

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



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Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior

Pastoral Perspectives—September 2026

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

Many of you are aware I will be presiding at the wedding of one of my relatives in Berlin, Germany. I have known her since she was born. This will be in mid September, and I will take some time to sight see as well. You are in good hands as the Sunday service of Sept. 20th has a message I have written for Ron McGoogan, our church treasurer, to give to you. Our future seminarian and, God-willing, pastor, Matthew M. will have the service and the message on Sept. 27th, and our Dean for the region, the Rev. Dr. Jim Neal, will lead the worship on October 4th with the Lord's Supper. Please join him later for the coffee hour after the service.

Our district dean Rev. Chip Frontz III will be the emergency clergy contact and I ask you to please call the office if you have such a need for his ministry. I will be covering for him in December when he is away in Sweden.

While I'm away, I hope to spend a day in Wittenberg and recharge my Lutheran batteries for the year. I will visit the tree that I planted on March 11th, 2012, when I studied there in honour of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Our classes will all be back in full swing once I return and I look forward to sharing with you all some of my experiences.

September is also the time when we remember the Islamic terrorist attacks on 9/11 and how that has forever changed our nation. The 9/11 service is being moved to Tanger Outlets due to construction at our current memorial site and this is the 25th anniversary of the attacks so if you can come pay your respects that day it would be welcomed by all the first responders.

Another sad change for me is that South Strabane FD will be seeking a new fire chief and I pray to God that He will send us one as gifted and talented as Chief Cramer has been for our community the last 4 ½ years. As vacations end and the church returns to its programs at First Lutheran, I look forward to seeing you all soon as we gather as a community in Christ Jesus.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

Dear First Lutheran Family,

Fall has already arrived and with this dreary, rainy summer, it seems like we missed summer this year. I am not ready for fall.

As we begin fall, our fall activities and classes will begin. Please see the newsletter for more information as to the times and activities. This also means our choirs will be starting practices. Won't you consider joining one of them? Not only will you learn, but you will also gain good friends and great fellowship.

Fall also means back to school. We have two lovely girls from Ethiopia that we support. Please remember to give to these girls so that they may have the supplies and things they need for this next school year.

I hope that you will consider volunteering to help our church. Any help you can give is good help, whether it is coming in one day to help paint, one day to help clean, or help out with a current or new fundraiser and it is greatly appreciated.

Ron and our Church Council are looking for ways to save money where we can so that we can continue to fix things in the church. Please remember to give regularly what you can. It all helps.

Blessings,

Jennifer Black, FLC Council President



DARTBALL

The First Lutheran Dart Ball team is looking for some more players. The new season starts September 7. This would be a great chance to come out and see if you think you would enjoy playing Dart Ball with your fellow Church members. We play every Tuesday night at 7 o'clock. Practice starts at seven and then the games start at 7:30. Anyone over 11 years old is eligible to play. I hope some would come out and try it because we need to have three or four more players to help us become a stronger team.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School starts September 6 at 9:45 am. It's in the educational wing next to the new and remodeled nursery. We would love to have some more people from our church come and join our group. The North American Lutheran Church gives us information on the first and second lesson plus the gospel. When we read those in class, we can better understand what they're trying to say, and it lets us understand more what Pastor is preaching on certain Sundays. I hope to see some new people come to our class. We have a good time and we learn a lot.

Dennis Schmidt

TREASURER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2026

Greetings to the Congregation,

As the summer flies by and fall approaches, we have a lot of encouraging financial news. Our fundraising has been spectacular to say the least. Caitlyn Group and the entire Group family have created a game changing fund raiser, which has happily involved many in the congregation, whether donating time, talent and resources, this event truly brings us together in a fun easy format. Many more have contributed to the well being of the church, the Stens, Luketich's and Maust's to name a few.

Hopefully the inspiration of all the activities encourages more of us to participate, remember no amount of talent and or treasure is too small. Ah, to the boring stuff, the bills are getting paid, giving is lifting us up a little better than the spring months. We are hopeful to have the ability to work on our next big project in the spring, more details to follow. Many hands continue to improve many area's in and around the church. A few reminders, we still have burial plots for sale as well as Christmas ornaments. We continue to address expenses that need investigated, examples are insurance, utilities and miscellaneous items which may no longer be required. In closing, we can always enjoy more members on council, many hands and minds make light work.

