

Test Message - August 2026 Newsletter

From Church Office <firstchurchlima+live.com@iccontactmail.com>

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To firstchurchlima@live.com <firstchurchlima@live.com>

First Evangelical & Reformed Church

Informer Newsletter, August, 2026

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Elder Ted Coon, 419-233-3589
Elder Patricia Offenbacher, 419-371-1505
Elder Charles Cheuvront, 419-234-8266
Church Office: 419-222-6700
Church Email: firstchurchlima@live.com
Church Website: www.firstchurchoflima.com

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Hold Fast to the Truth.

"Not every threat to the Church arrives with hostility and persecution. Some come quietly, clothed in familiarity, carrying just enough truth to avoid suspicion while slowly dulling conviction, weakening discernment, and shifting hearts away from Christ. The enemy's most effective work is often done not by attacking the gospel from outside, but by subtly diluting it from within.

That is why believers must remain in scripture, humble before God, and sensitive to the Holy spirit. The answer is not suspicion of one another, but vigilance over our own hearts. Let us hold fast to the truth, love holiness and ensure that what grows among us bears the unmistakable fruit of Christ."

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith." (2 Cor, 13:5)

"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves." (Matthew 7:15)

"I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard!" (Acts 20:29-31)

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." (1 Peter 5:8)

Charles Spurgeon, (1834 - 1892)



CALENDAR

*Please click the Bible to
view important events.
(Anniversaries and
Birthdays.)*

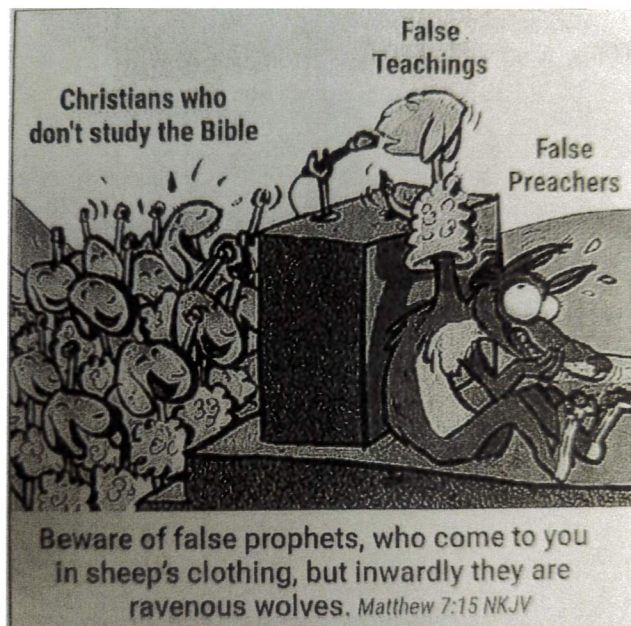


Sunday School, 9 AM
Worship, 10:15 AM

August 6, 2026
Elder meeting here
at 4 PM.

August 10, 2026
Trustees meet at 6
PM and Consistory
meets at 7 PM.

August 30, 2026
Congregational
Meeting following
the worship service.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention shoppers! We will officially kick off Operation Christmas Child in just a couple months, giving gifts to children and sharing the love of Jesus around the world. More details and shoeboxes will be available when we begin our mission. Now is the time to take advantage of back-to-school sales for supplies. Toys and hygiene items are also needed. Please note - soap, candy, food, gum, toothpaste, liquids, glass containers are not permitted. No military figures or war-related items. Remember, it's all about Jesus! Shoeboxes will be due November 15th.
Thank you, Shannon Rapp

There will be no Men's Breakfast in August. The next breakfast is Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 8:30 AM in the church fellowship hall. All are welcome to attend.

There will be no Ladies Aid meeting in August. The next meeting is September 2, 2026 at noon at Western Sizzlin. Please continue to save your Chief's receipts.

Dear Congregation:

My name is Christie Lewis and I am the Speech Language Pathologist with the Sertoma Summer Speech Program. The past two summers, the Lima location for the program has been housed at your church. Twenty-eight children (ages 3-14) received 30 minute speech sessions twice a week for five weeks with the program running from June 8th - July 9th (Monday - Thursday). The children in the program consisted of children with autism, articulation delays, global developmental delays, and Down Syndrome. Goals included: improving articulation skills, language skills, answering "Wh" questions and improving use of speech devices for non-verbal children with profound autism. In the past, the program mostly consisted of children with sound errors and a church would provide a space during the sessions. Since the program has seen increased higher needs of children, the need for a more accommodating space has also increased.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

On September 15, a new Bible study starts. It will take us through the Bible in a year. The Bible study meets on Tuesday evenings at 7 PM at Alicia's house. The book is currently out of stock, but we can share. If interested, bring a note pad, pen and your Bible.

The Rail Legacy: Voices, Images, Artifacts, June 28-November 15, 2026. This takes place at the Allen Co. Museum, 620 W. Market Street, Lima.

Next Gathering Meal is Sunday, September 13, 2026.

First E & R Church will have our Harvest Party on October 3 at Hermon Woodlands from 11 AM - 3 PM. Located at 485 N. Wapak Road, Elida, OH 45807. More information to follow.



Here is the answer to last month's question.

The lady on the left is Barb Irwin. She is the daughter of Rev. Richard Vitz, our 13th pastor. Rev. Vitz served our church for 20 years, from 1953-1973. Barb grew up in this

Your church provided the perfect room for the program. I was able to provide students with sensory needs by using a trampoline, spin chair, and a chair swing to help regulate students with autism as well as therapy materials for various student needs.

The space provided and the generosity of the church is greatly appreciated. Thanks for welcoming the program and providing a space that positively impacted 28 children within the Lima Community.

Christie Lewis-SLP

church. The lady on the right is her sister-in-law, Anita Irwin.

Thank you for visiting. We hope you will come again!

*First Evangelical & Reformed
Church
www.firstchurchoflima.com
Email: firstchurchlima@live.com*

320 W/ Wayne St.
Lima, Ohio 45801
Office Phone: 419-222-6700

Update Email Address

This message was sent to **firstchurchlima@live.com** from **firstchurchlima@live.com**

Church Office
First Evangelical and Reformed Church
320 W. Wayne St
Lima, Oh 45801


Engage. WOW. and grow your audience