



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

300 MELMORE STREET

TIFFIN, OHIO

FEBRUARY 2021 SCROLL

"God is among us!"

"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile, and trust God for all that we need."

WORDS FROM PASTOR BAILEY

As I sit and write my article for the February Scroll, I do so while watching all the events for the presidential inauguration. In flipping from channel to channel, the news seems consistent as they echo words of challenge, hope, darkness, promise, uncertainty, and the unprecedented nature of these days. While this is 2021, and the world and our country has faced plenty of uncertainty, the words that are echoed by the news aren't any different than what we hear every four years as we go through the ritual and rites of the presidential inauguration.

Regardless of who is elected, or who recites the oath of office, they take on the challenges of the world. With every challenge, new ideas are brought to life, and those ideas bring hope of a brighter future. Granted the challenges we have faced might be quite different than previous years as we continue to battle Covid-19, we've witnessed an assault on our democracy, the distribution of vaccines seems slow and muddled, and the lack of respect for those of color or those who live in poverty seems to be growing. Indeed these are darker times, and no one president or any one person is going to carry us through the darkness into the brightness of tomorrow. That is except for Christ.

I can't tell you the number of times

in the past month and year that I have prayed "Christ come quickly!" Soon, I pray that will happen. At least I live in that hope, as we all should. Interestingly enough, as our country and the world is on this journey of waiting for hope, we as a church are about to partake on a similar journey, as we venture into the Season of Lent.

Yes, Lent comes early this year. Perhaps it is fitting that we will soon be thrust into the darkness of the shadow of the cross. Soon, we will hear the words as ashes are smeared across our forehead, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Soon, we will contemplate the brokenness of our own sinful self. In this season things may seem bleak. There may be a sense of hopelessness. We may feel lost and alone. The shadow of fear and darkness may seem to overwhelm us.

Yet, as we walk this journey we do not do so alone. For Christ walks with us.

As dark as Lent may seem, as dark as these days within the world may seem, there is still hope as hope can always be found in Christ. Therein lies our joy!

For even as the darkness of Lent soon will settle in around us, the joy

(Continued on page 2)

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Sunday Worship:
10:00 a.m.

Join us for worship:
**Broadcast live on 93.3 FM
or 1600 AM and livestream
on Facebook
firstlutherantiffin**

**In-person worship will not
take place if Seneca Co. is
red or purple status, per
Thursday updates.**

Drive-Thru Communion:
February 7th 11:30-12:30

Drive Thru Pancake
Dinner
February 16th 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday:
February 17th 7:00 p.m.

Council Meeting:
Zoom Mtg
February 18th at 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation:
February 14th
and February 28th at 11:00
(Unless Seneca Co is red or
purple)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Continued from page 1)

of Easter is quick to come. Here, at the open tomb, the shadow of death is forever dismayed. Here, as the angels proclaim "he is not here," the light of life shines on forever. Here, as the women run off in joy to share the good news, we are empowered to share the good news as well. For in Christ there is always hope.

It is my prayer, even as we venture through the valleys and the shadows that the world is experiencing that we might always remember that there is joy to be found. It is my prayer that we might remember that one person does have the power to change everything. In fact that person already has changed everything, and his name is Jesus! May you find strength and joy in these and every day of your life.

God's Blessings!

Pastor Bailey

RECAP OF *THE THREE CAMELS* ON EPIPHANY



Above: The masked cast of Haley, John, Gracie, Garrett and Michael.

Below: The unmasked cast with smiles!

Our Epiphany Sunday worship service was turned on it's head when the Nave was invaded by a trio of camels, telling the story of the Magi from their point of view.

Many thanks to Jamie Chester for capturing these photos of our youth, helping bring this story to life in an unusual way. The skit was narrated by Pastor Bailey and enacted by Carmella the Camel, **Gracie Chester**, Calhoun the Camel, **Garrett Chester**, Clement the Camel, **John Bailey** and supported by King Herod, **Michael Ross** and Angel, **Haley Welter**.



BEHIND THE SCENES OF FACEBOOK LIVE ON EPIPHANY



Left:
 It takes a team to make the magic happen on Sunday mornings! Mr. King is in place and Char Pope is waiting for her turn to add her keyboard skills to the music. The camel riders are doing a final check on inflators and mic packs.

Below:
 Wendy Bailey is operating the camera feed for the Facebook Live portion of the service, as she does every Sunday. Thank you, Wendy, from those of us who like to watch the service!



Our Cantor, Victor Welsch, is in place as Herod waits his turn to speak.

Below: A big THANK YOU to Andrew Bailey for stepping into his brother's shoes and operating the slide show portion of Sunday worship on Epiphany Sunday!



