Volume 38, Issue 1

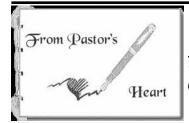
Fellowship Family News

January 2018

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor 7350 Sawmill Road | Columbus, OH 43235 [tel] 614. 889.0113 [pastor] 937. 725.4930

Email: flc7350@gmail.com | Website: flccolumbus.com





"You were taught with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." **Ephesians 4:22-24**

A blessed New Year to you all! As we tear off the last page of our 2017 calendar and hang a fresh crisp 2018 one, we hear many people encourage us to "ring on the new year." Others will encourage us to make New Year's resolutions of one type or another.

As the people of God, we enter the New Year "in the Lord." After all, this is the truth that was conveyed in the old acronym "AD." It was the abbreviation of the Latin phrase anno Domini, meaning "in the year of the Lord." So while the world asks us to make the New Year memorable, relevant, and significant by our actions and resolutions, God asks us to greet the changing year by remaining in the Lord.

This leads us to an important question. How do we remain in the Lord as we flip the pages on the calendar from month to month, year to year? To be sure, we remain in the Lord by remaining in Christ. We remain in the Lord by living as the baptized children of God and continually receiving God's grace in Word and Sacrament in our weekly worship. We remain in the Lord with an active prayer life. We remain in the Lord with devotions upon God's word through resources like Our Daily Bread or Portals of Prayer or one of the many devotional sites on the internet. We remain in the Lord by studying God's word in our Sunday School classes or a Bible Study. There are many ways to live as "AD" people this calendar year and hereafter.

On another note, I want to personally thank everyone who helped out in any way for our two memorial services during the holiday season. It was wonderful seeing so many of our members during this busy season supporting the Poland and Bear families in their time of loss, and the coming together of this congregation providing wonderful meals, attending the services, or just providing brotherly/sisterly love or a shoulder to cry on. Thank you Fellowship members - I'm very proud to be your Pastor!!!

See you in church!

Pastor Robin



Thank you all so much for all of the Christmas cards, gifts, goodies!, and generous monetary gift. I am so blessed to have been called to this loving congregation!

Pastor Robin



Sunday Evening Worship and Praise Services will continue on Sundays at 5:00 p.m., beginning January 7th. Please help us spread the word! This is a 45-50 minute, "come as you are" service with singing, a short message, and communion.



Women's Activities

women's ministries Women's Dinner - Our next women's dinner will be on Monday, January 29th. at 6:00 p.m., at Andriah's Wine Bar & Restaurant, 3499 Market St., Powell, OH 43065 (740) 917-5479. Please sign up if you're interested in attending and let Pastor Robin know if you need transportation (cell. 937-725-4930).

Women's Bible Study - Monday, January 8th, at 7:00 p.m. is the next meeting for the women's Bible study series, Encouraging One Another, by Christa Kinde. Susan Wolfe facilitates the discussion, and meetings occur on the first Monday of the month through April. Please read Chapters 6 & 7 for the January study.

Do You Order From Amazon? If so, then try Amazon Smile to support Fellowship Lutheran Church! First, go to Amazon Smile and choose Fellowship Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH as your charity. Then, shop as usual and Fellowship will receive a percentage of your purchase. It's that easy!

Kroger Plus Fundraising Information: If you would like to register your Kroger card for the Community Rewards Program, please contact Pastor Robin or the church office. Thank you so much for participating in this fundraiser! We received over \$1,000 last year! Also our youth continue their printer cartridge recycling fundraiser. There's a collection box in the narthex.

Gluten Free Communion Wafers are available. If you have trouble with the regular communion wafers or with the bread served, please let Pastor Robin know. We do have gluten-free wafers available. Large print bulletins are also available for worship. Please ask the usher for assistance.

Meals on Wheels Schedule for January and February

Friday, January 19 McDaniel Friday, February 16 Sumner Saturday, January 20 Cardimen Saturday, February 17 Biemel

If you would like a home visit by Pastor Robin, please let Pastor Robin or Tracy know so we can get one scheduled. It does not need to be a pastoral emergency...just an opportunity to get to know you better.

January Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, January 21st after worship. This is an important meeting to receive the 2017 annual reports and approve our 2018 budget. Please plan on attending.

Next First English Lutheran Church supper is on Thursday, January 11th. There are three ways to sign up to help.

Provide home-baked desserts (it's been requested, no peanuts please)

Preparing the meal - Arrive at the First English kitchen on the afternoon prior to serving. Serving the meal - Arrive about 5pm at First English.

