

The Lutheran Contact

March 2019

Maria Knight, Editor



On Sunday Feb. 17, we welcomed Deacon Margy Schmitt-Ajer, Metro -NY Synod Assistant to the Bishop for Congregations, who led the Service of the Word and joined us in conversation during the Fellowship Hour. She shared details with us about the call process for a new Bishop and about the work of the Synod Office. Deacon Margy was

filled in about our activities, mission and history as well as the progress in our building repair/demolition projects for which we received a very generous matching grant from MNYS.



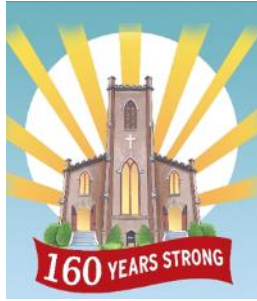
Dutchess County Interfaith Council ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 5:30pm at FELC

The **keynote speaker, Jody Miller**, Chair of the Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights, will speak about *"Maintaining our Humanity in the Face of Hate: What Each of Us Can Do,"* The meeting agenda will also include a volunteer fair, a brief business meeting, installation of new officers and the Board of Directors, and welcoming new members and new clergy. A reception will follow. First Lutheran is host for this evening of reconnecting with friends, building new friendships, and fellowship.

**An Afternoon of Prayer, Reflection and Conversation
toward discerning a call to the next
Bishop of the Metropolitan New York Synod
Sunday, March 31st from 3-5 p.m.
Redeemer Lutheran Church,
104 Wurts Street, Kingston, NY**



The Metropolitan New York Synod is engaged in an ongoing discernment process toward the election of a new Bishop the Synod Assembly in May. As part of this process, our Interim Bishop has asked each of our Conferences to arrange for an event that promotes worshipfulness, prayerfulness, and discerning conversations. This event is open to all, however it is especially encouraged that delegates to this year's Synod Assembly attend.



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

325 Mill Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601



The Reverend Deborah Hafner DeWinter—Pastor

Deacon Peter Slingerland
Mr. Eric Hepp—Music Director
Mrs. Maria Knight—Office Administrator

The Reverend Donald McCoid, Interim Bishop
Metropolitan New York Synod of the ELCA <http://www.MNYS.org>

The Reverend Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America <http://www.elca.org>

Contact us: Office Phone: 845-452-6050
Website: www.firstlutheranpok.org E-mail: office@firstlutheranpok.org
Follow us on FaceBook: www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranPok

The Rev. Deborah Hafner DeWinter

Contact Information:

845-452-6050 (Church) 516-650-2826 (Cell)
Email: PastorDeborah86@aol.com

Pastor is always available in case of emergency.

Please call the church office or Pastor directly
to schedule an appointment or a home visit.

FELC Congregational Council

Council Officers for 2019

President	Beth Collins	(845) 473-6610
Vice-President	Karen Butts	(845) 240-4111
Treasurer	Kurt Bastian	(845) 454-8298
Financial Secretary	Chris Collins	(845) 473-6610
Council Secretary	Bill Nicoll	(845) 337-4598

2019 Council Members

Rosemary Compton	(845) 452-0431
Linda Connors	845) 454-4696
Will Frank	(845) 702-8363
Nancy Slingerland	(845) 204-6206
Alison Matos	(914) 447-5625
Diane Wood-Miller	(845) 575-6711

FROM the CHURCH OFFICE

The office will be open three days a week on a variable schedule. Phone messages and emails will be answered as soon as possible.

With thanks ,
Maria Knight, Church Office Administrator



SEXTON

First Lutheran is looking for a Sexton to work 20 hours per month, primarily on Sunday mornings. For more information and to set up an interview, please call Carol Reichert at 845.206.8528.

