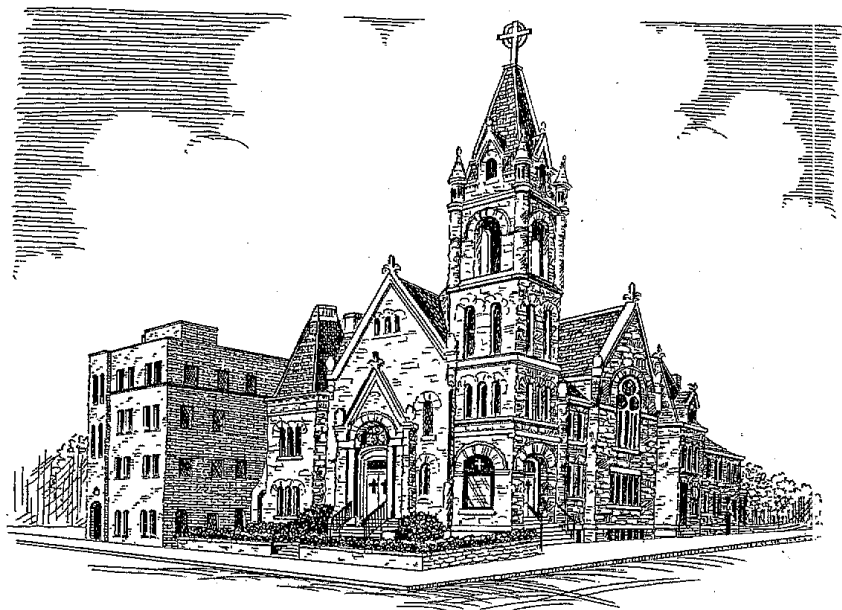


# THE VISITOR



## *The First English Lutheran Church*

*53 Park Avenue West (at Mulberry Street)  
Mansfield, Ohio*

**IN THIS ISSUE****PAGE**

Senior Pastor .....	1
Mid-Ohio Prayer Seminar .....	3
Financial Peace University .....	4
Rides to Worship	
Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers .....	5
Mid-Week Lenten Study	
Requests for Camperships Deadline	
CWU World Day of Prayer .....	6
ALPHA on Sunday Afternoons	
Blood Pressure Readings .....	7
Fireflies and Spirit! Children's Choirs	
Matins Choir Rehearsal	
Prayer Shawl Ministry	
Workday Ladies	
Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch	
Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal	
Senior Choir Rehearsal	
Friendly Friday Seniors	
Food Collection	
Lunch Bunch .....	8
March Worship	
The Miningers Visit from Lithuania .....	9
Easter Lily & Daffodil Order Form .....	10
Daylight Saving Time Begins .....	11
Lenten Coin Folders	
American Guild of Organists Members Recital	
Commemoration of St. Patrick and Spud Fest Lunch .....	12
April Visitor News Deadline	

Luther Fellowship .....	13
Communion Services at Nursing Homes	
Patient Information - Med/Central Hospital .	14
Volunteer Scheduling Contacts	
March Volunteers .....	15-18
+++ MARCH CALENDAR +++	
Annual Reports Deadline .....	19
Mansfield for Malawi	
March WELCA Calendar .....	20
Creamy Peanut Butter Donations .....	21
Requests to the Prayer Chain	
Christian Day School News	
February Church Council Notes .....	22
Voting Results	
Altar Flower Openings	
In the Church Library .....	23
Within the Fold .....	24
March 80+ Birthdays .....	25
From Our Visitation Pastor .....	26
Deaths .....	28
Memorials .....	29
FELC Email Addresses and Web Site	
Holy Week/Easter Worship .....	30
Mission Statement .....	31
Church Staff/Congregation Officers	

## Dear Friends in Christ,

I am excited to share with you that something NEW is happening with our special Lenten Folder Offerings this year. In the past, these offerings were used to help cover the many general operating expenses in our General Fund Budget. In our 2007 Budget, we voted to designate this offering as a Benevolence Offering for our *Lithuanian Ministries*. For several years now, through the wonderful work of Joe and Karyne Carey, we have been able to participate in showing Christ's Love to the people of Lithuania. We have been so thankful for the Careys' mission trips each summer, and the opportunity they have given us to join them in ministry through our offerings. The Careys always cover all of their own travel and personal expenses. Our offerings go directly to benefit the people they serve in Lithuania. This year's Lenten Folder Offerings will go to continue this important ministry of Christ's Love.



Irmantas - Orphan Scholarship



Children of the Rytas Orphanage

How are we showing Christ's love in Lithuania? We have provided much needed scholarships for young people to come and learn English at the *Lithuanian Christian College* in Klaipeda. The college provides a Christian setting in which young people are not only equipped with important life skills, but also come to learn and experience the Love of Jesus.

We are very honored that the President of LCC, Jim Mininger and his wife Virginia will be with us at First English Lutheran on Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Through your offerings, you have also been able to provide desperately needed food and basic living supplies (toilet paper, soap, toothbrushes, socks, shoes, etc.) to the children of the *Rytas Orphanage* and also to an impoverished group of people living at the city dump. One man who lived at the dump desperately needed an operation to amputate his toe, damaged by frostbite. No one had the funds to help him. Through your offerings, the operation was paid for and his life was saved.



