



# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

300 MELMORE STREET

TIFFIN, OHIO

## MARCH 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**

When I was young, the lady who brought me to church also brought a couple other older ladies with us. And she wasn't the only one. I would like to see that attitude return. That is a caring attitude that reaches out to others to welcome them.

I would also like to see our congregation reach out to past members to invite them back. And reach out to those who cannot drive to see if they would like a ride or a visitation. I have asked for a list of those who currently are visited and those who might like a visit. That would give us a starting point for visitations.

I would like to challenge our members to invite others to attend church with them. Ask an older person if they would like to attend with you. Don't make it a favor you are giving them. That will be a sure way to turn them away. Make it sound like they are doing you a favor, because they are. Bringing someone to church will make you feel better about yourself and could start a new friendship. Young or old, none of us want to be a burden to others.

Our church needs more members, not because we need more money but because we need to fill the church and try to return it to its once great glory. I understand that at one time, members were sent letters stating that they were no longer members because they no longer attend church. But some attended and would not fill out an attendance slip. I think people who no longer attend should be considered members until they transfer their membership or they pass. And how do we track membership except thru attendance slips. Do we really need attendance slips? Maybe we do. They make it easier to track attendees and members.

If you would like to give me a name or ask someone to visit, you can contact me through email ([lwarren@heidelberg.edu](mailto:lwarren@heidelberg.edu)) or phone (house phone is 419-397-2509 or cell phone 419-618-5207).

**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

**MARCH  
APRIL  
MAY**



## Life Line Screening

will be here

**Wednesday,  
March 4  
9a-5:30p**

in the  
Fellowship Hall.

Register now to check the health of your arteries.

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

## 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, March 26, 2026**

**Thursday, April 23, 2026**

**Thursday, May 28, 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





*Ash Wednesday*  
 February 18,  
 2026 7 PM



*1st Sunday of Lent*  
 February 22, 2026  
 10 AM



*Palm Sunday*  
 March 29, 2026  
 10 AM



*Wednesday Lent*  
 Soup & Service  
 5:45 PM Supper/7:00 PM Service  
 February 25, March 4,  
 March 11, March 18 &  
 March 25

***CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK***



**MAUNDY**  
*Thursday*

**Maundy Thursday**  
 April 2nd, 2026  
 7:00 p.m.

We gather in the upper room with Jesus and his disciples as we are Guided to Service, modeled in the washing of feet and the breaking of bread.



**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**Good Friday**  
 April 3, 2026  
 7:00 p.m.

In the darker hours of the evening the Cross speaks as we are Guided by the Sacrifice of our Lord, Jesus.



**Easter Sunday**  
 April 5, 2025  
 10:00 a.m.

Sound the trumpet!

Proclaim the good news!

Death does not have the final say.

The Cross speaks words of victory as we are Guided to New Life

as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

  
Mid-Week  
**Lenten**  
Worship



**WEEK 1 02/25/26 JOHN**

The hot-tempered young man who became the disciple of love.

Portrayed by Mike Oberlander

**WEEK 2 03/04/26 MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS**

Who suffers a mother's pain while humbly accepting God's will.

Portrayed by Diane Greene

**WEEK 3 03/11/26 PETER**

An arrogant man who becomes a humble disciple.

Portrayed by Rick Greene

**WEEK 4 03/18/26 JUDAS**

Who failed because he thought he knew best.

Portrayed by Nevin Martin

**WEEK 5 03/25/26 MARY MAGDALENE**

A woman of the world who strove to love herself as Jesus loved her.

Portrayed by Bonnie Oberlander

The hymn of the day is located in the red hymnal book.

# Lenten Supper

## LENT WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPER—SIGN UP



WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 25	WEEK 1
<b>VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>SOUP</b>	<b>BREAD</b>
Tim Ross	Chicken Noodle	Bonnie Oberlander
Rick & Diane Green	Lentil Soup	<b>DESSERT</b>
Jeannette Conley	Potato & carrot soup	Sharon Losey

WEDNESDAY	MARCH 4	WEEK 2
<b>VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>SOUP</b>	<b>BREAD</b>
Rick & Diane Greene	Carrot-Cashew Soup	Janet Zirger
Janet Zirger	Chilli	<b>DESSERT</b>
		Sue Johnson/Judy Kimmel

WEDNESDAY	MARCH 11	WEEK 3
<b>VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>SOUP</b>	<b>BREAD</b>
		<b>DESSERT</b>

WEDNESDAY	MARCH 18	WEEK 4
<b>VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>SOUP</b>	<b>BREAD</b>
		<b>DESSERT</b>

WEDNESDAY	MARCH 25	WEEK 5
<b>VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>SOUP</b>	<b>BREAD</b>
		<b>DESSERT</b>

## 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.



March 16 :

*A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles

April 20:

*The Briar Club*, by Kate Quinn

May 18:

