




JUNE 2026

THE ENLIGHTENER

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Feeding our Soul

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"Grace and Peace to you from Christ our Lord",

Have you ever walked from one room to another and thought to yourself, "Why did I walk in here?" Then, as soon as you walk out, you remember the original reason and have to turn around and go back? Good news, not only are you normal, but Psychologists have a name for it. They call it the Doorway Effect. The University of Notre Dame actually did a rather lengthy study on the Doorway Effect and concluded that the human mind is perpetually inundated with new information, and one way it deals with all of this is to assign "expiration dates" to memories. Basically, your brain says, "I'll remember this only as long as I need to." One way it sets limits on memory is by determining that this information is useful only as long as one is in a certain location...like the kitchen. In doing so, your brain maximizes its ability to retain and sort memories. So, you are not forgetful... you're efficient.

Ancient cultures seemed aware of this effect and even used it as a little trick for mental relaxation. Many Bronze Age cultures, including ancient Sumer, used to build doorways and thresholds that went nowhere, often in picturesque locations like cliffs and waterfalls. The doorways were often beautifully crafted and artfully decorated but not connected to any buildings or rooms. It was just a random doorway sitting by itself. The idea is that you would go to a lovely location for a rest, walk through the doorway, forget your troubles, and just enjoy the lovely setting.

God's people have always had such a doorway. For the ancient Jews, it was Friday at Sundown. For modern Christians, it is Sunday Morning. Either way, it is the entry point to the Sabbath. As we enter the Sabbath, we are encouraged to leave the world of work and labor behind... to forget it temporarily. Sabbath rest is different from worldly rest and recreation. Recreation is an activity that distracts us, entertains us, or keeps us busy on our days off. It is something that we DO. Sabbath rest is a deliberate cessation of work to find our identity and security in God, not our productivity. It is something done TO us.

Summer can be a time of hard work and labor for our farming friends, but for most of us it is an invitation to rest and slow down. I like to think of June as the doorway to summer and its invitation to seasonal rest. We can all use a little Sabbath Rest. We can all use some time to forget all of our worries and concerns.... something we can only really achieve in the peace of a Sabbath Rest where we hand those concerns off to God and trust that a peaceful rest can be had under his watchful eye.

Walk through the doorway of the Sabbath and forget everything but God's grace and mercy. And next time you walk into the garage and think, "why did I come in here?". Don't panic, your brain is just being efficient.

God bless, Pastor Rus



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 GRADUATING SENIORS

Adrienne Erwin, Madelyn Beck, and Keegan Sensmeier



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CONFIRMATION GRADUATES

Kaylee Dabney, Lillian Beck, and Ethan Beck





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Boor Scholarship – Lilly Heydinger (not in photo)

Lumadue Scholarship – Rebekah Case

Schimpf/Smith – McCray Martin, Adrienne Erwin, Keegan Sensmeier, Joshua Yoak, Lucas Ciaflone, Rebekah Case, Madelyn Dabney, Hanna Yoak, and Lilly Heydinger (not in photo)



CHURCH OFFICE – Debbie Crum

Did you know you can schedule your parties and meetings here at First?

If you have the need for a party place, let First Lutheran help. We offer several places on site where your event can be held. Be it a big party or a smaller group.

If you have a big party, the Social Hall is the place for you. You may use our “state of the art” kitchen, have access to numerous tables and chairs, and the restrooms are close.

Our Parlor can hold a small group, and you have access to the Parlor kitchenette and a restroom.

Room 6 can also hold a medium-sized group and there are a sink, coffee pot and microwave available.

Our newest addition is our conference room in the Administration Building. There is seating available for 20 – 25 people. There is a kitchenette available, with a coffee pot, microwave and refrigerator. There is easy access via our handicap ramp, and we now have a newly remodeled unisex handicap accessible restroom.

The use of our church facilities is free to our church members. There is a minimal fee for non-members. Fill out an event form attached or in the church office and pick up a key the day before your event. We ask that you clean up after your event and take the bags of trash to the dumpster. If you want to have an event during the weekdays we have to be mindful of our Day Care.

Events can be scheduled now through the end of the year at the church office.

