



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

300 MELMORE STREET

TIFFIN, OHIO

## FEBRUARY 2026 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 THE PRESIDENT - LINDA WARREN**

Hello. My name is Linda Warren. I will be the new Church Council President, so I thought an introduction would be a good idea. I'm not a new member. In 1959, we moved to the Heiser property on River Road. Soon after, Mrs. Heiser started bringing me to church with her. She was a member of this church; I was baptized and confirmed in this church; my husband and I were also married in the nave. Our sons were baptized here. Our daughter was not. After his death, I came back to FLC. It felt like I was coming home.

When I returned to this church, I was amazed at the changes. It went from 2 services each Sunday to one. No more Sunday School after a full complement of grades when we left. My, how things have changed! But things have changed for most churches. Attitudes have changed, and so have perceptions.

My hope for this church is that we can improve perceptions and attitudes. I hope that we can bring more people into our church. Not because we need the money, but because we want to grow our church.

Diane Greene has led this church through a difficult time, and she is to be commended. She has worked hard to resolve the issues that have arisen during her term in office. I have asked her to continue in a couple projects that she has worked on, and she has agreed. She will also serve as the church council secretary, so I will have her advice through the coming year.

I will close with what Red Skelton closed his shows

**May God Bless.**

In Love, Peace and Harmony:

Wishing you Love to Lighten your Heart:

Wishing you Peace to Soothe your Spirit:

Wishing you Harmony to Fill your life with Happiness.

Linda Warren

# Upcoming **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**FEBRUARY  
MARCH  
APRIL**



Register now to check the health of your arteries.

To register please call 888-814-0466 or go to  
<https://llsa.social/HC>

## Life Line Screening

will be here

**Wednesday,**

**March 4**

**9a-5:30p**

in the

Fellowship Hall.

## RED CROSS BLOOD MOBILE

To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code: 1Lutheran

**Thursday  
March 12  
12pm to 6pm**



## WEST OHIO FOOD BANK

Will be here

**Thursday, February 26, 2026**

**Thursday, March 26, 2026**

**Thursday, April 23, 2026**



Food Distribution begins at 1pm and continues until food is gone.

If you or someone you know is in need of food assistance please share the invitation to come and let the WOFB help fill their food pantries.

For more information call  
FISH of Tiffin at 419 618-7724

Or

E-mail Catherine Gase at [csgase@gmail.com](mailto:csgase@gmail.com)

Application forms can be obtained on the Church Office Bulletin Board

## FISH FOOD PANTRY

Has been providing food assistance to persons in Seneca County since 1972

The Pantry is open Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

You must call to make an appointment at

**419 448-0690**

If you have questions or interested in volunteering, Please contact  
Catherine Gase at 419 618-7724



# Church Events

## Serving at the Sharing Kitchen

On February 13 and February 16, First Lutheran has been asked to assist at the Sharing Kitchen.

Two volunteers are needed to arrive at 10:30a to help prep.

Four volunteers are asked to arrive at 11:00a to help serve.