*Eruption*, by Michael Crichton/James Patterson

## PIECE CORP

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

Next meetings will be -

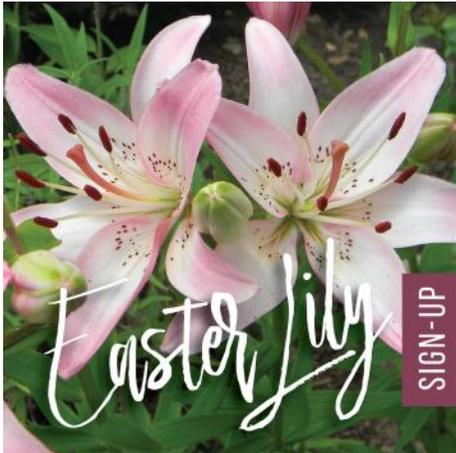
- March 11 -
- April 15—
- May 13



QUILTING GROUP

National Quilting Day

March 21, 2026



Easter Lily/Daffodil forms  
are now available

And located on the table by the  
Dietz room

The flowers are a \$15 donation  
and must be in no later than  
Sunday March 29th (Palm Sunday).



The Heidelberg University-Community Chorus presents:  
**Songs of Love and Devotion**

Saturday | May 2 | 7 PM

**First Lutheran Church**  
300 Melmore St., Tiffin, OH 44883

Dr. Greg Ramsdell, *Conductor*  
Cynthia Ramsdell, *Pianist*

*Concert is free and open to the public.  
A freewill offering will be received.*

**Heidelberg**  
SCHOOL OF MUSIC & THEATRE

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

Our Preschool classes have been very busy when they are here! (We continue to miss classes due to the weather and Tiffin City Schools closing.) We are still trying to get back into a routine, as this has been a very difficult couple of months since Christmas break! The children have enjoyed opening many notes and Valentine's from the mail they have received for their Hearts Around The World project. Thanks to all of you who participated.

The class enjoyed a Valentine's pizza party with parents and grandparents. Most of the children brought cards, candy and small toys to share. They also had their monthly guests from Tiffin Seneca Public Library and Linda Rose from Out and About Preschool. This month Linda shared cool owl facts about owls in our area. The children continue to work on letters and letter sounds through hands-on activities. Some of their themes in February focused on love, family, bugs, building houses, kindness and manners. Follow our Facebook page to see our children in action while they are here. Ms. Olivia does a great job of taking pictures during class and sharing them on our Facebook page!

Our Extended Care program is open even when school is closed due to ice, snow, cold or fog. We continue to be flexible and adjust our daily schedule as needed! When the children do have school, they look forward to an after-school snack and playing outside, when the weather allows.

Our Childhood Ministries Board continues the search for a replacement for me. We are also looking for a part-time aid. If you or someone you know is interested, please let us know as soon as possible.

As always, Thanks 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



- 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 Niyah 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

- 4 Natalie Wertz
- 5 Becca Kobelt
- 5 Emily Matthewson
- 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

- 5/1 Bev Wheatley
- 5/3 McClain Meyer
- 5/3 Julia Wildman
- 5/3 Missy Woessner
- 5/4 Hemant Bhagat
- 5/4 Michael Hampshire
- 5/6 Braydon Lewis
- 5/6 Bennett Widman
- 5/8 Bobby English
- 5/10 Pete Myers
- 5/13 Jamie Lodermeier-Fay
- 5/15 Lori Hampshire
- 5/18 Gracie Chester
- 5/19 Jean Covert
- 5/20 Lincoln Blott
- 5/20 William Hertzner
- 5/20 Diane Reser
- 5/21 June Cole
- 5/29 Robyn Cook
- 5/31 Brent Phares



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**

	January	YTD
<b>First Lutheran Church</b>		
Income	\$6,449.49	\$6,449.49
Expense	\$19,958.76	\$19,958.76
Church Summary	<b>-\$13,509.27</b>	<b>-\$13,509.27</b>
<b>First Lutheran Pre-School</b>		
Income	\$7,300.87	\$7,300.87
Expense	\$10,670.01	\$10,670.01
School Summary	<b>-\$3,369.14</b>	<b>-\$3,369.14</b>
<b>Combined Summary</b>		
Income	\$13,750.36	\$13,750.36
Expenses	\$30,628.77	\$30,628.77
Total Summary	<b>-\$16,878.41</b>	<b>-\$16,878.41</b>

Checking Account balance 01/31/2026 \$49,607.58

Investment balance 01/31/2026 \$577,388.24

Total Church Operating budget for 2026 is \$204,200.  
\$3,927 is needed weekly to cover operating expenses  
and the weekly offerings have averaged \$1,411.