May All be Well

Ron

100TH ANNIVERSARY RECAP

The towels and tumblers	\$1648
Picture of church raffle	\$ 510
Catered Luncheon	\$ 158
Tour of Church (Snacks & donations)	<u>\$ 75</u>
Total	\$2391

The luncheon was not a fundraiser, but we did clear \$158 over the cost.

There were enough Christmas ornaments sold to cover the cost. We still have ornaments left for sale at \$20, any we sell will be profit for the church. See Linda Coleman if interested.

Again, I want to thank everyone who had a part in making the 100th Anniversary of the church building a memorable year and celebration.

Linda Coleman, Anniversary Chair

Church Picnic Summary

The church picnic was a wonderful day filled with beautiful weather, delicious food, and good fellowship. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to gather together, share a meal, and spend time visiting with one another in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

The gift baskets were especially nice and added excitement to the day. Thanks to everyone's support, the raffle raised \$823, with all proceeds going to the church restoration fund. It was a successful and enjoyable event, and we are grateful to all who helped make it possible.

I am also looking for someone who would be willing to take over the sale of the gift baskets in the future. This is somewhat time consuming, and the duties include setting up the baskets with bags to collect tickets and selling raffle tickets during the event.

Again, thanks to all who helped. Kim Luketich

WNALC

September 2026

Welcome to starting our Fall activities. Tuesday, September 1 at noon we will hold our Board Meeting in the lounge.

Thursday, September 24, at 10 AM, in the lounge, will be our Circle meeting. Ruby Rogers is our leader and hostess is Sonie Rea.

All women of the church are invited to the Circle which is a Bible study and lunch. Friends are welcome.

God's blessings,

Sonie Rea

Mum Sale Reminder:

Orders are due Sunday, August 30

Mums pickup is Saturday, September 19 from 9:00-11:00 at the handicap entrance.

Corny 5K & 1 mile Run/Walk



August 15, 2026

First Lutheran Church Congregation,

Thank you so much for all of the support for the 2nd Annual Corny 5K & 1 Mile Run/Walk!

Whether you were a sponsor, volunteer, participant, donator, or gave us an encouraging word, we appreciate your support in making this event such a huge success.

This year we were able to raise \$5140 for our church!

Save the date for next year's event: Saturday, August 7th!

Thanks again!
The Corny Committee

Looking for a good home for a lost puppy, this puppy was found in our neighborhood near Washington park. He is friendly and needs someone to love him. Please consider giving this abandoned pup a great home. He is living on our neighbor's porch for now.

You can contact me if interested at Judyot94@yahoo.com or on my cell phone 856-889-0783.

Thanks, Joe Sarver



September Lay Readers

6 Kimberly Grewe
13
20 Dennis Schmidt
27 Lisa Maust

September Altar Flowers

6 Quedenfeld's
13
20 Sarah Caddies
27

September Acolytes

6
13
20
27

September Ushers

6 K. Carl; C. Group; C.R. Group; D. Lacko
13 J. Sarver; T. Stefanik
20 D. Looman; H. Snyder
27 C. Krcil; R. Williams; R. McGoogan

September Counters—Alternate: Sonie Rea/Ron McGoogan

6 H. Quedenfeld and L. Coleman
13 R. Williams and L. Sten
20 D. Schmidt and J. Black
27 C. Group and V. Group

September Altar Team

Janet Fischer and Sonie Rea

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Amy Pascuzzi
- 4 Judy Sarver
Brad Bernhart
- 5 Lillah Clark
- 6 Shane Ringer
Karen Krcil
Anne Johnston
- 8 C. Arne Sten
- 12 Joanne Marker
Tim Bernhart
- 14 Paul Sten
Roger Callison
- 17 Jeff Ulanich
- 22 Herb Snyder
- 26 Kurt Snyder
- 29 Andy Carl