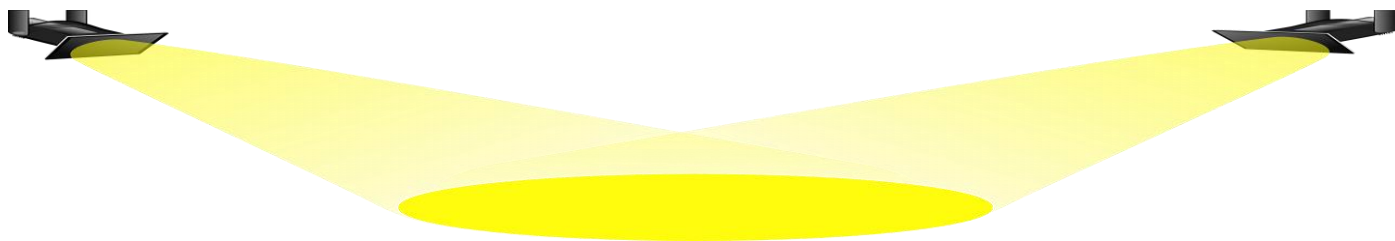
MINISTRY TEAM

PASTOR RUSSEL T. YOAK, SENIOR PASTOR:
RUSYOAK@GMAIL.COM, 419-989-1575
GAYE SHIRA, LAY MINISTRY OF VISITATION:
GSHIRA1@YAHOO.COM, 419-545-2277
PAUL MARTIN, MINISTRY OF WORSHIP AND MUSIC:
FLCSHELBY@GMAIL.COM, 419-289-6361
ABC CENTER:
ABCLEARNINGCENTERSHELBY@GMAIL.COM, 419-347-9246
BRIAN CRUM, TREASURER:
BRIANCRUM83@GMAIL.COM 419-543-1819
SARAH MARTIN, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:
MRS.SARAHMARTIN@GMAIL.COM, 419-571-6796
LOUISE HUNTER, FOOD PANTRY DIRECTOR:
WEZNJIM@NEO.RR.COM, 419-295-3019
Website: FLCshelby.org
Facebook: [First Lutheran Shelby](https://www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranShelby)
YouTube: [Pastor Rus Yoak](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Something new is coming to the Enlightener...

During the time that I have been volunteering in the church office I have heard many remarkable stories about our church and the members within. I believe now is the time to share. So, I have created a page just for "Spotlighting" the church or a deceased/ living member that has gone above and beyond in serving our church and community. If you have a story to tell, please email me at the church (firstlutheranshelby@gmail.com) a short article that I can copy and paste into the Enlightener. I can only post one article per month. Debbie Crum

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Adriana (Jane) Beeching

We are celebrating Jane Beeching this May in two very special ways.

On May 3rd Jane will be celebrating her 99th Birthday. Jane married Ed (deceased) on September 23, 1947. She and Ed raised two children, Janice (deceased) and Fred.

Jane's profession was nursing. As a nurse she was involved in many people's lives working in hospitals, private duty nursing, Public Health and the Tuby where she often worked 7 days a week. She was also a past president of the MedCentral Health System Alumni Association.

One of Jane's favorite pass times is genealogy. She has been the person that has spent much time keeping up with family genealogy and is very knowledgeable about each family member.

Secondly, Jane is our oldest surviving member of the First Lutheran Shelby. She was very involved at Lutheran Church, Plymouth and then First Lutheran, Shelby. She wore several hats volunteering at First including Altar Guild, Bible School teacher and helping with Catechism to name a few. She truly enjoyed helping with Catechism and talks often about the students she helped out.

One aspect of Jane's Christian life that she took very seriously and to this day is extremely proud of was during the time when she attended First Lutheran in Plymouth. The local schools were banning the teaching of Christianity within the school system. Her church started a weekday bible school class which Jane had a big part in developing and also taught a class.



Jane, May 1925...was the year the world was gifted with an incredible person. Your strength, kindness, and joy inspire us all. Wishing you a birthday that's as wonderful as the life you've built since that special year. We at First, have been very blessed to have you as a friend and member of our church family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANE!

Anyone wishing to send Jane Birthday wishes may send your card to First Lutheran Church, 33 Broadway, Shelby, Ohio 44875. Please put Jane's name in the bottom left corner of the envelope.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1st - Anna Dick
May 2nd - Anna Bargeloh, Katelyn Coll, Kayla Kurtz, Keely Kurtz
May 3rd - Adriana Beeching
May 5th - Jeffrey Schaub, Doris Will
May 6th - Roberta Boice, Alyssa Haverfield, Robert Nichols
May 7th - Ian Arias
May 8th - Scott Kreger, Rachael Roth
May 9th - Nancy Keinath
May 10th - DiAnna White
May 11th - Cameron Yantis
May 12th - Joyce Hartge, Miriam Lambert
May 13th - Gloria Simpson
May 14th - Cheryl Kenney, Larry Korbas, Charlotte Zinn
May 16th - Susan Johnson, Kody Korbas, Andrew Thompson, Lana Van Vlerah, Darin Zinn
May 17th - Christian Ballengee, Pat Rank, Cassandra Stanford
May 18th - Sally Hays, Kylie Kelly
May 20th - Adam Reith, Myrna Spath
May 21st - Alyssa Paulo, Kent Snyder
May 22nd - John Bryson
May 24th - Lou Ellen Sampsel
May 28th - Gerald Sisinger
May 29th - Carmen Egner, Judy Norris
May 30th - Phyllis Rhodes
May 31st - Paysen Sensmeier, Addison Shira, Jeanette Strong