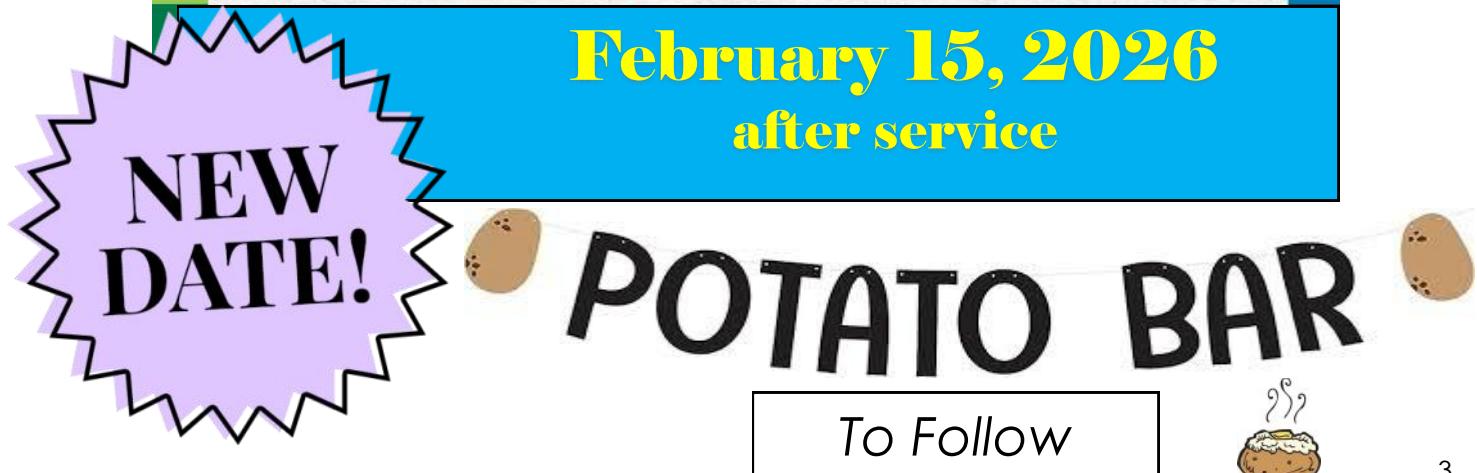
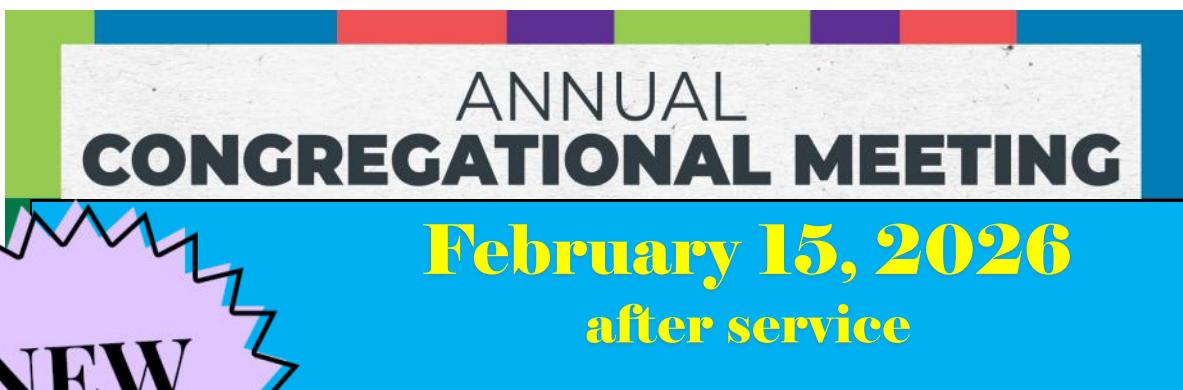
All volunteers are asked to stay through clean up.



A sign up sheet can be found on the information board. IF you have any question feel free to contact Deb Nominee



On February 1st  
**NORA JAMES SCHULZ**  
daughter of  
**MORGAN & JOHN SCHULZ**  
was Baptized



# INSTILLATION OF 2006 COUNCIL & COMMITTEE LEADERS

Council & Committee Leaders to be installed on  
February 22nd during the service

## COUNCIL MEMBERS 2026

COUNCIL		COMMITTEES	
PRESIDENT	LINDA WARREN	5) Childhood Ministry Liaison*	JUDY KIMMEL
VICE PRESIDENT		6) PIECE CORP	BONNIE OBERLANDER
SECRETARY	DIANE GREENE	7) PROPERTY*	RICK GREENE
TREASURER	STEVE HUFFMAN	8) SOCIAL MINISTRY	DEB NOMINEE
MEMBER AT LARGE	DEB HOHMAN	9) TRANSITION LIASON*	ALICE SMITH
* MEMBER OF COUNCIL		10) YOUTH MINISTRY	JONATHAN NOMINEE
COMMITTEES		11) WORSHIP & MUSIC*	MELISSA CHESTER
1) ALTAR GUILD	BONNIE & MIKE OBERLANDER		
2) ARCHIVE	SHARON LOSEY BONNIE OBERLANDER JONATHAN NOMINEE		
3) BANKING	JANET ZIRGER/BONNIE OBERLANDER		
4) BOOKWORMS	DIANE GREENE		

*Installation of Officers*

## BOOKWORMS ANONYMOUS

Our Bookworms will continue to gather the 3rd Monday of the month at 1:30 pm in the Church Library. Everyone who loves a good book is welcome to attend. If you would like more information, contact Diane Greene.



