

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



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ICH-THUS
Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior

Pastoral Perspectives for June 2026

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

In 1998 Tom Brokaw wrote a book called ***The Greatest Generation***. These are the people born between 1901- 1927. Why do they receive such a gracious label? Well, when I researched it; the answer is that this generation was known for their ***“endurance through hardship and perseverance, their service and sacrifice, their community and unity and their post war contributions.”***

I believe the most important attribute of the greatest generation was their faith and trust in God! This month we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of First Lutheran Church at our current site on June 21st, 2026. I am humbled by what our researchers discovered about the Lutherans of our church and how they lived out the 1st Commandment faithfully!

Moving from an older wooded church to years of worship at the courthouse while the church was under construction of Ohio brown stone in which we currently worship was a labour of love and sacrifice from the greatest generation. Kitty Fisher, wife of the late Rev. Dr. Roger Fischer, informed me that many of the families of First Lutheran had chosen to take out a second mortgage on their homes to fund the building of their new church!

When Martin Luther created the Small Catechism and answered the question of his children of *“what is this?”* or *“what does this mean?”* for the 1st Commandment which is ***“You shall have no other gods”*** Luther understood this as, ***“We are to fear, love and trust God above all things”*** I believe no generation at First Lutheran Church did this more than those who persevered, sacrificed, served, created a community and lived in unity for the good of God’s holy church! This church was under construction for two years from 1924-26 and these faithful people never lost their trust in God. We can all learn from their faithfulness and steadfast hope in the 1920s!

The cornerstone at the front of our church building has the dates 1798-1925; this acknowledges the first German Lutherans and Dutch Presbyterians who gathered for spiritual advice and comfort at the home of Jacob Weuler back in 1782. However, documents show that a Lutheran pastor would be available for those who arrived here as early as 1781 in Bassettown from York and Cumberland.

On the side of the church cornerstone, is a verse from Psalm 127:1 which reads, ***“Unless the Lord build the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stays awake in vain.”*** This clearly illustrates their fear, love and trust in God and in no others!

In the 160th anniversary of First Lutheran Church 1798-1958 the quote chosen on page 1 is, ***“The Whole World Has Nothing Better, Nothing More Precious, Nothing Finer, Than The Dear Church in Which we Hear God’s Word and Where He is Honored with Real Worship.”*** – Luther.

We invite you to celebrate the 100th anniversary of First Lutheran Church and honour the saints who have gone before us that laid down a foundation of having steadfast faith and trust in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

Anniversary blessings to First Lutheran Church on Sunday June 21st and may the church continue to stand strong in faith in God’s Holy Word for another 100 years in Christ Jesus.

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

Dear First Lutheran Church Family,

This June we will be celebrating our Church Building 100th Anniversary!! Don't forget to RSVP by June 14. This is an incredible milestone for us. Who would have thought we would be celebrating 100 years?



Our 100th Anniversary committee has been working hard looking into our church history and planning a fantastic celebration. I hear they have found a lot of information about First Lutheran. We also have a few members who are working to get the church to look better for our celebration. Unfortunately, there is so much to do that they will only be able to get a small part of it done. If you can help, please contact Chris Maust or Pastor Grewe for when to come in and help. Not only do we need the inside looking its best, but the outside also. If you can help with yardwork, please see Larry, Olivia or the Groups to let them know.



Wouldn't it be great for First Lutheran to be able to celebrate a 200th Building Anniversary? Do you know the history of our crypt? Have you seen the organ pipes? Do you know about our wonderful old stained-glass windows? Ask Pastor Grewe for a tour of the church and learn what makes us special and what you can do to help maintain this unique and beautiful building for future generations. We may not be around to see it, but wouldn't it be nice to keep the building in good shape so the future congregation

can celebrate 200 years? I know this is possible, but we need your help now to ensure that First Lutheran will have a 200-year celebration. Help with painting and fixing is desperately needed and also your continued donations. Our monthly donation amount for 2026 is less this year at this time than 2025. We need your donations for our regular monthly bills, which include payment on our loan, and for supplies for maintenance.

Blessings,

Jennifer Black, FLC Council President



TREASURER'S REPORT— JUNE 2026

Greeting to the Congregation,

As we approach the 100 year anniversary of our church building, many of us may be wondering, aloud or privately, will our building and our church be here in another 100 years?