A sign-up sheet is on a bulletin board in the hallway.

Contact Pete Cardimen at 937-309-9492 or email at pcardimen1053@wowway.com.

Attendance Information

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	Date	<u>Attendance</u>
11/5	72/6	12/3	67/6
11/17	60/7	12/10	69/10
11/19	76/19	12/17	78/15
11/26	61/13	12/24	10:00 am 55
		12/24	7:00 pm 169

Board of Administration

"Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine." Proverbs 3:9,10 (NSRV)

As I write this, it is just before Christmas, and 2017 is almost over. It has been a busy first year serving as your president. I am grateful for the support of everyone in the congregation and our leadership team here at Fellowship.

It has been an interesting and challenging year. At the end of last year, we received an unsolicited and unexpected offer for our church property. The Board of Administration did a lot of due diligence work on that offer – from looking at the value of the property vs. the offer we received, to considering options to relocate the congregation, and doing a lot of mission and vision planning to see how such a relocation might fit Fellowship's mission. PPC found that it did not fit, and the congregation concurred at our fall congregational meeting and we informed the broker that approached us that the congregation politely declined the offer.

That analysis also led us to hold the Fishing For People workshop at Fellowship in the late spring early summer. The objective of the workshop was to help us become more inviting to help bring new people to Jesus and to our congregation. Those who attended had some practice talking about our congregation and becoming more willing to have discussions about church and inviting people to our church. Pastor Robin took a lot of that information back to the congregation through a series of inviting exercises each month in her monthly newsletter articles. I hope you have had the opportunity to use those exercises to practice and to invite someone to church.

Also going on now, we have formed a Constitution Committee to update our constitution. The constitution was last updated in 2004. There are a lot of things in our by-laws in the constitution that we don't really do, and the ELCA model constitution has evolved since then. So, it is past time to get it updated to reflect what we actually do and what we want to do as an organization. We hope to have the updates finished in time for the May congregational meeting so that our nominating committee has updated guidelines for nominating our next slate of leaders.

Finally, our January congregational meeting where we will present and approve our 2018 budget will be held on Sunday January 21, 2018. This will be a very important meeting. As we approve our budget and financial priorities for 2018. Please try to attend.

Thank you for your support this year. And, don't forget to invite someone to church!

Your servant in Christ, Todd Engen

Education

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs." 1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NIV)

As Paul wrote to Timothy the above passage, he knew that these instructions for the church at Ephesus would refer to all churches throughout history. As Christians today, we need to love and care for others, not spend our time looking for ways to make more money. We need to thank God for what we have. If you have never traveled to a "third world" country and witnessed their poverty, you would really be thankful for what you have. Don't make the love of money the root of all evil.

Sunday School classes will resume on January 7, 2018. If you have not attended one of the adult classes taught by Steve Espe and Bruce Johnson, you are missing a good way to start your week.

We are also looking for a person to be the coordinator of the Amazing Grace Day Camp from July 15 - 20. This would be an administrative position which would be supported by five other adults. Pastor Robin, Todd, Mary, Dianna, and I would be helping for the entire week. Please see one of us if you are interested.

The Frebis Food Pantry is still planning to change their distribution procedures by the end of April. We are scheduled to volunteer on Thursday, February 1, 2018, and Thursday, April 5, 2018. I will keep everyone informed on changes. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hall-way.

Our next men's breakfast will be January 13, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. All men are invited. It is very rewarding to have a good breakfast and fellowship.

In His service, Bill

Isaiah 43:19

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

2017 has been a year of change. Change in our mission statement, change in membership, and possible changes in our constitution are some examples of our transitions. What we have learned this year, that to be a growing church, we must continue to adapt to our changing world, but stay constant with our fundamental Lutheran beliefs.

In 2018, our board hopes to "shake-up" some of the activities that we sponsor. Trying to add more diverse programs through Fellowship and Evangelism, we will work with the Middle School/ High School students. We plan to have quarterly after church programs where we will provide a service project (and of course food while we work!) that will benefit the surrounding community. Our first will be supplying personnel hygiene bags for distribution to the Frebis Pantry clientele. We will be collecting toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, dental floss and combs. The students will be responsible for all the coordination of this project along with the responsibility for advertisement (bulletin and verbal church announcements, flyers, and one-calls). Look for more information about these programs in the future.

I continue to challenge every family to sign up for one slot on the 2018 host list. It is a very easy way for each of us to help bring our Fellowship family together.

As always, please add these activities to your personal calendar.

