

# The Pastor's Page

October 2018  
*"The Spyder Webbe"*



Grace and peace to you!

Several times over the past week, people have mentioned the Spyder Webbe—a hangout for neighborhood youth that our church hosted in the basement of the parish house during the 1960s.

This is something I wish still existed, even if not at our church. A place where youth could get a snack, socialize with friends, and even get help with homework. Most importantly, it would be a place where they could be loved and cared for—and shown the love of Jesus.

Ultimately, the Spyder Webbe ceased to exist. That ministry died. And while that space was used periodically for youth ministry, it mostly sat unused. Ironically, there was one thing you were guaranteed to find in that room: spider webs...

Churches, like human beings, are finite. Ministries within a congregation are finite as well. They are born, they grow, they flourish—and inevitably, they mature and die. None of the churches founded by the Apostle Paul still exists today. Four ELCA congregations have closed and three have merged in within ten miles of ours in the past six years. Three congregations in our synod have closed thus far this year. And we witness even more death among our members, in our families, in our neighborhoods. Even business and institutions we've known and loved for years have closed; their buildings left abandoned to rust and crumble.

One person who mentioned the Spyder Webbe came to the clothing closet this month. He said this was his first visit to our church since the Spyder Webbe. We ministered to him before, and now we're ministering to him as an adult. In the basement of the parish house...

This is proof positive that Christ is creating new life where there was death. We are always being made new. His church is always being made new. Resurrection is not a return to past glories, but a recreation and re-formation of the Church so that we can participate in the new creation Christ is bringing to God's beloved world.

You don't need to look very hard to see resurrection happening all around us.

This fall, we will baptize more children and adults than we have over the course of several years. Our youth are planning and participating in ministries with incredible energy and enthusiasm. GriefShare continues to grow. I cannot help being amazed when random people stop me in stores or restaurants and thank me for the ways our congregation has made a difference. It happens all the time...

Let me know how you are witnessing resurrection and rebirth in our life together. And if God is calling you back to church, or someone you know needs the love of community and the encouragement of the Gospel, now is the time to come and take part in all that the living Christ is up to.

See you on Sunday,

+ Pastor Jim

## WE WISH HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- 1-Nathan Daugherty
- 3-Mark McCool
- 3-Mary Hey
- 5-Joseph W. Munko, Sr.
- 7 – Aaron Zalenski
- 7 – Elsa Zalenski
- 7- Austin Gagen
- 8 – Pastor Jim Arter
- 8- Brandy Muth
- 10-Mark Hebrank
- 11-Valerie Hassa
- 11-Beverly Illar
- 11 Sandy Rubright
- 14-Diane Kuhn
- 16-Jim Antoniono
- 16-Brad Belfield
- 17 – Mark Dalrymple
- 22–Susan Antoniono
- 22-Roger McKelvey
- 23-Tristan Zalenski
- 27-Nancy Nawrocki
- 30-Sara Rupert
- 31 – Emma Headley



## Celebrating

*An Anniversary This Month*

- 4 – Corey & Heather Balog
- 7-John & Debbie Smail
- 10-Randy & Amy Dunmire
- 12-Mark & Maria Kramer
- 22-John & Margaret Krecota
- 26-Scott & Karen Kalmar
- 30-Tim & Karen Zimmerman

## Baptismal Anniversaries

- 3 – Jeremy Smail
- 5 – Jackie McKelvey
- 10 – Ashley Dunmire
- 12 – Janice King
- 14 – Richard Rupert
- 14 – Rachel King
- 15– Scott Kalmar
- 15 – Mark Girardi
- 18 – Emma Moore
- 22 – Justin Bowser
- 22 – Lynette Pellish
- 23 - Tabytha Hogan
- 23 – Emily Kramer
- 25 – James Antoniono
- 29 – Brad Belfield



## Worship Assistants

### Acolytes

- 10/7 Elsa Zalenski
- 10/14 Olivia Smythe
- 10/21 Spencer Libengood
- 10/28 Victoria Hogan