As the treasurer and council member, one of my duties is to crunch the numbers periodically to make sure we as a congregation are on stable financial footing/ground. Unfortunately, the news is not very encouraging. Currently, as our attendance shows some improvement, our financial well being does not reflect that improvement. We are running behind last years giving in most categories during the first 4 months of 2026.

Due to our declining income, the challenges to operate the church on a daily basis and improve and repair the much needed work become a heavy burden on the members who continually give their time and talents to find solutions.

This is where we need all hands on deck, whatever talents you may possess, they are in need. If you can read, you are needed, if you can sing you are needed, if you can change a light bulb, you are needed, if you are good at fundraising, you are needed, if you are good at socializing, you are needed, if you are good at grass cutting, you are needed, if you are good with computers, you are needed. As you can see, there are many needs.

How do you get started? That's the easy part, ask anyone on council and we can guide you. Please realize, if you usher one time a year, that helps, if you cut the grass one time a year that helps, if you're able to bring in one new member that helps, if you're able to give \$1 more that helps. Remember, no donation of time, talent or money is too small.

We are a church family and it is a true joy to give back to what others built for us 100 years ago, lets all do what we can to help keep it going for future generations to worship, learn, marry, baptize and secure a Christian life.

May All Be Well

Ron

100th Anniversary Celebration
June Newsletter

ATTENTION----- THE CELEBRATION IS PLANNED!!!

In a few weeks, we will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our Church building. We started planning for this occasion two years ago. Our hope is the congregation and friends of the church, will join together for a special celebration on **Sunday, June 21, 2026**. Church service at **11:00 AM**, followed by a catered lunch.

We are going to try to recreate the original church service from June 20, 1926, to rededicate our beautiful 100 year old church. Registration for the luncheon must be made by Sunday, June 14, 2026.

\$25 Adults

\$10 Children 6-12

No Charge 5-1

Checks to First Lutheran Church

Reservations: Mail checks to church, place in offering plate, or contact one of the following people

Linda Coleman, Heather Quedenfeld, Michele Williams, Judy Sarver, or Sonie Rea

Come to the coffee hour on Sunday, June 7th and check out the memorabilia in the church social room.

Let us come together as a church family and celebrate our unique and beautiful House of Worship with praise and thanksgiving.

King Solomon dedicated the temple he built for our Lord with a sacrifice of 22,000 head of cattle and 120,000 sheep. Our rededication is going to be in a smaller scale.

WNALC June Newsletter

Thank you everyone who attended our Mother/Daughter Banquet at the Delfini Room. Once again Danny provided a delicious dinner in a beautiful setting.

It takes a committee to accomplish all of this. Thank you Kris Briggs for our beautiful tickets, Joanne Marker, Ruby Rogers, Michelle Williams for selling tickets, Debbie Hoffer for games and prizes, and Linda Coleman for all she does.

June 14th the Strawberry Festival will be held in the downstairs Social Room after church. There is a chair lift by the choir loft if anyone needs help with stairs.

June 21st will be our 100th Anniversary Celebration after church. Dinner will be served in the Social Room where memorabilia has been displayed for your memories.

June 25th ,at 10:00 will be our Circle meeting in the lounge. Michelle Williams will be leader and Ruby Rogers hostess. All women are invited for Bible Study and lunch.

God's blessings,

Sonie Rea

HANGING BASKET FUNDRAISER

A HUGE THANK YOU for all of your support for the Hanging Basket Fundraiser.
We made a profit of \$949.00 for the Church Restoration Fund.

Please watch for the upcoming Mum Fundraiser.

Many thanks,
Caitlyn and Vickie Group

Nursery Makeover and Toy Drive

Starting in June, the nursery will be getting a makeover! We will be cleaning out the old broken toys, cleaning and painting the walls!

If you have any slightly used toys (with all working parts!) you would like to donate please bring them to the church.

If you would like to purchase a new toy to donate that would be great too!

Any questions please see Caitlyn Group or Vickie Group



The Corny 5K & 1 Mile Run/Walk will be on August 15, 2026 on the Claysville National Pike Trail. All proceeds will go to First Lutheran Church to help restore our 100 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 15, 2026

5K Race Time: 8:30am (\$30)

1 Mile Run/Walk Time: 8:35am (\$25)

Online Registration is also available at:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Claysville/CornyK>

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

EVENT: ___ 5k ___ 1 mile T-Shirt Size: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number: _____

By signing below completing this form and participating in this event, I agree (or agree on behalf of my child) to all race policies. The policies may be found at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/CornyK/Page/policies>.

