

# The Friendly Visitor



First Lutheran Church

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[Thewelcomeplace.com](http://Thewelcomeplace.com)

November 2022

## Reformation Sunday, November 6

This coming Sunday, we observe the Reformation. Everyone is asked to wear something red, and after the service, there will be a potluck lunch after the worship service. Please bring a dish to share. The church will provide beverages.

Also, don't forget to turn your clocks back the night before!

### Notes from the President

Hello all! We are into November, and the new air conditioning and heating unit for the sanctuary should be fully functional on All Saints Sunday. We send our best wishes and God's blessing's to Pastor Heather Apel as she leaves her position at the Synod as Assistant to the Bishop to begin a new Call as co-pastor, along with her husband Pastor Wade Apel, at St. Johns Lutheran Church in Spartanburg South Carolina. We have been working with Pastor Heather in the Call process, and it is unclear who will be taking her place in the office of Pastoral leadership at the Synod. Call committee chair Drew Wartschlager is keeping tabs on that situation and the Call committee is continuing to do interviews and keeping the congregation informed while maintaining confidentiality. Continued thanks to Sharon, Vicky, Kristy and Nancy for continuing to take care of the needs in the office. Thanks as always David McNease for continuing to find and schedule our pulpit supply. Our Annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 29 with February 5 as a backup. We will be needing two volunteers who wish to serve on the Church Council as Stephanie McCoy and Jim Blincoe will be stepping aside after serving for six years. May all have a very blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

## Congratulations, Glenn and Kristy Peavy!

They celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in style with their family at Walt Disney World.

## New Craft Group

The new group is being started by Melody Stirling and will meet on Wednesdays, beginning November 16 at 1:00. Bring your own project to work on with friends! We'll be using the "trophy" room off of Luther Hall. There are two sewing machines and an ironing board with iron on the premises.

Sharon Lillie



## Be Ready to Listen

*Earlier in the year I made available weekly Bible studies that helped us to preview the four chosen readings that are used in Sunday worship services at First Lutheran Church. I now hope to restart those Bible studies, making them available to everyone via e-mails that will be sent to you weekly from First. For those of you who prefer, already printed copies will be available to be picked up the previous Sunday. Originally, I had called these lessons “Be ready to hear.” This new series of weekly Bible studies is to be called “Be ready to listen” because listening is more intense than merely hearing something. We will focus on just a few points of interest, meaning and connections to our own experiences in life and faith. No heavy-duty scholastics, just heavy-duty thought.*

*In Christ, Nola Lillie*



# Spotlight on the Rev. Dr. Samuel S. Waltz and Family

Pastor of First English Lutheran Church 1883-1919



(Hastings) Waltz  
1885-1907



Solomon S. Waltz  
1847-1925



Helen (Waltz) Kemnitz  
1882-1961

Mina

For nearly 36 years, starting on the day before Christmas Eve, 1883, the Rev. Dr. Solomon S. Waltz served First English Lutheran Church with fervor, faith and friendship. He never seemed to sign anything other than "S. S. Waltz" and was referred to as Dr., Rev. or Brother in writings by others. His first name was difficult to find; that information might be down in the vault, but I looked up the 1900 Federal Census records to discover that his parents, Elias and Mary Waltz, had named him Solomon. He was born Oct 7, 1847, in New Philadelphia, Ohio. His future wife, Mina Hastings, was also Ohio born. They were married in 1876. Their daughter, Helen, was born in 1882.

The Rev. Dr. Waltz was a mover and a shaker. He encouraged and then guided the congregation to accomplish the planning, construction and financing of the building we have today. He visited, preached, comforted, taught and regularly publized the worship, learning and social activities available to everyone. He wrote in the flowery prose so popular during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The *Church Visitor* served as his instrument to get out the Word and the Welcome. As Sharon Lillie reported in the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary *History of First Lutheran Church*, "The earliest copies of the *Church Visitor* date back to 1885...in the first five months of publication, seven thousand copies were distributed!! That is 1400 per month so the majority of copies were distributed to visitors and the general public." Sharon comments that the contents appear to have been written and compiled by Pastor Waltz himself.