Are our Kings adoring the Christ Child or trying to navigate holding a script AND a presentation gift, AND operating a mic pack AND costume inflator?

ANNOUNCEMENTS / BIRTHDAYS

West Ohio Food Bank

February 25th will be the next opportunity to lend a hand as we help feed Seneca County. Distribution begins at 1:00. Volunteers are welcome anytime after noon. If you are in need of assistance, know that the line starts forming around 10 a.m. Feel free to come early, as supplies are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Many thanks to our faithful volunteers!



Follow Ohio Color Code Levels when they are announced Thursday afternoons

Please be aware that if Seneca County is listed as Red or Purple, ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND GATHERINGS within the building will be suspended until we have returned to a Yellow or Orange status.

The **pocket sized The Word in Season** have arrived! It only took until the weekend of January 9-10, but they are here.

The booklets can be found on the altar in the Slider door hallway and on the tables near the Narthex.

Pastor Bailey will be out of the office February 8 through February 12 for some rest and vacation. If you should need pastoral assistance or care during that time, please contact the church office.

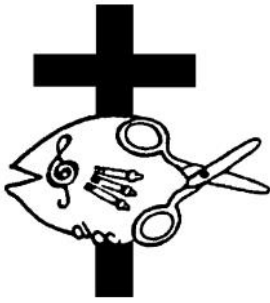


FEBRUARY



- 1 Garrett Vaughn
- 4 Connie English
Kiersten Garlock
Kennedy Garlock
- 5 Nancy Betz
Alec Demith
Pat Rathburn
- 8 Larry Frankenfeld
Jeff Shawberry
- 9 Jeanette Conley
Ron Hall
Anna Wildman
- 11 Dan Kontak
Boomer Roszman
- 14 Lori Vallery
Angie Vaughn
- 18 Becky Leopold
Kayson Matter
- 19 Mike Griffin
Kasisi Kelly
Jim Ruess
- 20 Linda Ellinger
Debra Hohman
Connie Spitler
Alice Zoll
- 23 Judy Ryman
- 25 Curtis L. King
Becky Bennett
Hunter Stark
- 26 Lori Adkins
Tyler Phares
- 28 Chloe Orians

GREETINGS FROM CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES!



Greetings from Childhood Ministries!!

Greetings from Childhood Ministries! We have returned from Christmas break and are ready to get back into some sort of routine! The children have a great deal of energy and were ready to get back to school and see their friends. We are very happy that we currently have no one quarantined!

Our Pre Three classes have been learning about "Snow/Winter Fun", "Penquins", "Bears" and "Dinosaurs". They have focused on the color blue, the rectangle and the letter "S". They are looking forward to Valentine Parties and Pajama Day in February.

Our Pre Four/Five classes welcomed Ms. Mindy back after knee surgery. They have been focusing on "Q" (Quilts), "S" (Snowmen), "J" (Jack and the Beanstalk) and "D" (Dinosaurs). The classes have been enjoying videos from Ms. Angie from Tiffin Seneca Public Library, as we are not allowing visitors due to Covid. The classes have enjoyed playing musical instruments and have been reviewing basic preschool skills. They are also looking forward to Valentine's Day parties and Pajama Day. Both teachers are working on evaluations and getting ready for Parent-Teacher conferences.

Our Extended Care children have been busy with various winter activities, playing with toys, drawing, playing with playdough (each child has their own container, due to Covid) and going to the gym (Fellowship Hall).

We look ahead to warmer weather and less Covid. Ms. Barb is still off of work due to her knee surgery, and we look forward to having her back with us. We continue to clean, disinfect, take temperatures and hope there is an end to some of this soon.

Thanks to all of you who support our programs in any way. We are still in need of scrap paper, as the children love to draw. If you have any to donate, please let us know.

Sincerely,
Jane Frederick,
Director of Childhood Ministries

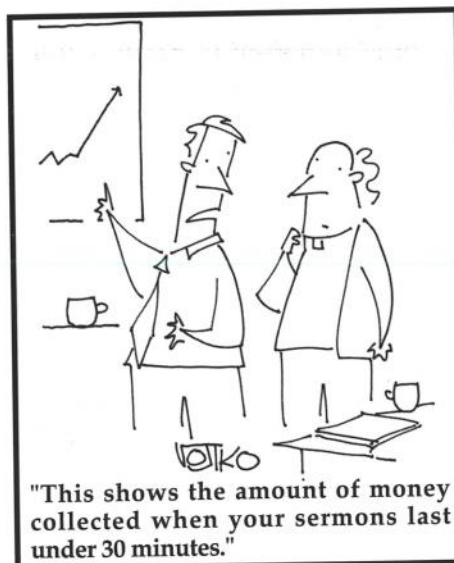


Holy Humor



Back when a women would never wear slacks to church , on Fat Tuesday evening, a woman called her parish priest at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Baton Rouge, LA and said: "Father, my sister came in for Mardi Gras, and she forgot her skirt. Can she get her ashes in her pants?"