February 16:

The Frozen River, by Ariel Lawhon

March 16 :

A Gentleman in Moscow, by Amor Towles

April 20:

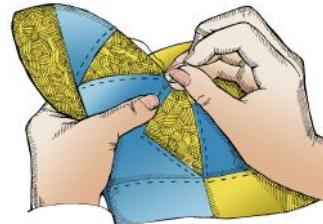
The Briar Club, by Kate Quinn

## PIECE CORP

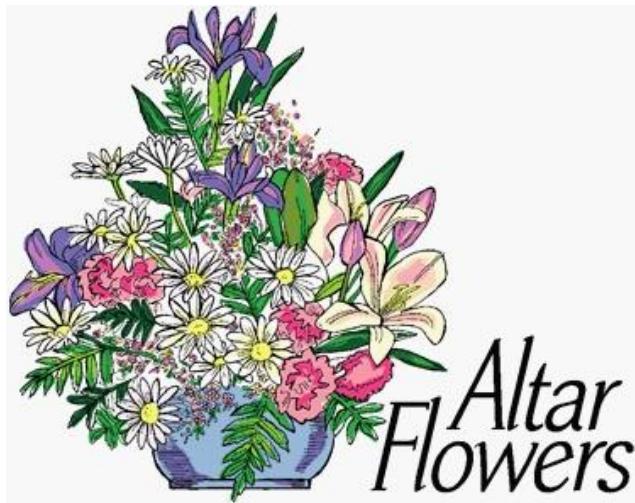
The Piece Corp continues to meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9 am.

Next meetings will be -

Feb. 11th - March 11 - April 15



QUILTING GROUP



Altar flowers were given February 1st  
in honor of

*Nora James Schulz*

By

Great Grand Parents—  
Mike & Bonnie Oberlander

### A Quick Reminder

Since the winter months are upon us,  
please be mindful of the weather.

Under a Level 3 Snow emergency there will be no  
worship services and the office will be closed.

Under a Level 2, we may opt to cancel services and  
close the office, depending on the situation.

Notifications will be sent via email  
and broadcast on WTTF.

**Radio: WTTF (93.3 FM)**  
**TV: WTOL (channel 11, CBS)**  
**TV: WNOW (channel 24, NBC)**  
**TV: WTVG (channel 13, ABC)**



## **GREETINGS FROM CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES! - FEBRUARY**

Our preschool class is participating in a project called Hearts Around the World. Our goal is to receive a Valentine, postcard or letter from as many states or countries as possible. The goal is to learn more about that area and to feel more connected to people around the world. If you know someone from another state or country, please ask them to send a Valentine, note or letter to our class! Thanks in advance! Send to: First Lutheran Preschool, 300 Melmore St., Tiffin, Ohio, 44883

Our preschool classes have missed several classes due to weather and Christmas Break. (It has always been our policy to cancel preschool if Tiffin City Schools close, due to the weather.) This lack of routine has been really difficult for our youngest children (and a few of their Moms) during morning drop-off. When they were able to have class, they have been busy working on letters and letter sounds through hands-on activities. Some of the classroom themes were winter, ice, nocturnal animals, hibernation and light/dark exploration. The class also had visits from Linda Rose from "Out and About Preschool" and a visiting librarian

Our Extended Care program has been open, even when school is not in session. The weather, school closings and delays make it very interesting. If nothing else, we sure learn to be flexible! We continue to put children on buses and walk to Krout daily, as long as school is in session. While many of the older children hope for delays and closings, sometimes it is nice just to follow a regular schedule!