Pastor's Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I write this, I am looking forward to returning to my First Lutheran family on March 3, Mardi Gras/Transfiguration Sunday, after a six-week medical leave. Thank you all for your prayers in preparation for my surgery and in my recovery. Thank you for each unique gesture of love and support – most especially for carrying on as the people of God in my absence. As Eric quipped at our Worship & Music Committee meeting last Sunday afternoon in my apartment, “.....we know how to do that – we were without a pastor for almost four years before you came to us...” Indeed, this is true – one of the most impressive qualities about this congregation that first drew me to you and continues to inspire me is that you have lived into your Baptismal vows, understood your identity as children of God, “....sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever....” and as children of God, have continued to move forward in faith, with or without a pastor in residence.

In the mysterious Transfiguration story, as we recall again the razzle-dazzle of the mountaintop experience of Peter, James and John and the ‘guest’ appearance of Moses and Elijah with Jesus – the whole episode culminates in a voice coming from a cloud, saying: “This is my son, my Chosen; listen to him!” (--Luke 9: 35) At once, everything returns to ‘normal.’ All that is left of the majesty of the Transfiguration experience is “Jesus...found alone....” (--Luke 9:36)

While it seems right to be engaging in a festive “re-entry” on our Mardi Gras/Transfiguration Sunday when our choir pulls out all stops and we live it up in the spirit of a New Orleans-style Mardi Gras party – the essence of the Transfiguration story reminds us of what is ultimately important in our lives of faith. In the midst of all of the distractions of our lives – even the ‘mountaintop’ experiences – what matters most is ‘listening to Jesus....’ (--Luke 9:35) today, now, in the midst of whatever is going on in our lives at this moment in time, at this moment in history. We are called to focus on “Jesus....alone....” (--Luke 9:36) And as we do so, we also remember how the story ends - with Jesus leading his disciples, Peter, James and John, down from the mountaintop where they have been on retreat from the world and all its troubles, and back into the thick of life.

On Ash Wednesday, before and after our Lunch ‘n Listen concert by the Hyde Park Chamber Ensemble, in the midst of the hustle and bustle of real life, I will be offering the imposition of ashes. As I do so, I will say the ancient words spoken on Ash Wednesday from the earliest days of the Christian story: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” As the sign of the cross is made with ashes on our foreheads, we are once again affirming our ultimate identity and our ultimate calling. Through the next 40 days of our Lenten journey, we will be following Jesus through the wilderness of daily life – the wilderness experiences we face at home, in our families, at work, with our health or the health of our loved ones – the wilderness experiences in our community, our nation, and around the world. We will be journeying with Jesus, who calls us to offer encouragement and practical assistance wherever we see people in need.

Through it all we will be reminded to “listen to Jesus” (Luke 9:35) and to keep close to Jesus as he shows us the way to live and relate with others (which is ‘The Way, Truth & Life’). As we are marked with the cross of Christ on Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that we journey safely from birth to death, loved unconditionally! And that is why we intend to be in very high spirits this Mardi Gras/Transfiguration Sunday!

In the unity of Christ,

Pastor Deborah

SPECIAL GIFTS

Received with thanks 2/3-2/24/2019

Blanket Sewers

with heartfelt thanks and appreciation
to the "Uber-Angels",
Diane, Lorna and Kurt
From Pastor Deborah

Memorial Fund

**In Memory of William J. and Carrie Simon
and W.G. Simon**

Eunice Merte

Organ Fund

Ernest L. Stoetzner III

Lorna Davis

Kurt Bastian

Diane Wood Miller

Maria Knight

Share-an-Expense Snow Plowing

Bill Polgrean

Thank Offering

Maria Knight



LENTEN SOUP FUNDRAISER

Containers of home made meatless soup will be available In Fellowship Hall after service on Sunday mornings from March 10-April 7 for a free-will donation, with proceeds going to the Development Fund.

For more information or to sign up to prepare soup please contact Maria in the Church Office.



SOCIAL ACTION

Donations of pasta and sauce are requested during the month of March for the St. Paul's Food Pantry.

A \$55.36 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation was issued to FELC as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between 10/1/18 and 12/31/18 .