In an early 1894 issue he happily announced that the target number of 500 Sunday School members had been reached and exceeded. Ten new teachers had been signed on and more members and teachers were needed. Those figures are amazing. Members of all ages were strongly encouraged to keep up their generous giving to local and foreign missions.

In the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet of 1908 he wrote concerning Mina Waltz's death: "When the morning of the Lenten time of 1907 dawned upon our home, it found it utterly desolate, except for the abiding presence of Jesus the Comforter. Mrs. Waltz, who had been to our home everything that a mother could

be; to her husband, companion, helper-everything to all our people, exemplar, adviser and friend, had been suddenly summoned by death...The loss of one whose place no one could fill, was a call to many to rally to the work with a new consecration.

Their daughter, Helen, served as junior choir director and as an organist. She took part and led Bible Study groups and in 1915 married Theodore Kemnitz, a member of the church council who was fifteen years her senior. The Kemnitz Circle was later named as a memorial to her leadership.

In the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet, the Rev. Dr. Renn wrote concerning Pastor Waltz:

At the time of his resignation Easter, 1919, to become the Executive Secretary of the Lutheran Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church, of which he was the acknowledged founder, the indebtedness of the church had been reduced to \$6,500...

In the autumn of 1920 he went as one of the delegates and speakers to the Worlds Sunday School Convention in Tokyo, Japan. Extending this journey over eight months and around the world he visited the nations of the Orient and Near East speaking in many of the Missions of the Lutheran Church.

From the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary booklet, we find this account:

On February 7, 1925, Dr. S. S. Waltz, our beloved leader of more than three decades, was injured in an accident in the City of Chicago. Shortly afterward, he returned to Louisville and died on May 4, 1925. Funeral services were held on May 6, with a host of sorrowing friends filling the church to overflowing.

All members of the Waltz-Kemnitz family are buried in Cave Hill Cemetery. All are presumably active in the Church Triumphant.

*Rev. Dr. Nola Lillie*

Thank you to all contributors!

Rebecca

## PUZZLE, NOVEMBER 2022

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Find the underlined words amongst the letter grid at the bottom.  
The remaining letters will reveal a hidden message.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

P T S H E D E N I T S E D T T J H E  
U S S R A C H O S E A G R A C E L O  
R D E C E I V E N I L A W L E S S C  
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D L O R D C O W S T A N D M I N B G

## November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Potluck lunch	<b>31</b> Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	<b>1</b> 11:00am Food Pantry	<b>2</b> 11:00am Food Pantry 4:30pm LYG Staff Meeting 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 4:00pm Food Pantry 5:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm NA - Cool Changes	<b>4</b> Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	<b>5</b> 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
<b>6</b> 10:30am Worship Service	<b>7</b> Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	<b>8</b> Food Pantry closed	<b>9</b> 11:00am Food Pantry 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial 6:30pm LYG 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 4:00pm Food Pantry 5:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm NA - Cool Changes 7:30pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting	<b>11</b> Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	<b>12</b> 9:45am NAMI meeting 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
<b>13</b> 9:30am Breakfast 10:30am Worship Service	<b>14</b> Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	<b>15</b> 11:00am Food Pantry	<b>16</b> 11:00am Food Pantry 4:30pm LYG 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 4:00pm Food Pantry 5:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm NA - Cool Changes	<b>18</b> Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	<b>19</b> 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
<b>20</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10:30am Worship Service 1:00pm Council Meeting 2:00pm PFLAG Meeting	<b>21</b> Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	<b>22</b> 11:00am Food Pantry	<b>23</b> 11:00am Food Pantry 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial 6:30pm LYG 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 4:00pm Food Pantry 5:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm NA - Cool Changes	<b>25</b> Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	<b>26</b> 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire
<b>27</b> 10:30am Worship Service	<b>28</b> Food Pantry closed 5:30pm NA - Why Are We Here 7:30pm LYG	<b>29</b> 11:00am Food Pantry	<b>30</b> 11:00am Food Pantry 6:00pm NA - Escape from Denial 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>1</b> 4:00pm Food Pantry 5:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm NA - Cool Changes	<b>2</b> Food Pantry closed 6:00pm LYG	<b>3</b> 12:30pm NA - Lose the Desire