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

May 5th - Earl and Suellyn Lynch
May 16th - James and Shirley Stine
May 17th - Kent and Kathy Snyder
May 19th - Adrian and Tonya Garofalo, Larry and Lisa Korbas
May 20th - Robert and Kimberly Burky, Jay and Bonnie Huss, Michael and Catherine Uplinger
May 22nd - Russel and Kristie Yoak
May 23rd - Charles and Kim Bonecutter
May 25th - Robert and Sue Stover
May 26th - Brian and Kelly Crum, Paul and Rebecca Hamman, Scott and Melissa Sensmeier
May 31st - Daniel and Emily Hughes

GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRY – We are looking for people to be part of the Good Shepherd Ministry. “Shepherds” send out cards to church members. Please contact the church office if you are willing to be part of this meaningful group.

A big thank you to those who are currently good shepherds!!

OUTSIDE FLOWER BEDS – We are in need of volunteers to help maintain the flower beds around the church. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the church office. Thank you to those currently maintaining our flowers bed.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS, ALTAR FLOWERS, AND ALTAR GUILD

GREETERS

May 5th - Sue Vogel
May 12th - Sue Schiffer
May 19th - Bobbie Clevenger
May 26th - Carol McLaughlin

ASSISTING MINISTERS

May 5th - Shirley Huskey
May 12th - Pam Copper
May 19th - Kristie or Katie Yoak
May 26th - Nancy Crum

LECTORS

May 5th - Kevin Calver
May 12th - Pam Blankenhorn
May 19th - Scott Harvey
May 26th - Gaye Shira

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

May 5th - Shirley Huskey, Mark & Peggy McKown
May 12th - Pam Copper, Pam Blankenhorn, Mary Lee Barr
May 19th - Kristie Yoak, Katie Yoak, Hannah Yoak
May 26th - Nancy Crum, Linda Bloomfield, Carol McLaughlin

RECEIPTS

May 5th - JR Hoover
May 12th - Pam Blankenhorn
May 19th - Mary Lee Barr
May 26th - Mark McKown

ACOLYTES

May 5th - Ethan Beck
May 12th - Lillian Beck
May 19th - Kaylee Dabney
May 26th - Jenna Cianflone



Sunday, May 12th

*Celebrating Mother's Day, we once again have our
Mother's Day Basket Raffle.*



Tickets

\$1.00 for one ticket

\$5.00 for one ticket 6 tickets

\$10.00 for 13 tickets

Proceeds go to our "Church Food Pantry" and to "Brian's Bus Kids" after school snack program."

Thank you to those that donated the baskets: Sue Schieffer, Carolyn Nichols, Jackie Davies, Carol McLaughlin, Marge Schmahl, Carol Linn, Pam Blankenhorn, and Arnolds Garden Center.

Many thanks to Carol McLaughlin for putting this event together!

MAY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Church Office open 9-12 Food Pantry 9-11:30 Choir 6:00 Bells 7:00	2 <i>Church Office open 9-12</i> NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	3 Church Office open 9-12	4
5 Adult Bible Study 8:45 am Worship 10 am Youth Group - TBA	6 Church Office open 9-12	7 Church Office open 9-12 Worship Committee 7:00	8 Church Office open 9-12 Food Pantry 9-11:30 Quilting 9:00am Choir 6:00 Bells 7:00	9 Church Office open 9-12	10 Church Office open 9-12	11 ABC SCHOOL CARNIVAL 11AM – 1PM
12 MOTHER’S DAY Confirmation 8:45 am Worship 10 am Youth Group TBA	13 Church Office open 9-12 Finance Committee ABC Committee	14 Church Office open 9-12 Worship/Bible Study 6:00pm Church Council 7:00pm	15 Church Office Open 9-12 Food Pantry 9-11:30 Choir 6:00 Bells 7:00	16 Church Office Open 9-12	24 Church Office open 9-12	18 BREAKFAST 8:00- 10:00AM
19 Adult Bible Study 8:45 am Worship 10am Youth Group TBA	20 Church Office open 9-12 Meet Me On Monday Noon @ Legends	21 Church Office open 9-12 Mobile Food Pantry 10:00am	22 Church Office Open 9-12 Food Pantry 9-11:30 Choir 6:00 Bells 7:00	23 Church Office open 9-12	24 Church Office open 9-12	25
26 Confirmation 8:45 Worship 10 am Youth Group TBA	27 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office CLOSED	28 Church Office open 9-12	29 Church Office Open 9-12 Food Pantry 9-11:30	30 Church Office Open 9-12	31 Church Office open 9-12	