Dates To Remember:

1/20/18 Sat. Euchre Game Night at 7:00 PM - Bring a snack to share 2/10/18 Sat. Mardi Gras Dinner/Movie Night at 6PM 3/18/18 Sun. Service Project & Pizza after 10 AM church service 4/1/18 Sun. Easter Breakfast

Have a happy new year and see you in church!

Karen Espe

Director of the Board of Evangelism and Fellowship

Stewardship & Service

It's a new year. It's a time when we take stock of the year past in order to improve the year to come. It's a time when we sit down to plan and implement what we want to accomplish and even change. Part of that is planning our stewardship for the coming year.

Often we find this difficult and daunting and even joyless. But it doesn't have to be. In fact, it is really quite simple and full of joy. So here are some tips to make that planning less stressful. You begin by answering these three questions: Who are you? To whom do I give? And how much?

So, who are you? The Table of Duties in the Small Catechism informs us. Are you a hearer of God's Word? Are you a citizen of society? Are you a member of a family? Stewardship covers these three estates: church, society, family. We don't particularly struggle to give to society or family. Our struggles, our difficulties and our questions arise in giving to the church.

So, what is our duty as members of the church with regard to giving? The Table of Duties, again, gives us a guide. If you are a hearer, a member of the church who receives instruction, St. Paul taught: "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor" (Gal. 6:6). This means the local congregation is primary.

Your pastor is the one called to preach the Gospel to you and administer the Lord's blessed sacraments to you. Your congregation is the place where those things happen. Thus, when God calls us to give to the church, He has the local congregation in mind. For "the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14).

How much do we give to the local congregation? Reading 1st Corinthians reveals that our only instructions are these: to give regularly, proportionally, and generously of our first fruits with a spirit of eagerness, earnestness, cheerfulness, and love.

In other words, giving to the church is not to be an afterthought, given after everything else is spent. In this way, it is deliberate. We give regularly – weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly – keeping in mind our own strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. We set it aside beforehand – before anything else is spent.

From those first fruits, we set aside a proportionate and generous amount. And how are we to give it? We give it with eagerness and earnestness. We give it cheerfully and with love, not out of compulsion. For through the preaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments, God has made us His children, forgiven us all our sins, given us grace upon grace, promised us life everlasting with Him in His kingdom, and filled us with His own Spirit, the Holy Spirit. This makes giving a joy, as Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

It's that easy. And it is joyful. For in stewardship, our gracious and giving Lord invites us to take part in the work that He accomplishes here on earth, providing for the ongoing preaching of the gospel as well as those who are in need. Taking part in that makes all our work holy — work that is done in service to the Lord as priestly members of His kingdom.

Taken from https://blogs.lcms.org/tag/stewardship-ministry-resources

Worship

No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven. Philippians 3:13-14

The start of a new year fills many of us with hope for the year ahead. None of us are perfect, but when we strive to live as God taught us, every day presents a new opportunity to reflect God's love to those around us.

Many of us begin a new year with resolutions about how we want to live our lives during the coming year. This is also an opportunity for us to think about how our actions and contributions to the Fellowship community demonstrate God's love for us throughout the year.

If you are not already assisting during worship on Sunday mornings, please consider volunteering to serve in roles such as Usher, Communion Assistant, Lay Reader or Assisting Minister. Just contact the church office (flc7350@gmail.com) to let us know where you would like to serve.

From the entire Worship Board - **Thank you** to everyone who participated in our worship services in December. From the children's program and the Sermon in Song to special music during worship services, we appreciate the special gifts shared with us during the holiday season. Thanks also to everyone who brought milk/water jugs for the luminaries and to the Hensley family for setting up the luminaries. Many members helped in decorating the church, lighting the Advent wreath at each Sunday service, participating in Advent family night and the Blue Christmas service and more. Pastor has been very busy this month ministering to the members as well as being involved in all the special services.

The season of Lent begins on February 14, with Ash Wednesday. Please plan to join us for simple soup suppers followed by a worship service on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Congregational meeting January 21
Souper Bowl Sunday February 4
Ash Wednesday February 14

Lenten Soup & Supper services February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21

Healing Service March 4
Easter April 1

Mission Interpreter

Candidates for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services: Mary and Joseph

All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. Luke 2:3-5



As I was driving to church Sunday morning, Dec. 24, I heard an interview on NPR with Stephanie Saldana about her work in a refugee camp on the island of Lesbos that serves refugees from Syria and other areas of the Middle East. She wrote an article in the New York Times about her experience and the impact it had on her. You can read her article at: https://tinyurl.com/ychgnteo . You can listen to the NPR podcast of the interview at https://tinyurl.com/y76tazdk.