On a more personal note, I am looking forward to retiring at the end of the school year. I have enjoyed working here for the past 29 years. At times, it has been stressful, but for the most part I have enjoyed coming to work. It has never been dull, that is for sure! I appreciate all of the love and support from our Lutheran family. I have many fond memories and many friends from my time here. I will certainly miss it! If you know of anyone who would be interested in being the director of a program such as ours, please have them contact me

As always, Thank you for your support! It is greatly appreciated! Donations of art supplies, apple juice or prayers are always welcome!



Sincerely,

*Jane Frederick,*

Director,  
FLEC/Extended Care

# February

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

# March Birthdays

- 1 Caden Groves
- 2 Evelyn Cole
- 2 Kenny Thomasson
- 3 Wendy Bailey
- 3 Andrea Cleveland
- 3 Mary Hoyda
- 3 Bowen Leopold
- 5 Pat Digby
- 5 Niylah Ducksworth
- 5 Joan Ruffing
- 7 Michaela Griffin
- 8 Jace Margraf
- 8 Kael Margraf
- 10 Ava Collins
- 11 Ginny Bowers
- 11 Kelly Cook
- 11 Tori Lee
- 14 Carlo Adams
- 14 Sally Moffett
- 14 Ken Zeop
- 15 Tyler Dunbar
- 16 Hunter Walland
- 20 Colby Fay
- 20 Kai Hoyda
- 22 Vicki Ryman
- 24 Andrea Eckelberry
- 26 Morgan Schulz
- 27 Jack Fay
- 27 Krew Stephens
- 27 Barb Vogel
- 28 Richard Ellinger
- 31 Emma Hall

# April Birthdays

- 4 Natalie Wertz
- 5 Becca Kobelt
- 5 Emily Mathewson
- 9 Ann Koning
- 12 Kayla Reis-Kelly
- 15 Erin Bhagat
- 15 Jennifer Mellott
- 16 Denise Stephens
- 17 Allison Kontak
- 17 Cindy Weickert
- 17 Morgan Wise
- 20 Nancy Owens
- 22 Rick Nominee
- 22 Zachary Ross
- 25 Emma Blott
- 25 Colt Fleckner
- 27 Donald Nielsen
- 27 Jamie Porter
- 27 Lydia Reyes
- 30 Nathan Wise

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Please let the office know if there are any updates to our birthday list.

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 A.M.**

### **Ways to attend church**

**in-person,  
on the radio @93.3 FM,  
Facebook (firstlutherantiffin)**

**The bulletin can be viewed each week  
On the church web site.  
It can be downloaded and  
Printed to follow along with the service**

**It is also e-mailed to members usually on  
the Wednesday or Thursday before the  
Sunday.**

**If you aren't receiving this e-mail  
please let the office know and we can add  
your e-mail to the list.**

**Missed a Sunday? No Problem!  
Past weeks bulletins are located on the  
pew near the chapel**

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

	<b>December</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>First Lutheran Church</b>		
Income	\$15,186.66	\$139,646.72
Expense	\$20,556.75	\$212,824.82
Church Summary	<b>-\$5,370.09</b>	<b>-\$73,178.10</b>

<b>First Lutheran Pre-School</b>		
Income	\$7,613.43	\$111,101.82
Expense	\$8,028.51	\$101,244.18
School Summary	<b>-\$415.08</b>	<b>\$9,857.64</b>

<b>Combined Summary</b>		
Income	\$22,800.09	\$250,748.54
Expenses	\$28,545.26	\$314,069.00
Total Summary	<b>-\$5,785.17</b>	<b>-\$63,320.46</b>

Checking Account balance 12/31/25 \$63,144.84

Investment balance 11/30/2025 \$398,254.65

Total Church Operating budget for 2025 is \$207,948. \$3,999 is needed weekly to cover operating expenses and the weekly offerings have averaged \$2,471.00.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you would like the congregation to pray for someone during the Prayers of Intersession, please raise your hand during the announcements (or take a card while picking up the bulletin) and the hosts will give you a card to write their name on. It will be collected at the end of announcements.