### Assisting Ministers

- 10/7 Kenny Muth
- 10/14 Clint Graham
- 10/21 Margaret McKallip
- 10/28 Jason Delp

### Altar Guild

- 10/7 Kathy Munko & Janis Hill
- 10/14 Carolyn Shaffer & Debbie Smail
- 10/21 Lois Bowser & Chris Fuller
- 10/28 Sandy Smythe & Diane Kuhn

### Head Usher

John Smail

### Oil

Given in memory of Lois & Don Miller  
by Diane Kuhn

## Newsletter Deadline October 21



## Blood Pressure check

The **third Sunday** of every month, we will be checking Blood Pressure in the **Nursery**. If you are interested in a monthly record of your blood pressure, please join us immediately after church service. Those taking B/Ps are Sandy Smythe, Andrea McCool, and Amada Graham.



## Clothing Closet

We will be open **every month** on the third Saturday. The next sale date is **October 20**. If you would like to volunteer on one of the sale dates, please contact Janice King.  
Sorting on Wednesdays 9 AM - Noon

**Check out Pastor Jim's BLOG page,**  
<http://jamesarter3.blogspot.com> where you can read his sermons and Bible studies!

## Prayer Ministry

We have a special place set up in the area behind the organ console. The 3 windows are set up for different prayer needs. There is a place for **public prayers** (situations and people that anyone can know about and pray for), there is a box for more **private prayers** and another box for prayers that **just Pastor Jim** would see and pray for. If anyone would like to be personally prayed with; we will be available on Sunday mornings.

## Office Angels

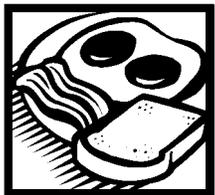
**Thank you** to all who come in to assemble the newsletter. More volunteers are welcome

## Bible Study

The Bible studies meet Wednesdays **October 10 & 24** from 9AM – 10 AM and Thurs. **October 11 & 25** from 7 PM - 8 PM



**BREAKFAST**



**FELLOWSHIP**

Come join us for Breakfast at King's Family Restaurant in Leechburg on **October 13!** We will meet at 9 AM on the **second Saturday of every month.** This is a time for fellowship, a short devotion and prayer. Everyone is invited to attend!



## Office Hours

The secretary is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
724-845-7518

### Pastor James Arter

Tuesday – 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
Wednesday and Thursday – 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
Or by appointment

### Contact Information

Pastor James Arter, 930 Wildlife Lodge Road,  
Apt. 302, Lower Burrell, PA 15068  
Phone 724-212-7240  
[pr.jim@comcast.net](mailto:pr.jim@comcast.net)

## Ink Cartridges

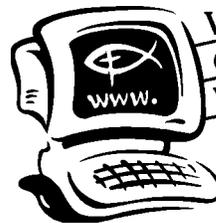
**Thank you** to all who have brought in ink cartridges. Please continue to bring them in. This helps save considerably on our office supplies!



## Electronic Giving



First Lutheran Church is now accepting online giving. Go to our website, [servinggodgracefully.net](http://servinggodgracefully.net) then click on **give on line** Follow the directions.



**VISIT  
OUR  
WEB  
SITE**

Like us on **Facebook** and stay connected with all that's happening in our church!

[www.facebook.com/servinggodgracefully](http://www.facebook.com/servinggodgracefully)

## Wanted - E-mail addresses



Do you have an e-mail address you would like to share with the office? This would be used to send reminders and possibly items mailed by first class mail. You can send it to [felc@windstream.net](mailto:felc@windstream.net)



## Sunday, October 7

Walkers and Sponsors are needed! Can we keep the shoe, cup and walking stick at First Lutheran?

**Sunday, October 14 @ 4:00 PM**

Dr. David A. Billings is the Director of Music Ministries and Organist at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church. He is also the Accompanist for the Pittsburgh Concert Chorale



This event is **FREE** and open to the public. Bring a friend or neighbor!