When you shop online at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Bookmark the link :
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/14-6003263>
and support us every time you shop.

Orders for Easter Lilies @\$10.00 each may be made

by sending your request and payment to the Church Office

Please include:

- >Your Name and Address
- >How many Easter Lilies you wish to order
- >The dedication as you would like it to appear in the Easter bulletin.
- >and your payment



Or you may call the church office at (845) 452-6050, or email: office@firstlutheranpok.org

DEADLINE for ORDERING is March 22.

EASTER SUNDAY is April 21, 2019

A Letter from the Congregational Council: Beware the Ides of March?

What does this phrase mean? Most of us today would associate it as the date of the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44 BC. He did not heed the soothsayers warning and paid dearly at the hand of the senate. (Oh, those crazy politicians.)

The Romans did not number days of a month from the first to the last day. Instead, they counted back from three fixed points of the month. The Ides occurred near the midpoint, on the 13th for most months, but on the 15th for March, May, July, and October. The Ides were supposed to be determined by the full moon, reflecting the lunar origin of the Roman calendar. On the earliest calendar, the Ides of March would have been the first full moon of the new year.

During the late Roman Republic, a new year's festival was held on the ides of March in which people would gather a mile outside of Rome on the Via Flaminia by the banks of the Tiber River. Participants celebrated with feasting, drinking and revelry and offered sacrifices for a happy and prosperous new year. It was also notable for the Romans as a deadline for settling debts. (Interesting that St. Patrick's Day is only two days later and filled with feasting, drinking and revelry. Some things never change.)

The ides of March also signaled the beginning of the new consular year, in which two annually-elected consuls took office as leaders of the republic. As we elect a new council each year, we recognize this new beginning.

Here are the number of times Feasting (43), revelry (8), drinking (156) and sacrifice (377) are mentioned in the Bible. However, two things stood out to me when writing this...

First, the Ides of March was a day of celebration for happiness and prosperity. Don't we all wish for happiness and prosperity in our daily prayers for ourselves and others in our troubled world? While our opportunities, education and understanding is far superior to the early Christians, we still have so much to do.

Second, the fact the Julius Caesar did not heed the warning of the soothsayer and on his way to the Theatre of Pompey, where he would be assassinated, he passed the seer and joked, "The Ides of March are come", implying that the prophecy had not been fulfilled, to which the seer replied "Aye, Caesar; but not gone." Concerned with Caesar's increasing power and monarchical leanings, a group of Roman senators stabbed the ruler to death.

Today we are concerned with the power of our political leaders, even afraid of what the near future might bring. If a soothsayer came to us with a warning, would we listen or would we joke about it. The day isn't over so there is time to do more or to finish what we start or change things in our community and world.

Let's pray we would be open to a warning or a suggestion; a prayer for help; a wish for prosperity; an opportunity to celebrate and pray for success for our church and the world.

Dia Linn (Gaelic for God with us – Happy St. Patrick's Day)

Linda Connors

LUNCH 'n LISTEN

Classical pianist Ariana Barkeshli performed at our February Lunch 'n Listen Concert in a wonderful program featuring Bach and an evocative "Homage a Omar Kayam"



The Hyde Park Chamber Ensemble, will perform on March 6th. Members of the HPCE include Linda Rapp- Flute, Lory Frankel - Oboe, Russell Urban Mead - Clarinet, Craig Fryer - French Horn, (our own) John Knight - Bassoon and Laurie Woolever - Piano. The program includes works by Bernstein, Reicha, Fuhrmeister, Piazzolla and Blumer. Please come and treat yourself to a great concert, by some of the Hudson Valley's finest musicians.

Soprano Marta Elena Knapp returns to L&L for a concert on April 3rd.

All L&L concerts are free, open to the public and begin at noon. Bring a lunch and eat in the Fellowship Hall before the concert. Coffee and tea are provided. After the concert, all are welcome to return downstairs to meet the performers and enjoy delicious home baked goodies.