Church was cancelled one Sunday due to weather.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

If you would like the congregation to pray for someone during the Prayers of Intercession, 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 MARCH**

SUNDAY	READER	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	HOST	FACE BOOK OPERATOR	PASTOR
03/01/2026	Melissa Chester	Melissa Chester	Janet Zirger	The Rosses	Pastor Janet Wittenmyer
03/08/2026	Rick Greene	Rick Greene	Judy Kimmel		Pastor Larry Michael
03/15/2026	Shelley Ross	Shelley Ross		The Rosses	Pastor Schuring
03/22/2026	Jonathan Nominee	Jonathan Nominee		The Rosses	
03/29/2026	Shelley Ross	Shelley Ross		The Rosses	Pastor Schuring
ALTAR GUILD	Sandy & Ron Mellott				

## **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					
ALTAR GUILD	Bonnie & Mike Oberlander				

## **WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR MAY**

SUNDAY	READER	WORSHIP ASSISTANT	HOST	FACE BOOK OPERATOR	PASTOR
05/03/2026				Rosses	Pastor Dittmar
05/10/2026				Rosses	Pastor Mark Schuring
05/17/2026				Rosses	Pastor Mark Schuring
05/24/2026/				Rosses	
05/31/2026	Holy Trinity				
ALTAR GUILD	Donna Brueggemeier & Deb Hohman				

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@qt2.com](mailto:melissac@qt2.com) as she helps put this schedule together.

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



# LIFE TRANSITIONS

## Norma J. Reedy

November 1, 1937 — February 6, 2026



## Matthew P. Guisinger

November 8, 1972 ~ February 3, 2026 (age 53)

And God  
shall wipe away  
all tears  
from their eyes  
AND THERE SHALL BE  
no more death  
neither sorrow  
NOR CRYING  
neither shall there be  
any more pain:  
FOR THE FORMER THINGS  
are passed away.  
REVELATION 21:4

## 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*





January 14, 2026

\*\*Held on Google Meet due to weather conditions

**Present:** Beth Margraf, Linda Warren, Melissa Chester, Diane Greene, Sue Johnson Steve Huffman

**Agenda:**

Motion to approve agenda Linda Warren and seconded by Melissa Chester. Motion passed.

**December Minutes:**

Motioned to accept the minutes by Linda Warren and seconded Melissa Chester. Motion passed.

**Financial Report:**

Steve Huffman emailed the council members December Financial Reports

Total income for December was \$15186.66

Total expenses were \$20556.75.

Preschool's income was \$7613.43.

Total expenses were \$8,028.51.

Total Summary was \$-5785.17.

Checking account balance is 63,144.84.

Investment fund is \$398,254.65.

Weekly offerings have averaged \$2,471.

\$3999 is needed weekly to cover operating expenses.

Motion to approve financial report was made by Beth Margraf and seconded by Sue Johnson.

## **2026 Annual Budget:**

Proposed budget was presented and discussed. It was noted in 2025 the church was paying the rental house utilities. With the move of the new tenant, it is not now. Preventative maintenance play payment with Earl Mechanical will be added to expense list. The amount of giving will be reduced. With these proposed changes, Linda Warren motioned to accept and Sue Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

## **Old Business:**

**Earl Mechanical** – It was discussed better internet and computer systems will be needed for the new upgrade.

**FISH** – Diane reported they are doing well.

**Congregational Meeting** – It is scheduled for January 25 with a baked potato bar.

**Slate of 2026 Council Officers** – It was discussed Linda Warren for President, Diane Greene for Secretary, Steve Huffman for Treasurer, Alice Smith for Transition Liaison, Rick Greene as Property Chairman, Judy Kimmel for Childhood Ministry Liaison and Melissa Chester as Worship and Music Liaison.

## **New Business:**

**Fall Farmer's Market** – It was proposed having a Fall Farmer's Market in the fellowship hall this year. A coffee truck would be in the parking lot. It will be accepted once the protocol for renting out the fellowship hall has been completed.

**Room Request** – Someone is interested in renting out 2 rooms and the fellowship hall for the use of dance recitals. It will be accepted once the protocol for renting out the fellowship hall has been completed.

**Sound Solutions** – A motion was made by Beth Margraf to accept their \$4300.00 estimate and it was seconded by Linda Warren. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Transition Committee** – Council members met with council members from Arcadia Trinity Lutheran church. It was discussed the two congregations are very similar. We would like to partner with them in sharing a pastor.

**Worship & Music** – Pastor Giese will be doing the Wednesday Lenten services. He would like to do some dramas and is looking for volunteers. The wedding guide is finished and waiting for council approval. Changes included rules and pricing.

Preschool/Daycare- They are currently in conversation regarding Jane's replacement.

**Property** – No report

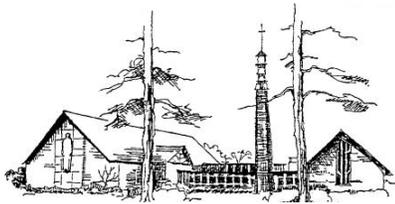
**Finance** – No report

**Next Council Meeting will be**

**Wednesday February 18, 2026 at 5:30.** Melissa Chester motioned to adjourn. Linda Warren seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Margraf



## First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore St.

Tiffin, OH 44883

**March, 2026**

**Vol. 2026, No.03**



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

# *First Lutheran Church*

300 Melmore St., Tiffin, Ohio 44883-3535

Tel: 419-447-1323 or Gloria's Cell 419 934-3023

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](http://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**

**At Large Council members**

*Deb Hohman*

**SECRETARY**

*Diane Greene*

**TREASURER**

*Steve Huffman*