**Harvest Home Celebration**



We will be celebrating Harvest Home on Sunday, October 21 with a turkey dinner. We are

asking that you bring a covered dish to share. Good food and fellowship for all!

**Harvest Home Window Decorations**

We need people to decorate our windows. Decorations need to be up before worship on October 21. Fall decorations, antiques or something that makes you think harvest. The windows will be decorated through October 4. There is a sign-up sheet for windows in the rotunda.



Bob & Lois Fulton, 144 Razz Rd. Leechburg, PA 15656

Eleanor Shaffer  
1113 Pine View Rd,  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

**Change of Address**  
Pastors Amy & Erik Allen  
6547 Karleigh Dr  
Brownsburg, IN 46112-0017



**Theodore David Jager Pavuk  
September 17, 2018**

Son of Jackie Munko & Michael Pavuk  
Proud grandfather Bob Munko  
Great grandparents  
Joe & Kathy Munko



**Costume Party  
for Kids!**

**October 26 @ 6:00 PM**



**Thinking Ahead!**



For Veterans Day this year, we would like to honor all of our veterans, those still with us and those who are

not. We are asking for veterans or their families to bring in pictures of them in uniform, if possible, to be displayed in our windows. We would like them to be in the office BEFORE Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Also, if you are a veteran or married to a veteran, please let us know.



On Sunday, September 23, **Emma Lee Headley** and **Landon Jason Gagen** were baptized. Emma is the daughter of Katie & Daniel Headley and granddaughter of Beverly Illar. Landon is the son of Tifanie &

Jason Gagen and the grandson of Kim Gvoth. Both children are the great grandchildren of Chris Fuller.



### Relay for Life Pie Sale

Thank you to all who helped with the Relay for Life Pie Sale at St. Paul's Highfield's Fall Festival. We made \$169.00 selling pies and a few cook books. St. Paul's Highfield donated \$204.01 from their bake sale. What a pleasant surprise! This is a good example of how the four Lutheran churches can work together for one cause.



### Here I Am, Lord

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

This is the Refrain from one of my favorite hymns. It calls to me. Is God calling you?

It is time to prayerfully consider serving on our Congregational Council. We need three people willing to serve. Tom Smythe and Janice King are finishing their three-year term and are not eligible to be re-elected. John Smail was elected to fill a one-year vacancy and is eligible to be re-elected if he chooses to do so. Are you willing to answer, 'Here I am'?



## Bagged Blessings

(Grab-and-go bags for the homeless)

Our Sunday school children are learning how they can help others. They will be assembling Bagged Blessings for to be distributed to the homeless. We are asking the congregation to help with donated items and after the bags are complete, taking a bag or so to give to the homeless they may see.

### Toiletries and Health

- Band-aids (Big ones to cover blisters)
- EmergenC . Airborne
- Lip Balm / Chapstick
- Lotion
- Sunscreen
- Tissues
- Wet Wipes
- Deodorant
- Travel Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Soap
- Shampoo and conditioner
- ✱*No hand sanitizer, mouthwash, or anything with alcohol in it that can be consumed.*
- ✱*No large toiletry bottles, or any item that is overly-perfumed.*

### Food

- Beef Jerky
- Breakfast/cereal bars
- Mints
- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Raisins/Dried fruit
- Snack cups (i.e. Fruit, applesauce, pudding)
- Tuna/Chicken salad Cracker Kits
- Water
- ✱*Please stay away from foods that may be too chewy, crunchy, or sticky. Those without proper dental care may struggle to consume such items.*

### Clothes

- Gloves (Waterproof are best.)
- Socks (Thermal/wool for winter)
- Winter scarves/Hats

### Other

- Sewing Kits
- Comb/Brush
- Feminine Products
- Razor
- Can Opener
- First Aid Kits
- Nail Clippers
- Hand Warmers
- Flash Light/Headlamp
- 6X8 Tarp