She describes a camp at Moria, built for 2300 people, but holding over 6,000. She describes the deplorable conditions of the camp and some of the

people she met there. She finds, that in spite of their situation and the terrible conditions, the people of the camp are hospitable and do whatever they can for her as a visitor. For example, they make a space for her in the mess and detritus of the overcrowded camp, and place a piece of wood for her to sit on. They had nothing else and did the best they could to be hospitable.

Ms. Saldana observes that the Christmas story is the same story as these refugees. Mary and Joseph were forced to travel to Bethlehem for Caesar's census. Similar to the situation in the refugee camp, there was no room, but the innkeeper offered the manger in the stable for her and the soon to be born Jesus. It was the best he could do.

We often talk about the manger and the fact there was no room at the inn. We think it must have been rather messy with animals and all. But, do we understand what it was really like? Do we understand how desperate they really were? Do we understand how dependent they were on the kindness of the inn-keeper and what little he could offer them? Imagine being forced to travel someplace you've probably never been. Imagine not having any money or any hotel reservations. Imagine not knowing what would happen next.

Saldana says, "Christmas invites us to recognize our story in the millions who have been displaced by tyrants, war and poverty and to see their stories in ours."

Last January, I wrote about Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, LIRS, and their mission to assist refugees and immigrants, especially women and children to escape from the areas in the world torn by war, famine and corruption. The ELCA supports LIRS. LIRS has been working to help refugees since 1939. This is how Lutherans respond to these crises in the world today. See lirs.org for more information and how you can help.

I encourage you to read the Saldana's article and the NPR interview.

Todd Engen – Mission Interpreter

FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Fritzi Bear **Maxine Brunner** Sam Brunner Katie (Wahl) Diede **Bob Drake Curtis Fleisher** Janet Fleisher Jim Jaeger Mike King Leena LeMay **Joshua Mott Shannon Paro Sue Perry Dianna Roll** Mark Roll Martha Sampson **Shawn Turnbull** John Votino

FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Agne family, Missy Hensley's coworker & friend... Jim Bartos, Ruth Albert's friend... Rosemary Craig, Cindy Frey's mother... Dave & Marie Croy, Cathie Brown's friends... Rick Espe, Steve Espe's brother... Nick Heckman, Bob & Jan Wilhelm's nephew... Pastor Trina Holmberg, Pastor Robin's friend... Mike & Dan Klopp, Cathie Brown's friends... Tom Mosler, Neumeier's brother-in-law... John Sagle, Andrea Sumner's family friend... Rebecca Schultz, Andrea Sumner's mother... George Sumner, Mike Sumner's father... Carol Swank, Pastor Robin's friend... Ray Ward, Barb Fisher's father... Paul Wilhelm, Bob & Jan Wilhelm's nephew... Neil Williams, Karen Harris' grandson...

FOR OUR SHUT-INS:

Lynn Brown, Debbie Bear's mother **Joan Clark**, Susan Lee's mother

DEATHS:

Tom Agne, Missy Hensley's coworker & friend Marvin Bear Sara Drexler, Neumeier's niece Richard Durtschi, Andrea Sumner's great uncle Janie Haas, Jean Johnson's cousin

CELEBRATIONS (BIRTHS):

Caleb Lyle Wilhelm, Bob & Jan Wilhelm's grandson

January Birthdays

Robert Hensley	1/4
Susan Robinson	1/4
Gwen Cardimen	1/7
Carol Jaeger	1/9
Will Colombo	1/11
Hayden Laucher	1/12
Dave Bear	1/13
Kamere Cowans	1/13
Brad Rhoden	1/15
Jenny DeVantier	1/17
Michael King	1/17
Chad Neumeier	1/17
Cody Neumeier	1/17
John Nave	1/19
Anna Oliver	1/22
Hayley Smith	1/22
Major N Crispin	1/25
Elizabeth Singeltary	1/26
Josh Mott	1/28
Abigail Cardimen	1/30



Happy Birthday to those celebrating birthdays this month! This list reflects the information we have in our computer at this time. We welcome your corrections and additions!