Many thanks to the faithful L&L team, which this month included :Kurt Bastian, Joan Cohen, Lorna Davis, John and Maria Knight, Frieda Popp, Diane Wood Miller and Susan Russell.

See you on March 6th and April 3rd Catch the Spirit ! **Carol**

LUNCH & LISTEN 33rd SEASON all concerts at 12:00 noon

3/6/19—Hyde Park Chamber Ensemble

4/3/19—Marta Elena Knapp- *soprano*

5/1/19—Kevin and Carol Becker with Rich Keyes- *folk music*

6/5/19—Helen Avakian and Terry Champlin- *classic guitar stylings*

Cancellations will be announced through hudsonvalleyclosings.com

Website: <https://firstlutheranpok.org/lunch-n-listen/>



March 6, 2019

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Ashes to Go" Before and After the noon L&L Concert

Lutheran Care Center 10:15am

St. John's Lutheran Church

12:00 Noon and 7:30pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

12:15pm - Healing Service & Eucharist,
followed by Imposition of Ashes

5:30pm - Ash Wed Liturgy

First Congregational-United Church of Christ

"Ashes to Go" outside

8:30-9:00am and 12:30-1:30pm

Worship Service at 7:00pm

"sPOKe" BIKE RESCUE



Saturday March 9 from 9:30am–12:30pm

"sPOKe" takes donations of old bikes, makes them rideable, and gets them out to people in the community.

Bikes can be obtained by a monetary donation (~\$50) or 6 hours community service. sPOKe also teaches basic bicycle maintenance and safe riding practices.

Donations of cleaning supplies, bike parts and helmets, and volunteer time are welcome !

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Saturday March 30, at 6:00pm

Menu:

Spaghetti, Meatballs,

Salad, Bread,

Hot and Cold Beverages

Dessert



\$15.00 All Adults

\$5.00 Children ages 6 to 12 years

Under 6 years served free

RSVP by Monday March 25

Please contact the church office by phone 452-6050

or email: office@firstlutheranpok.org

Our Friends at **St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 161 Mansion St. Poughkeepsie** invite you to:

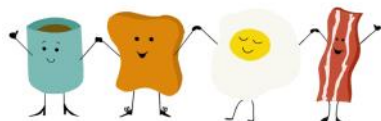
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Tuesday March 5 from 6:00–7:00pm \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 family

Corned Beef Dinner– Saturday March 16 @6:00pm

Live Entertainment ; The Strawberry and Raspberry Hill Fiddlers –beginning at 5:00pm

For more information or to reserve call the **St. Paul's Church Office** at (845) 452–8440

FELLOWSHIP THURSDAYS



Fellowship breakfasts are held every other Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m.at the **Acropolis Diner, 829 Main St., Poughkeepsie**
We will meet for Breakfast on March 14 and 28, weather permitting .

Table Talk/ Pub Night March 7, at Gino's Pizza, 706 Main St. Poughkeepsie
March 21, at Hurricane Grill and Wings, 9 Raymond Ave. Poughkeepsie

Beverages and food are available for purchase.

All are welcome to come for fellowship in the tradition of Martin & Katie Luther who loved to have conversation with friends around the table.

Please join us and bring a friend!

Please RSVP by 2pm on Thursday if you plan to attend so we can make reservations, or notify you of last minute cancellations.