"No," replied the priest, "She has to get them on her head like everyone else."



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WORSHIP INFORMATION

Sunday	Sunday	Wednesday	Sunday	Sunday
February 7	February 14	February 17	February 21	February 28
5th Sunday after Epiphany	Transfiguration of Our Lord	Ash Wednesday	First Sunday in Lent	Second Sunday in Lent
<i>Lector: Beth Margraf</i>	<i>Lector: Shelley Ross</i>	<i>Lector: Melissa Chester</i>	<i>Lector: John Kobelt</i>	<i>Lector: Chet Margraf</i>
<i>Hosts: Nominee Family</i>	<i>Hosts: Janet & Joe Zirger</i>	<i>Hosts: Beth & Jack Myers</i>	<i>Hosts: Deb Hohman</i>	<i>Hosts: Beth & Jack Myers</i>

OTHER NEWS



COMMUNION

February 7th will be the next drive-thru style communion, from 11:30-12:30, following worship.

Drive through the parking lot and down the south side driveway.

Under the portico, you will receive the sacrament, without leaving your car!
Exit via Melmore Street.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

FEBRUARY SNOW CREW

January 30-Feb 5 Bob Fruth
 February 6-12 Shawn Vallery
 February 13-19 John Kobelt
 February 20-26 Jim Ruess
 February 27-March 5 John Kobelt

COUNCIL NEWS

God is among us!

We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile, and trust God for all that we need.

December 17, 2020

This meeting was held by Zoom due to Covid-19.

Present: Pastor Bailey, Rick Greene, Jane Fruth, Anna Wildman, Janet Zirger, Bonnie Oberlander, Deb Nominee and Linda Ellinger. Absent: Kelly Reis-Kelly and Amy Mills, Kelly Cook

Rick called the meeting to order and declared a quorum.

Secretary's Report: Deb motioned, Jane seconded a motion to approve the secretary's report and the motion passed.

Financial Report: Jane reported that the preschool has had a rough year. Their Budget will come out in coming weeks. Responses to Giving Tuesday have been good.

Old Business:

Spectrum Update: Spectrum needs to run a cable under the driveway – this is to be completed by December 23rd.

Pre-School Phase I Project: Rick spoke with Jeff Homan – the main door has arrived, and the installation should be soon.

Annual Meeting: Since the county is now at red, following council discussion, Linda moved to delay the meeting to January 31st, giving both Jane and Ruth more time to complete and assemble reports.

Pastor seconded and the motion passed.

Nominating Committee: Pastor reached out to Jamie Chester, head of the nominating committee but he had not responded by the meeting time.

West Ohio Food Bank was held today – approximately 300 people came. Students from Hopewell-Louden and Calvert assisted.

Quote for the roof: J.B. Roofing has provided a quote of \$3239.00 to repair the flat surface of the roof. This also includes repairing the slate on several areas of the main roof. Janet moved to accept the quote from JB Roofing, seconded by Deb. The motion passed. Pastor will contact them so they can proceed with the repairs.

New Business: none

Committee Reports:

Childhood Ministries: Bonnie reported that the board met this past month. Registrations remain the same. They are discussing what to do if the county turns purple and the school needs to become virtual. Two of the teachers will be out with knee replacements.

Worship and Music: Plans for Christmas Eve services remain the same and all are hoping that the county does not turn purple on the 24th.

FINANCIAL REPORT

MONTH ENDING
DECEMBER 2020

	Month	YTD
<u>Income</u>		
Parish	\$37,298	\$198,366
C.M.	\$ 7,073	\$107,510
	\$44,371	\$305,876
<u>Expenses</u>		
Parish	\$23,005	\$210,991
C.M.	\$8,716	\$94,861
	\$31,721	\$305,852
Total Income		
Less Expenses:	12,650	24

**Transfer from Investments
to cover expenses \$0**

We appreciate your gifts. The QR code will take you to our online giving page.



Next Meeting: Next executive council meeting will be on Jan 18th, with full council meeting on Jan 21st. Pastor will call a special meeting once Jane Fruth has prepared the budget so that Council can approve it prior to the congregational Meeting.