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! SUMMER LUNCHES

June 8 – 12, 2026.

Please contact Gaye Shira for more information

BIBLE STUDY – Every Thursday at 4:00pm in the Church Parlor

CHURCH BREAKFAST –Saturday, June 20th in the Social Hall

MEET ME ON MONDAY – Monday, June 15th at Noon– O’Charle’s, Ontario

COMMUNITY MEAL – Tuesday, June 23rd in the Social Hall
Ham and scalloped potatoes, vegetables, roll and dessert

FOOD PANTRY – Louise Hunter, Food Pantry Director
HAMBURGER AND TUNA HELPERS

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY



NOTE:
SUMMER HOURS FOR THE CHURCH OFFICE
BEGINNING JUNE 1ST. THE OFFICE WILL BE GOING TO FOUR DAYS
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY... (CLOSED ON FRIDAYS)
9:00am to NOON

FINANCE – Brian Crum

The Church is in a similar situation as most years through April. Year to date, the Church operating expenses have exceeded offering by about \$4,100. This shortfall has been taken from the contingency fund, which still has a balance of just over \$200,000. Unfortunately, we have entered our “slow” season, so I expect that loss to grow over the next few months. Additionally, our property fund has taken a hit again this year. We just have had so many repairs that what is allocated from offering has not kept up with the expenses. We also have a number of large projects coming up, so we will probably soon need to start a fundraising campaign. The ABC Center has also had a rough beginning to the year. Currently they have lost \$17,000 for the year. We have a price increase starting in June which will bring our rates up to the lower side of market rate and will bring our revenues up to meet our financial needs.

Youth groups have wrapped up our normal meetings for the school year with a cookout and pool day. We have kept very busy this spring including a retreat, a number of lesson nights, and some service projects. While we do not have weekly meetings for the summer, we will have regular outings.

The Bus Stop Ministry is also wrapping up for the school year. We had a large number of new kids coming to the building this year. For the most part, they are a bunch of great kids. We have had our struggles with them, but I am so glad that we do this. It makes a big difference to them. I just wish I had more time to chat with them. We will be having a yearend celebration at the Mini Golf this Thursday evening for the kids. We will continue to have snacks in the building for when the kids pass by this summer.

As always, I greatly appreciate all of your support!

Brian

MUSIC – Paul Martin

We are now scheduling special music for the summer months! If interested in singing or playing as a soloist, or in a group, please reach out to Paul Martin at flcshelby@gmail.com, or see him at the church!

ABC LEARNING CENTER - Heather Murray, Director

Our preschool graduation went great! The parents loved seeing their children in their caps and gowns. Our summer school age program starts on June 1st. We will have our end of the school year/ beginning of the summer carnival on June 13th. We will need volunteers to help with games and things on that day. So, if you can help let us know. We are looking to have a great summer as we continue to make the center the best.

Heather Murray

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee has been hit hard with projects this year, and it is only the end of May. Currently they are working on the office air conditioner, the back ramp and the church conditioner. Other projects will be addressed as time goes on.

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH, Pastor Rus

Dear Heavenly Father,

As the calendar turns to June and the rhythm of our days begins to shift, we thank You for the beautiful gift of summer. We thank You for the warmth of the sun, the vibrant growth in our gardens and fields, and the long evenings that invite us to slow down.

Lord, we live in a world that constantly demands our hurry and our hustle. But as we enter this new season, we hear Your gentle invitation to come away and rest a while. Help us to embrace summer not just as a change in weather, but as a holy time of respite for our weary spirits.

Remind us that rest is not wasted time; it is a sacred gift from You. Whether we find refreshment in the quiet of our own backyards, the laughter of family gatherings, the beauty of Your creation, or the peaceful stillness of a Sabbath morning, may our hearts be deeply renewed.

We pray for our First Lutheran church family. Protect those who travel, refresh those who are weary, and draw us all closer to You. May this summer be a season where we breathe deeply of Your grace, find peace in Your presence, and return to our daily tasks with joy and restored strength.

In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen."

