

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



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

## **June Reflection**

### **for Mid-June 2025**

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

On Sunday night, after tornado warnings and heavy rain, I received a text from one of our council members reporting that the church was DRY, DRY, DRY! If our church hadn't moved forward to have the pointing replaced and the roof shingled, I know that text wouldn't have been sent to me, and we would have had more damage.

Did anyone notice how warm the church was last Sunday? Well, our two AC units gave up the ghost and needed to be replaced. The council has approved this is to ensure that the organ and piano do not experience extreme temperatures in the sanctuary which can affect these expensive instruments.

Our president reminded us that we are called to follow what the Bible requires of us and that is to tithe. This is found in both the Old and New Testament of God's Holy Word.

Recently, I was sent a text by our treasurer that said "64% of Americans worry more about running out of money than death." (Allianz Center for the Future of Retirement, 20205 Annual Retirement Study). Money in the pocket is more important than eternal life? Shocking!

I am aware of the necessity of putting food on the table and paying the bills. However, as a believer, and as a follower of Jesus I need to tithe my 10% in my free will offering, even when money is tight, to God and to His holy church! It means we are to cut down, or cut out, earthly wants and desires that take time, talents and tithes away from God!

I am reminded of one of my mentors Brother Dick Weitzel who lived his life by the Bible verse Proverbs 3:5-6. Dick was A WW2 veteran who trusted in God above everything and everyone else in his life. You may also remember that the cards I had given out years ago also came from this devout Lutheran.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your path straight.”

May we all be grounded better in God and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ, rather than in all the trappings of this world that people worry about even more than death!

Your servant in Christ

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

Dear First Lutheran Church Family,



Summer is here, I think? Has it stopped raining yet? These rainy days seem to be putting a damper on fun summer activities, so I am sure that you are taking advantage of any sunny days that we may have, and I don't blame you. As much fun as you will have enjoying the sunny days, our church still needs to pay monthly expenses. We had a very light turnout last month and the beginning of June. I am writing this mid-month newsletter to remind you that your monthly donations are very important to keeping the church running.

We have just completed a very expensive roof project to keep our sanctuary dry. We had two choices: First, we could ignore the water that was getting into our church and the damage it was causing and fix it 'later', which would cost more. If we waited, that damage could possibly be too much to repair and we would no longer have our beautiful church for worship. Second, we take out the loan needed for current roof repairs so that we have a dry sanctuary. However, option two increases our monthly expenses. If we are unable to meet our monthly expenses, I do not know where we can cut corners.

Caitlyn and her committee are working very hard to make our Corny 5k a success, and I pray that we are able to get a generous amount from this fundraiser to help make ends meet.

We were able to pay off the loan for the Sunday School roof in a very short time due to your generous support. This loan is approximately twice the amount of the Sunday School roof. Please send in your monthly donations to help us meet our expenses.

Blessings,

Jennifer Black FLC President

First Lutheran Church Members,

The Corny 5K & 1 Mile Run/Walk Fundraiser is fast approaching! There are multiple ways you can help!

**The first way is to sign up to participate to run or walk:**

The Corny 5K & 1 Mile Run/Walk will be on August 16,2025 on the Claysville National Pike Trail. All proceeds will go to First Lutheran Church to help restore our 99-year-old building.

All participants who register by August 1st are guaranteed to receive a commemorative race T-Shirt and Swag bag! Participants who register after August 1st will receive a shirt if still available so be sure to register early.

Date: August 16,2025 5K Race Time: 8:00am (\$30) 1 Mile Run/Walk Time: 8:10am (\$25)

Online Registration is available at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Claysville/CornyK>



## The second way you can help is to sign up to volunteer.

Volunteers are needed for the following:

DATE/TIME	TITLE	JOB DESCRIPTION
THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025 5:00-7:00PM	PACKET PICKUP	@ FIRST LUTHERAN DISTRIBUTE RACE DAY PACKETS TO PARTICIPANTS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025 6:30-8:00 AM	RACE DAY SET UP	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL HELP SET UP
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025 6:45-11:45 AM	RACE DAY PARKING	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL HELP CARL GROUP WITH PARKING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025 7:30-10:30 AM	RACE DAY WATER STATIONS	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL PASS OUT WATER TO RACE PARTICIPANTS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025 6:45-9:45 AN	RACE DAY PACKET PICKUP	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL DISTRIBUTE RACE DAY PACKETS TO PARTICIPANTS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025 7:30-11:30 AM	RACE DAY ON COURSE PHOTOGRAPHER	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL TAKE PICTURES OF PARTICIPANTS BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER RACE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025 10:45 AM -12:45	RACE DAY TEAR DOWN	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL HELP TEAR DOWN AND CLEAN TRAIL

To volunteer, please sign up using this link: <https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/PA/Claysville/CornyK>

Or contact Caitlyn Group @ [caitlynmgroup@gmail.com](mailto:caitlynmgroup@gmail.com) or 724.986.5994

**Another way to help is to be a sponsor or get a business to be a sponsor.**

A big thank you to everyone for being so receptive to this new idea!

If you have any questions feel free to talk to any of the Corny 5K committee members:

Caitlyn Group Vickie Group Cara Group Judy Sarver Joe Sarver

Greetings to the congregation.

As the weather heats up, our choirs will be cooling down for the season. I'm very happy to say that both performed excellently this year! We covered a wide range of pieces, some easy and some difficult, but everyone took it in stride and gave their full commitment to it all. I'm always reminded of the dedication and good nature of these groups.



That being said, we need to be looking ahead for the next projects to take on ! Especially with our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church approaching. It's go big or go home for this celebration, and we can make it a point to incorporate more unique musical elements, instrumental features, and collaborations. Praise through music is a truly special way we can glorify God.

But we can't do any of it without your help! Both bells and choir need you, musically experienced or not. It'll take the hard work of all of us to make next season's catalogue more impactful. If you're interested in joining please let me know!

I'm always taking requests for hymns, choir pieces, and bell arrangements. I'm happy to include as much as I can in our musical selections!

Please consider donating. It helps the church, which helps the music department too! A big thank you to all who have donated, and to all who have shared in the music of our congregation.

I can't wait to see what next season brings us!

Your music director,

Matt



## **CORRECTION ON DATES**

I had the wrong dates listed in **MAY'S NEWSLETTER**. The correct dates are as follows:

**Yard Sale: July 12th Saturday 8 AM – 3 PM**

**CHURCH PICNIC: AUGUST 10TH SUNDAY** Same place and time as previous years.

Sorry for any confusion. Drop-off times for sale items remain as listed in June's Newsletter:

Tuesday 7/8: 10 AM – 2 PM

Wednesday 7/9: 2 PM – 5 PM

Friday 7/11: 4 PM – 6 PM

Locate the sign-up sheet for the picnic. It will be posted on the bulletin board outside of the lounge. I'll have it by the first Sunday of July. This will give people ample time to think about what side dish to bring.

Thank you for your continued support. Kim Luketich

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Cell: 724-678-5766