This is only done that same Sunday, so it will need to be repeated every week



## **WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR FEBRUARY**

SUNDAY	READER	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	HOST	FACE BOOK OPERATOR	PASTOR
02/01/2026	Melissa Chester	Melissa Chester	Janet Zirger	Rosses	Pastor Dittmar
02/08/2026	Shelley Ross	Shelley Ross	Judy Kimmel	Rosses	Pastor Larry Michaels
02/15/2026	Jonathan Nominee	J. Nominee		Rosses	Rick Greene
02/22/2026			Janet Zirger	Rosses	Jonathan Nominee
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	<b>Deb &amp; Jonathan Nominee</b>				

## **WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR MARCH**

SUNDAY	READER	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	HOST	FACE BOOK OPERATOR	PASTOR
03/01/2026					Pastor Janet Wittenmyer
03/08/2026					Pastor Larry Michael
03/15/2026					Pastor Schuring
03/22/2026					
03/29/2026					Pastor Schuring
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	<b>Sandy &amp; Ron Mellott</b>				

## **WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR APRIL**

SUNDAY	READER	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	HOST	FACE BOOK OPERATOR	PASTOR
04/05/2026					Pastor Schuring
04/12/2026					Pastor Roger Giese
04/19/2026					Pastor Mark Schuring
04/26/2026					
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>					

It takes many hands to help make worship happen each week. Would you prayerfully consider joining in lending a hand? If so, please contact Melissa Chester at melissac@q12.com as she helps put this schedule together.

**Thank you to Melissa and all those who donate their time and energy to this need.**



# **WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR LENT**

LENT	SERVICE	WORSHIP ASSISTANT		FACE BOOK OPERATOR	PASTOR
02/18/26	ASH WEDNESDAY				Pastor Giese
02/25/26 (WED)	<b>Lent 1</b>				Pastor Giese
03/04/26 (WED)	<b>Lent 2</b>				Pastor Giese
03/11/26 (WED)	<b>Lent 3</b>				Pastor Giese
03/18/26 (WED)	<b>Lent 4</b>				Pastor Giese
03/25/26 (WED)	<b>Lent 5</b>				Pastor Giese
04/02/26 (THURS.)	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>				Pastor Giese
04/03/26 (FRI)	<b>Good Friday</b>				Pastor Giese

***Remember you are dust***

***And to dust you shall return!***

We gather for worship under the shadow of the cross on Ash Wednesday.  
Worship will include: confession, imposition of ashes, and communion

**February 18th 7 PM**



## **Scheduled Meetings**

These groups meet every month on the same day and time

**Council:** every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:30PM

**Piece Corp:** every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9:00AM

**Bookworms:** every 3rd Monday of the month at 1:30PM

**Food Bank:** every 4th Thursday at 1:00PM

**Worship & Music:** every 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM

**Property Committee:** every 2nd Wednesday at 6:00 PM

**Childhood Ministry:** Monthly—dates will vary

These groups meet every week on the same day and time

**Bell Choir Practice:** every Monday at 5:15 PM

**Bible Study:** every Monday at 10:00 AM at the Willows

**Women's Bible Study:** every Thursday at 7:00 PM (location will vary)

*Please feel free to attend anyone of these meetings*





First Lutheran Church  
Church Council Meeting Minutes  
December, 2025

Present: Beth Margraf, Melissa Chester, Alice Smith, Diane Greene, Rick Greene, Sue Johnson, Deb Nominee

Absent: Linda Warren, Steve Huffman, Melissa Chester

Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda with additions to Old Business and New Business by Alice Smith and Sue Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

August Minutes:

Motioned to accept the minutes by Alice Smith and seconded by Sue Johnson. Motion passed.

Financial Report:

Steve Huffman emailed the council members November Financial Reports

Total income for November was \$9,878.31. Total expenses were \$13,136.15.