Send completed form and payment to: First Lutheran Church, 92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA 15301.



CORNY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

IF YOU AREN'T A RUNNER/ WALKER, YOU CAN STILL HELP!

THE CORNY 5K &1 MILE RUN/WALK COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

DATE/TIME	TITLE	JOB DESCRIPTION
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 6:30-8:30 AM	RACE DAY SET UP	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL HELP SET UP
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 6:45-11:45 AM	RACE DAY PARKING	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL HELP CARL GROUP WITH PARKING
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 7:30-11:00 AM	RACE DAY WATER STATIONS	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL PASS OUT WATER TO RACE PARTICIPANTS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 6:45-9:45 AM	RACE DAY PACKET PICKUP	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL DISTRIBUTE RACE DAY PACKETS TO PARTICIPANTS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 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 15, 2026 10:45 AM -12:45	RACE DAY TEAR DOWN	@ CLAYSVILLE NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL HELP TEAR DOWN AND CLEAN TRAIL

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP IN ANY OF THESE AREAS PLEASE COMPLETE THE BOTTOM PORTION AND RETURN TO CAITLYN GROUP. ANY QUESTION CONTACT CAITLYN @ 724.986.5994

Dear Potential Sponsor,



First Lutheran Church is excited to host our second annual 5K race and 1-mile walk, “The Corny 5K,” on Saturday, August 15, 2026, along the Claysville National Pike Trail. This family-friendly event celebrates the corn harvest season with a fun, welcoming atmosphere featuring corny jokes, themed activities, and corn-inspired treats for participants of all ages.

We are reaching out to invite you to partner with us as a sponsor for this special community event. Your support will help us build on last year’s success, where we welcomed over 100 participants and exceeded our goals thanks to the generosity of local sponsors and supporters. This year, we hope to grow even more and create an even more memorable experience.

Sponsorship opportunities include financial contributions as well as donations of promotional items (“swag”) for race packets. In return, we are happy to recognize your business through event promotions, signage, and community visibility on race day.

First Lutheran Church has proudly served the Washington community for nearly 100 years. As we approach our centennial celebration, we are working to restore and preserve our church building so it can continue to serve future generations. Your support will directly contribute to these efforts.

We would be grateful for your consideration and support. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or would like more information, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for helping us make this event—and our mission—a success.

Level Selecting	Level	What you get
	Platinum level: Above \$300.00	Gold level AND customized package!
	Gold level: \$300.00	Silver level AND -Yard sign with name on race course
	Silver level: \$150.00	Bronze level AND -Name on back of shirt
	Bronze level: \$50.00	Name on banner posted at the start/finish line Logo listed on race registration site

Name of Business/Company _____ Contact Person _____

Church Picnic – Save the Date!

Our annual church picnic will be held on **Saturday, August 9.**

It's never too early to start thinking about what food item you may want to bring, so keep that in mind as you plan ahead.

The picnic will be held at the **Community Park in South Strabane**, the **same place as previous years.**

More details will be shared as the date gets closer. We look forward to a fun day of fellowship, food, and time together!

Any questions, please see Kim Luketich.

June Lay Readers

7 Heather Quedenfeld
14 John George
21 Dennis Schmidt
28

June Altar Flowers

7 Quedenfeld
14 Kathleen Black
21 Mark Verderber
28

June Acolytes

7
14
21
28

June Ushers

7 J. Sarver; T. Stefanik
14 D. Looman; H. Snyder
21 C. Krcil; R. Williams; R. McGoogan
28 C. Ringer; D. Schmidt; Z. Mason; M. Verderber

June Counters—Alternate: Caitlyn Group

7 R. Williams and L. Coleman
14 D. Schmidt and K. Luketich
21 R. McGoogan and S. Rea
28 L. Sten and J. Black

June Altar Team

Linda Coleman

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Michael Goga
- 3 Ashley Burbank
- 6 Janet Fischer
- 7 Esther Sten
- 9 Tim Belski
- 12 Chris Gosnell
- 14 Kevin Serbak
- 15 Mark Verderber
- 16 Emily Flowers
- 18 John Rush
- 19 Larry Sten
Penny Wetzel
- 20 Nathaniel Black
- 24 Ruby Rogers
Sherman Marker
- 26 Linda Coleman
- 30 Diane Antila