March 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Transfiguration & "Mardi Gras" Worship & Communion 10:00am @FELC <i>Service of HC @LCC -2:00pm</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 12:30-5:30pm	4 FELC Blanket Sewers 10:00am-2:00pm	Council Meeting 6:30pm	6 ASH WEDNESDAY <i>LCC Chapel Service @10:15am</i> L&L Concert- Noon HP Chamber Ensemble New Deliverance Church of S&P	7 "Pub Night" 6:00pm Gino's Pizza	8	9 SPOKe Bike Rescue 9:30-11:30 am
10 Council Installation Worship & Communion 10:00am @FELC <i>Service of HC @LCC -2:00pm</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 12:30-5:30pm	11 FELC Blanket Sewers 10:00am-2:00pm	12	13 <i>LCC Chapel Service @10:15am</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 7:30-pm -9:30pm	14 Breakfast Fellowship @9:00am Acropolis Diner	15	16
17 LWR Quilters Recognition Worship & Communion 10:00am @FELC <i>Service of HC @LCC -2:00pm</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 12:30-5:30pm	18 FELC Blanket Sewers 10:00am-2:00pm	19	20 <i>LCC Chapel Service @10:15am</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 7:30-pm -9:30pm	21 "Pub Night" 6:00pm Hurricane Grill	22	23 Funeral Wm. Rudloff
24 Worship & Communion 10:00am @FELC <i>Service of HC @LCC -2:00pm</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 12:30-5:30pm	25 FELC Blanket Sewers 10:00am-2:00pm	26	27 <i>LCC Chapel Service @10:15am</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 7:30-pm -9:30pm	28 Breakfast Fellowship @9:00am Acropolis Diner	29	30 Spaghetti Dinner
31 Worship & Communion 10:00am @FELC <i>Service of HC @LCC -2:00pm</i> New Deliverance Church of S&P 12:30-5:30pm	April 1 FELC Blanket Sewers 10:00am-2:00pm	April 2 Council Meeting 6:30pm	April 3 <i>LCC Chapel Service @10:15am</i> L&L Concert- Noon Marta Elena Knapp New Deliverance Church of S&P	April 4 Pub Night" 6:00pm Hurricane Grill	April 5	April 6



The next Sunday School lesson for the children of our congregation will be held on March 3.

Please bring the children in your life for lesson time with Ms. Shirley, learning and growing in faith with fun !



Calendar At-A-Glance

Sundays

Worship Services @ FELC @ 10:00am
 Worship Services @ Lutheran Care Center @ 2:00pm
 New Deliverance Church from 12:30-5:30pm

Mondays

FELC Blanket Sewers 10:00am-2:00pm *weather permitting*

Tuesday

Congregational Council Meeting 3/05 @ 6:30pm
 DCIC Annual Membership Meeting 3/12 @ 5:30pm

Wednesdays

Lutheran Care Center -Worship Service 10:15am
Lunch & Listen: 3/06 @12:00 noon
Hyde Park Chamber Ensemble
 New Deliverance Church @FELC 7:30-9:30pm

Thursdays

Fellowship Breakfasts - Acropolis Diner
 3/14 and 3/28 @ 9:00am
 "Pub Nights" @6:00pm
 3/07 Gino's Pizza 706 Main St.
 3/21 Hurricane Grill and Wings

Saturday Specials

sPOKe Bike Rescue 3/09 from 9:30am-12:30pm
 Spaghetti Dinner 3/30 @6:00pm



05 William Polgrean
09 Rikki Bobinger
12 Diane Wood-Miller
14 Kevin M. Goin
16 Scott Compton
21 David Polgrean
24 Jean Vandenbrul
26 Jim Grey
27 Grete Licis



In SERVICE to GOD and YOU

March 2019

Altar *Joan Cohen*

Communion Assistant *Chris Collins*

DATE	LECTOR	FLOWERS	REFRESHMENTS
3/03 Transfiguration "Mardi Gras" Sunday	Shirley Mowell	Adele M.	Rosemary C.
3/10 Installation of Congregational Council	Bill Nicoll	Lorna D.	Lorna D.
3/17 LWR Quilters Recognition	Scott Compton	Rosemary C.	
3/24	Alison Matos		Slingerlands
3/31	Nancy Slingerland	Linda Connors	

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
325 Mill Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

SAVE PAPER and INK

Have your copy of
The Lutheran Contact
sent to you by email.
Contact the church office
with your request.

«AddressBlock»