CONDOLENCE to the family of Rebecca Loveless

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE MONTH

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Troy Barker | Sally Hays | Paula Lewis | Elsie Shepherd |
| Greg Beeching | Sandy Hild | Earl Lynch, Sr. | Joe Sparks |
| Stacey Dahn | Charles Hill | Joanne Martin | Myrna Spath |
| Ruth Bolles | Louise Hunter | Judy Ream | Bob Stover |
| Meg Dean | Phil Jennings | Tom Roberts | Andy Thompson |
| Jim Fellows | Mary Knapp | Emerson Saltzgaber | Gloria Turner |
| Dorothy Foreman | Marvin Lash | David Scull | Diane Vencil |
| Terry Foreman | Cohen Lewis | August Schreiber | Todd Wilson |
| John Hancock | | | |

VISITATION LIST

CRESTWOOD CARE CENTER-225 W Main St, Shelby 44875

- [John Hancock, \(Rm 11\)](#)
- [Earl Lynch Sr](#)
- [Sue Egner](#)

DAYSRING ASSISTED LIVING-3220 Olivesburg Rd, Mansfield 44903

- [Candy Potts](#)

ONTARIO ESTATES-2010 Walker Lake Rd, Ontario 44906

- [Patricia Baird \(Rm 217\)](#)
- [Joann Rigg \(Rm 331\)](#)
- [LouEllen Sampsel \(Rm 214\)](#)
- [Joe Sparks \(Rm 319\)](#)
- [Joann Martin \(Rm 221\)](#)

PRIMROSE – 1301 Millsboro Road, Mansfield 44905

- [DiAnna White \(Rm 221\)](#)

THE COURT OF EDEN VISTA – 289 East Saint Joseph Street, Apt 51, Green Bay WI 54301

- [Miriam Lambert](#)

The Waterford – 1296 S Trimble Rd, Mansfield OH 44906

- [Denise Donnan \(Rm 147\)](#)

Bob Adams, 39 Mickey Rd, Shelby	419-347-8868
Marge Baird, 29 Riverview Dr, Shelby	419-347-2293
Jane Beeching, 47 Marvin Ave, Shelby	419-347-5255
Dorothy Foreman, 551 Bendle Ave, Shelby	419-612-1696
Patricia Knapp, 25 Riverview, Shelby	419-564-5227
August Schreiber, 3391 St Rt 96E, Shelby	419-989-1322
Jeanne Sisinger, 634 McBride Rd, Mansfield 44905	419-589-0170
Shirley Stine, 18 W Maxwell, Shelby	419-631-9761
Gloria Turner, 20 Riverview Dr, Shelby	419-564-7671

FLC WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS – MAY 2026

GREETERS	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTERS
June 7 – Mary Hooks	June 7 – Open	June 7 – Pam Copper
June 14 - Linda Bloomfield	June 14 – Jena Cianflone	June 14 - Nancy Crum
June 21 - Bobbie Clevenger	June 21 – Paysen Sensmeier	June 21 - Kristie Yoak
June 28 – Sue Schiffer	June 28 - Abby Yoak	June 28 – Shriley Huskey
LECTORS	RECEIPTS	ALTAR FLOWERS
June 7 – Rebekah Case	June 7 – Bill Parr	June 7 – Sue Schiffer
June 14 – Scott Harvey	June 14 - Carol McLaughlin	June 14 – Cathy Dodge
June 21- Renee Nastasi	June 21 - Kelly Crum	June 21 – Pam Copper
June 28 - Shirley Huskey	June 28 – Cassie Gates	June 28 – Susie Clark
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS		ALTAR GUILD
June 7 - Pam Copper, Mary Hooks, Sue Schiffer		JUNE
June 14 – Nancy Crum, Lucas & Jenna Cianflone		Connie Brinson
June 21 – Kristie Yoak, and family		Teresa Baird
June 28 – Shriley Huskey, Deb Shick, Linda Bloomfield		



June 2nd – Mark Harvey
 June 7th – Bobbie Clevenger
 June 14th – Cecelia James
 June 15th – Abigail Yoak
 June 16th – Katherine Curren
 June 20th – Charlotte Butler
 June 14th – Fred Lee
 June 25 – Melissa Sensmeier
 June 26th – Lynnette Roth
 June 27th – Susie Clark
 June 28th – Kelly Crum
 June 28th – Patricia Schreiber