January Anniversaries

Bruce & Jean Johnson	1/20
Gregg & Becky Schaughency	1/20
Frank & Leena LeMay	1/28



Church Staff

Pastor Rev. Robin Wargowsky

Treasurer Tracey Nave Financial Secretary Tracy Farel

Office Secretary Tracy Farel

Organist Andrea Sumner

Sub. Organist David Fleisher, Cathie Brown

Sunday evening pianist
Choir Director

Amy Wargowsky
George Biemel

Custodian Dave Schneider & Family,

Robert Hensley (volunteers on off weeks)

Board of Administration

President Todd Engen Vice-President Mike Rankin Secretary Ruth Albert

Pastor Robin

Board of Education & Youth

Director Bill Lude

Members Megan Cardimen, Major Crispin Jr.

Carol Scantland (ad hoc.)

Board of Evangelism & Fellowship

Director Karen Espe Members Susan Wolfe

Board of Property

Director Major Crispin Sr.

Members Bill Farel, Craig Robinson

Peter Meighen (tech. support), John McDaniel (special projects)

Board of Stewardship & Service

Director Jim Jaeger

Members Pete Cardimen, Missy Hensley

Bruce Johnson (ad hoc.)

Board of Worship

Director Robin Neumeier

Members Karen Harris, Dianna Roll, Sonya Thelin

Mutual Ministry Committee Kathy Farel, Carol Jaeger, Chad Laucher

Thank you for your leadership!!!

Worship Server Schedule for January

it ch	Steve Espe Aleigha Crispin Ruth Albert
	Steve Espe Aleigha Crispin Ruth Albert
	Aleigha Crispin Ruth Albert
	Ruth Albert
	Chris Tonn
	Abigail Cardimen & Pete Cardimen
Altar Guild Katny & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel
Hymn Sel.	
Counters Steve Espe & Mike Sumner	er Pete Cardimen & Lori Hobbins
Greeters Karen Harris	Laucher
Host	

Date	21-Jan	28-Jan
Time	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Assist. Minister	Chad Laucher	Sonya Thelin
Acolyte	McKenzie Laucher	Hayden Laucher
Comm. Assist.	Carolyn Crispin	Paul Wargowsky
Lay Reader	Robert Hensley	Bruce Johnson
Ushers	Chris Tonn & Mike Rankin	Bill Farel & Jim Jaeger
Altar Guild	Kathy & Tracy Farel	Kathy & Tracy Farel
Hymn Sel.		
Counters	Bill Farel & Robin Neumeier	Jim Jaeger & Pete Cardimen
Greeters	Nave	Crispin
Host		

Jan 2018 (Eastern Time) Church Office, Contacts, Fellowship, Non-Church Events, flc7350@gmail.com, Holidays in United States

	9				13					20	ls on	light			27						60					
Sat						8:30am - Men's					10:45am - Meals on	7 pm - Euchre Night														
Fri	5	8pm - Narc Anon			12	8pm - Narc Anon				19	10:45am - Meals on	8 pm - Narc Anon			26	8 pm - Narc Anon					2	8pm - Narc Anon				
Thu	4	8 spm - CKPC 8 p			11	4:30pm - FELC 8p	8 pm - CKPC			18	8 pm - CKPC 10	100			25	8 pm - CKPC 8p					-	8 pm - CKPC 8p				
Wed	8		6pm - Bd of Worship	/ pm - choir Practice	10	7 pm - Choir Practice 4	80			11	7 pm - Choir Practice 8				24	10:30am - Care 8	7 pm - Choir Practice				31	7 pm - Choir Practice				
Tue	2	7pm - Admin	7pm - Property		6	7 pm - Bd Ed & Youth	7pm - Evangelism &			16	7pm-PPC				23						30					
Mon	-	New Year's Day	Offlice Closed	opm - Narc Anon	80	7pm - Stewardship	7 pm - Wm Book	8pm - Narc Anon		15	Martin Luther King	Office Closed	8pm - Narc Anon		22	8pm - Narc Anon					29	6pm - Wm Dinner	8pm - Narc Anon			
Sun	31	New Year's Eve	10am - Worship	7 pm - CKPC	7	8:45am - Sunday	10am - Worship	1pm - CKPC	5pm - Worship	14	8:45am - Sunday	10am - Worship	1pm - CKPC	5pm - Worship	21	8:45am - Sunday	10am - Worship	11:15am - Cng Mtng	1pm - CKPC	5pm - Worship	28	8:45am - Sunday	10am - Worship	1pm - CKPC	5pm - Worship	

Fellowship Lutheran Church

7350 Sawmill Road Columbus, OH 43235

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED





Our Purpose: To share God's love and grace through our words and actions.

Our Vision: To be a "called and gathered" family of faith whose members so fully experience the undeserved love of God that we are moved to express that same love of God, in our relationships with one

another and our whole community . . .

January 2018 Newsletter