Rick asked for a motion to adjourn. Jane moved, Anna seconded, and the motion passed. Pastor ended the meeting with a prayer.

Respectively Submitted,

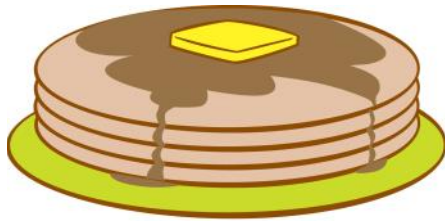
Linda Ellinger
Janet Zirger
Co-Council Secretary

YOUTH / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Confirmation Youth are reminded of their classes for February which are to take place following worship on February 14 and February 28. We will meet for class as long as Seneca County is not labeled as Red or Purple.

Pastor Bailey will be out of the office February 8 through February 12 for some rest and vacation. If you should need pastoral assistance or care during that time, please contact the church office.

Mobile Communion is on for February 7. You and your family are invited to the Table of the Lord as communion is served under the South Portico from 11:30 to 12:30 following worship on the First Sunday of the month. Please note that should Seneca County be elevated to Purple, we will not have Mobile Communion.



DRIVE- THRU PANCAKE DINNER

The Youth of the Congregation invite you to share in their Annual Pancake Dinner on Tuesday February 16. We will serve dinner by offering curbside pick up from 5 to 6:30. Your meal will include pancakes, sausage, butter, and syrup. There is no need to pre-order. Just come, pick up a meal, and support our youth as they continue to set their sights on the National Youth Gathering and other ventures of service to the world. Donations accepted



"Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The journey of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 16 at 7 p.m. We invite you to gather in person for worship on this solemn day. Ashes and communion will be distributed in the pews to avoid any crowds gathering by the Altar. Those in attendance are asked to wear a mask, and to remain socially distant while gathering for worship.

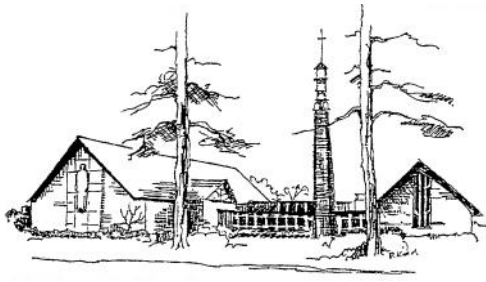


Beginning Wednesday, February 24, and throughout the Season of Lent, you and your family are invited to join Pastor Bailey in the chapel for a time of prayer and individual communion. The chapel will be open from 2 – 4 and from 5:30 – 7:30. No appointments are necessary

February



	1 Office Closed	2	3 6:30p Worship & Music	4	5 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	6
7 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person* Mobile Communion * if orange or yellow	8 Office Closed	9	10	11	12 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	13
PASTOR BAILY OUT OF THE OFFICE FOR SOME R&R						
14 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person* 11—Confirmation * if orange or yellow	15	16 SCROLL INFO DUE TODAY Pancake Dinner 5-6:30 p	17 Ash Wednesday 7p	18 7:30 Church Council	19 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	20
21 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person* * if orange or yellow	22 Office Closed	23	24 Open chapel 2-4 p and 6:30-8:30 p	25 West Ohio Food Bank Distribution 1-3p	26 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	27
28 10:00a Worship via Live stream, radio or in-person* 11—Confirmation * if orange or yellow						



First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St.
Tiffin, OH 44883
February 2021
Vol. 38, No.2

First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883-3535 Tel: 419-447-1323

Office Hours: Tuesday — Thursday 9 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Website: firstlutherantiffin.com E-mail: 1lutheran@sbcglobal.net

Sunday morning worship is broadcast on WTTF, 1600 AM, 93.3 FM at 10:00 AM

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstlutherantiffin

CHURCH COUNCIL & MINISTRY TEAMS

PRESIDENT	Rick Greene	WORSHIP & MUSIC	Anna Wildman
VICE PRESIDENT	Kelly Reis-Kelly	PARISH ED	Amy Mills
SECRETARY	Janet Zirger	EVANGELISM	(vacant)
TREASURER	Jane Fruth	PROPERTY	Kelly Cook
CHILDHOOD MINISTRY	Bonnie Oberlander	STEWARDSHIP	(vacant)
SOCIAL MINISTRY	Deb Nominee		

FIRST LUTHERAN STAFF

Clayton J. Bailey	<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Tel. 567.938.6077</i>
Ruth Scott	<i>Secretary</i>	
Curtis L. King	<i>Director of Music</i>	
Michael Porter	<i>Janitor</i>	

CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES

Jane Frederick, *Director*
Tel: 419.447.1145