June 2 – William & Suzanne Parr
 June 4 – Richard & Judy Messner
 June 9 – Robert & Carolyn Nichols
 June 10 – Charles & Jenny Lemaster III
 June 12 – Dana & Jenifer Pennell
 June 16 – Mark & Karen Harvey
 June 18 – Andrew & Stephanie Newton
 June 21 – Martin & Debra Hull
 June 21 – John & Karen Reith

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
 HEATHER MURRAY, DIRECTOR
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:
WEZJIM@NEO.RR.COM,
 419-295-3019
 CHURCH OFFICE 419-347-7675
 Website: FLCshelby.org
 Facebook: [First Lutheran Shelby](#)
 YouTube: [Pastor Rus Yoak](#)



The Stewardship Committee would like to thank all the flower bed workers for doing such a great job in making our gardens look beautiful!!

Thank you to Roger and Teresa Baird, John & Nancy Medley, Sue Vogel, Carol McLaughlin, Tonya Garofalo, Nancy McGraw, Judy Messner, and the Crum's...Dan, Debbie and Brian.

A special thank you to Boy Scout Troop 406 for helping with the flower garden at the Administration Building.

JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Church Office Open 9-Noon	2 Church Office Open 9-Noon Property Committee 7pm	3 Church Office Open 9-Noon Food Pantry 9-11:30am	4 Church Office Open 9-Noon	5 Church Office CLOSED	6
7 Table Talk 8:45am Worship - 10:00am	8 Church Office Open 9-noon ABC Committee 10:00am ABC Finance 2:00pm	9 Church Office Open 9-Noon Church Finance 11am Church Council 7pm Outreach Committee - after Council	10 Church Office Open 9-Noon Food Pantry 9-11:30am SEWING MINISTRY at 9:00am	11 Church Office Open 9-Noon Bible Study 4:00pm	12 Church Office CLOSED	13
14 Table Talk 8:45am Worship - 10:00am	15 Church Office Open 9-Noon MEET ME ON MONDAY - O'Charle's Ontario	16 Church Office Open 9-Noon MOBILE FOOD PANTRY 10AM	17 Church Office Open 9-Noon Food Pantry 9-11:30am	18 Church Office Open 9-Noon Bible Study 4:00pm	19 Church Office CLOSED	20 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 8:00 - 10:00am
21 Table Talk <u>8:45am</u> Worship - <u>10:00am</u>	22 Church Office Open 9-Noon	23 Church Office Open 9-Noon COMMUNITY MEAL 4:30 - 6:00pm	24 Church Office Open 9-Noon Food Pantry 9-11:30am	25 Church Office Open 9-Noon Bible Study 4:00pm	26 Church Office CLOSED	27
28 Table Talk <u>8:45am</u> Worship - <u>10:00am</u>	29 Church Office Open 9 - noon	30 Church Office Open 9-Noon				



General Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Event: _____

Date of Event (if repeating, when and how often): _____

Event Times Start: _____ End: _____

Setup: _____ Teardown/Clean Up: _____

****All cleanup is the responsibility of the event planner****

Requested Location: Classroom _____ Sanctuary _____ Room 6 _____ Fellowship (Social) Hall _____
Parlor _____ Parking Lot _____ Little Chapel _____ Office Conference Room _____ Other _____

Description of activity (i.e. youth retreat, prayer service, wedding, workshop, luncheon, special music, etc.)

Expected attendance _____

Check all the resources you will be using:

_____ Sound (audio/visual?) _____ Kitchen Access _____ Tables & Chairs

Other _____

Round Tables: Amount _____

Rectangular Tables: Amount _____

Other (please describe) _____

Approval (staff signature): _____

Date: _____

Event Requests must be received at least 30 days in advance of the event to be considered for approval. We will review and respond to your request within one week of receipt of request. You may submit your request by giving it to the Secretary or putting it in the office mail box or by emailing it to firstlutheranshelby@gmail.com