Preschool's income was \$10,743.79. Total expenses were \$9,339.87.

Total Summary was \$-1,853.92.

Checking account as of 11/30/25 is \$257,912.49. Investment fund balance on 11/30/25 was \$398,254.65. Weekly offerings have averaged \$2,389. \$3999 is needed weekly to cover operating expenses.

Motion to approve financial report was made by Beth Margraf and seconded by Alice Smith.

Old Business:

Earl Mechanical – They have begun to focus on the big project. Diane called them on Monday regarding the air handler recycling too often and to notify them the thermostat in FISH room is not working correctly.

FISH status: Diane assured them we will fix the room. They have gotten some monetary donations and our donations from the basket are given as extras.

Congregational Meeting: It will be January 25 after service. A baked potato bar will also be available on that date.

Discussion on CROSSWAEH: A discussion incurred on using people from CROSSWAEH as an option for help around the church. It gives them community service hours.

New Business:

Events in December: Christmas Eve will have one service this year at 7:00pm.

New Family: Two new families with young children will be joining the congregation.

Room Requests: Council approved room requests for Life Screening on 6/23/26 and Red Cross on 3/12/26 and 5/14/26.

Visitations for shut ins: Diane announced Father Brian and Deacon Sherry will be doing visitations for the shut ins. Father Brian is from Fostoria. He can only do Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays visitations. He charges \$175.00 for the day plus 77cents for mileage. We may have another lady for a supply pastor and/or to have office hours.

Committee Reports:

Childhood Ministry – Jane Frederick will finish out the school year before retiring. Two different ladies called about the job. Jane is working on trying to find a replacement. Worship & Music – Summary of a written report given to council stated they met December 3. Kelly King came Nov. 29 th from 5:30-9:00 to evaluate the dimmer board. He discovered the module needs repair. It was decided this module will be mailed to Mr. Chris Aeuer, whom was familiar with the unit, to repair it. Overview of the Advent /Christmas services was given by Mr. King. Poinsettias were ordered. Work will begin on filling worship opportunities in January by Melissa Chester. Thank you was expressed to Deb Nominee on the excellent Thanksgiving feast. Final corrections were made to the Wedding Booklet. The Nave will be decorated for Christmas on the 21 st after church. Next meeting will be January 7 th at 6:00.

Transition Committee – Deb Nominee reported they will have meeting in January 6, at 6:00 at New Riegel Café with Arcadia regarding sharing a pastor. The committee has discussed the duties and wants from a future pastor.

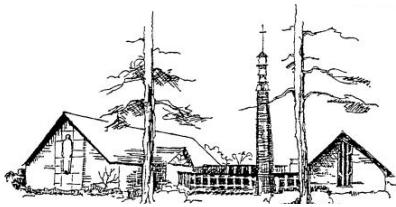
Property Report: No report given.

Finance: No report.

Next Council Meeting will be Wednesday January 21 st at 5:30. Sue Johnson motioned to adjourn and Beth Margraf seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Margraf



## First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St.

Tiffin, OH 44883

**February, 2026**

**Vol. 2026, No.02**



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

# First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883-3535

Tel: 419-447-1323

Office Hours: Tuesday — Thursday 1:00PM to 5:00PM Hours will vary

If office is closed, please leave a message on voice mail or on note pad outside of office.

You may also send an E-mail at [firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com). E-mails are checked daily Monday—Friday.

Website: [firstlutherantiffin.com](http://firstlutherantiffin.com) E-mail: [firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com)

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

Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/firstlutherantiffin](https://www.facebook.com/firstlutherantiffin)

### *The Staff of First Lutheran*

**INTERIM PASTOR**

**Pastor Mark Schuring**

**EMERGENCY PASTOR**

**Pastor Mark Schuring**

**SECRETARY**

Gloria Stacy

**SEXTON**

Rick Sholl

**PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

Jane Frederick

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Curtis L. King

**PRESIDENT**

Linda Warren

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Diane Greene

**SECRETARY**

Steve Huffman

**At Large Council members**

Deb Hohman