

# FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

GREENSBURG, PA  
15601-3183

PHONE 724-834-1457  
FAX 724-834-1469

August 2010



## RALLY RECREATION DAY PLANNED FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Mark your calendars now for this year's Rally ReCreation Day event—a luau complete with Hawaiian leis, crafts, including a picture frame for your commemorative picture, and food. We will gather at Pavilion #4 for a time of worship, fellowship, "beach" games, and lunch. There will be time for the youth to meet their Sunday School teachers. The intergenerational event will be coordinated by Christian Ed and Fellowship Committees.

Reservation forms and more information will be available in Sunday bulletins and the September newsletter. Plan to join the First Family as we party together and plan ahead for the coming SCS year. We will meet at Twin Lakes at 10:00 a.m. The 8:15 a.m. worship service will be held in the sanctuary as usual.



**CHURCH**  
**IN THE**  
**PARK**

## **AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

As provided by the by-laws of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, petitioning members of the congregation are calling for a congregational meeting on Sunday, August 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the recent staffing changes, make recommendations for future staffing and to take any action deemed advisable pursuant to this subject in the form of recommendations to church council.

For Church Council,  
Charles Kaylor

## **Women of the ELCA**

### **Mark your calendar**

**September 17, 18 & 19, 2010**

**Women of the ELCA Annual Retreat at Camp Lutherlyn**

**Wednesday, September 23, 2010**

**Fall General Meeting**

**October 16, 2010**

**We will be hosting Fall Cluster Meeting**

**Volunteers will be needed**

**CHECK OUT THE NEW E-NEWSLETTER – BOLD CONNECTIONS**

**[www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org) –**

**Sign up in the *Bold Connections* box on the right**

## **From the Pastor's Study:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

There is much stress and tension in our congregation as I write this letter. During any stressful time, I believe it is vitally important that we return to the basics of our faith. Though I certainly cannot talk about all of my most valued beliefs in one letter, I thought this was a good time to share some of my core beliefs about ministry. These are the beliefs which have shaped my ministry and the things I return to over and over again. Of course as a sinner, I do not live these out perfectly and never will; however, my ministry has been guided by these principles.

The image of the Priesthood of all Believers has always been a central one to my personal faith. I am a called and ordained minister which does not mean that I am somehow above the members of any congregation. It simply means that I have been set apart to preach and administer the sacraments. I know that there are many qualified individuals who are very capable of doing the work of the church. At First we have gifted teachers who share the faith with our youngest members; we have individuals who are skilled in financial management who share their talents to help us in budgeting and investing. We also are blessed with many who are great comforters and listeners who could do a wonderful job of visiting some of our shut-ins or doing hospital visits. We have gifted people who can make anyone feel welcomed and loved who are great at helping us make visitors more comfortable on Sundays. We have patient adults who work well with our youth and help them each grow in their faith. We are blessed with many members whose talents I have only begun to get to know, but I am certain that each one of them can play an important role in our shared ministry. As Paul reminds us, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord," (I Cor. 12:4-5). We are all called together to be the Body of Christ and we are all working together to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

As an ordained pastor, I am called to be a servant leader. Jesus modeled being a servant leader to the first disciples as he washed their feet. He was their teacher and gave him respect and admiration; yet, he served them and eventually died for them and us. As a servant leader, I

*..continued*

*Pastor Marleen continued:*

preach and teach from the scriptures and our Lutheran tradition. Because of ministry experience and working with other clergy, I do have suggestions and ideas for ministry. But as a servant leader, I listen for your ideas. I try to learn from your experiences. Most importantly, I encourage all of my lay leaders (from the youngest to the oldest) to discern what gifts the Holy Spirit has given them and to use those gifts to build up the Kingdom of God and specifically the ministry of First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Greensburg.

Even though our church is going through a difficult transition now, I know that God is at work among us. We continue to reach out beyond our doors. We continue to gather weekly to hear God's Word and share in the Lord's Supper. The Holy Spirit will continue to guide us in the future.

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Marleen

## **A THANK YOU FROM VICAR JACK**



*By the time you read this, I will be busy preparing for seminary again. Yet I wanted one last time to tell all of you how much I still do believe this internship was a gift from God for me personally. Thank you for all the cards, gifts, words, hugs, and other acts of kindness both to me and Abby. This is an experience we will never forget. You will remain in my thoughts and prayers for the months to come, and I know God will provide for the future of First, just as for my future. Let us forever remain united in our service and adoration of the great high priest, Jesus the Son of God.*

*Vicar Jack*

## **SNAZZY SATURDAY @ ST CLAIR PARK!**

Youth and all ages are invited to St. Clair Park, Saturday, Sept. 25, from noon to 4 p.m. to attend a contemporary concert. There will be NO charge for admission to **Snazzy Saturday @ St. Clair Park**. Smallfish and Zion's Lutheran Church Band will be performing along with other entertainment. This is part of the Project Prevention sponsored by the Westmoreland County Drug and Alcohol Commission and St. Vincent College Prevention Projects, and is aimed at middle school and high school students. However, all ages, young and old, are welcome. Join us and enjoy a Saturday afternoon in the park and enjoy free entertainment and free food.



## **YOUTH MINISTRY PLANS**

### **A Day at Kennywood**

Senior FLY will travel to Kennywood for a day of fun on Friday, August 20. Put the date on your calendars and watch the bulletin for details!

### **F.L.Y. Fall Kick-Off**

On September 12, Jr and Sr FLY will Kick Off the school year. We will have games and activities along with our first meeting to elect officers for the year. Come with your ideas for making 2010-2011 a great year! We will meet at Twin Lakes pavilion #4 after the Rally ReCreation Day program and conclude our meeting around 3:00 p.m.



### **FIRLU HAS HEARD:**

-that Vacation Bible School was a HUGE success with almost 80 children attending! Our thanks to Barbara Krumszyinsky and all of her helpers who volunteered their time and talents to provide this ministry.

-that the Sacrament of Holy Baptism was given to **Maya Christine Forrai**, daughter of Ed and Sonya, and **Cole Osborne**, son of Shawn and Kristin, and **Dixon Sidney Fait**, son of Melissa and Lloyd and **Kharlyne Elizabeth Province**, daughter of Lori. We rejoice in the waters of Baptism and God' s gift of new birth.

-that our sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Richard Jordan. May we have confidence in God's promise as they and we grieve his death.

-that additional Memorial Gifts have been given in memory of Richard Jordan by his family. We give thanks for this and all memorial gifts.

-that those hospitalized from First during the month of July include Anissa Bankosh, Judy Stricklin, Bettie Blank, Glenn Ament, Robin Weyandt, and Robert Humphrey. May God provide comfort and healing.

-that Angel Food cakes are needed Sunday, August 1 and the first Sunday of every month for Meals on Wheels. Bring a home baked or purchased one to the church office if you are able to help with this ministry.

-that the deadline for the September newsletter is Wednesday, August 18. **Please submit your articles by the deadline.**

See you at summer worship,  
*FIRLU*