Feeding People at the Klaipeda Dump

This Lent, I pray that each one of us will give a special sacrifice of love so that this important ministry for *Lithuanian Missions* will continue and grow!

Christ has blessed us richly! Freely we have received! Freely let us give! The LORD Loves a Cheerful Giver! When we realize all the good we are able to do for others in the Name of our Lord Jesus, one cannot help but give with great Joy and Generosity! Your gifts of coins, cash, or a check may be placed in your Lenten Folder. Please make your Check payable to First English Lutheran Church (Memo: Lithuanian Missions).

Serving Together in the Love of Jesus,  
*Pastor Paul L. Larson*

# The 2007 Mid-Ohio Prayer Seminar

Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2007

Prayer & Praise Worship Celebration

&

Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007

Dr. Terry Teykl - The Presence Based Church

## *The Presence Based Church* -Becoming a Church after God's Own Heart

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Dr. Terry Teykl**

Dr. Terry Teykl's warm humorous style makes him one of the most sought after speakers and seminar leaders in the country. Rev. Teykl has 28 years of experience as a parish pastor and is now working full time in prayer ministry. Dr. Teykl writes: "Sometimes as Christians we wind things up so tight that we break them. But prayer is God's idea. Our responsibility is to participate not produce...He makes it work."

**COST:** \$30 per Person (Your Registration costs include \$15 of printed materials from Dr. Teykl and your Noon Lunch)

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**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

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**This Event is Sponsored in part by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**  
*Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a Fortune 500 membership organization that helps Lutherans and their families achieve their financial goals and give back to their congregations and communities.*

# FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY (FPU)

## CLASSES BEGIN FEBRUARY 27!

**What is FPU?** It is the most important step to changing your financial future. It is your Total Money Makeover Program. FPU is a 13-week life-changing program that empowers and teaches you how to make the right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and God's plan for your life. The course includes practical lessons on eliminating debt, building wealth, giving like never before, and much, much more!

### **What will I learn?**

1. Step-by-step cash flow planning.
2. Debt Snowball Plan technique to eliminating debt.
3. How to invest wisely.

### **Reasons FPU is important for so many....**

*Marital Problems* – 37 percent (the highest rate) of marital problems derive from financial situations.

*Cash Flow* – 70 percent of all consumers live paycheck to paycheck, meaning they run out of money before the end of the month.

*Savings* – The average family would have to use a credit card to pay a \$1,500 unexpected expense (ex. home or car repair).

*Retirement or College Saving* – Nearly half of all Americans (46%) have less than \$10,000.

***The most recent FPU at First English paid off a combined \$48,663 in debt!!***

Call Jerry & Lu Diday (419-522-9808) for more information.

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## RIDES TO WORSHIP

If you would like a ride to either the 8:30 or 11:00 A.M. worship service, call our March contact, **Marilyn Dinges at 419-524-4033**, Saturday afternoons from 3-5 P.M. only. *Leave your name, address, phone number, and which service you will attend.* No phone calls after 5:00, please. Be ready by 8:00 A.M. for early worship pick-up, and by 10:00 A.M. for late worship pick-up.

## WEDNESDAY LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

On the Wednesdays in Lent, February 28, March 7, 14, 21, and 28, soup is served at 6:00 P.M. in the undercroft followed by the Lenten Study in the sanctuary at 7:00. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship!



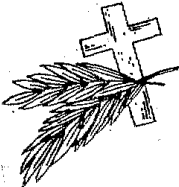
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## MID-WEEK LENTEN STUDY

6:00 P.M. Soup Supper in the undercroft

7:00 P.M. Lenten Study in the nave

### *The Life of Worship*



February 28	Confession & Absolution
March 7	Praise & Thanksgiving
March 14	The WORD!
March 21	The Creeds
March 28	The Sacraments & Sacramental Living

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## REQUESTS FOR CAMPERSHIPS FOR 2007 DEADLINE MARCH 1

Requests for Camperships for 2007 must be submitted in written form to the church office on or before Thursday, March 1, 2007 to be considered at the March 13 Church Council meeting. Include your name, address, phone number, the name of the Lutheran camp, the dates to be attended, and the amount of the fee. For a list of camps, visit [www.lomocamps.org](http://www.lomocamps.org).

An envelope designated for Campership Support was included in your February Offering Envelope packet. The average cost for a week at camp is \$315 per child. Please be generous in your support for our young people!

Church Women United  
**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
Friday, March 2, 2007 – 1 P.M.

at

**Southside Christian Church, Middle-Bellville Road, Mansfield**

This year's service is written by women of Paraguay. The theme, "*United Under God's Tent*" is a way of imagining how God acts. For Abraham and Sarah, God was like a tent or a mantle, protecting them in their call. *United Under God's Tent* is also God's promise to us, and a call to work and to pray together for people in need all over the world. The Paraguayan committee chose the *nanduti*, a classic Paraguayan handcraft based on woven floral patterns connected by a single thread, as a symbol of that unity within diversity.

World Day of Prayer's motto is "informed prayer leads to prayerful action." We will be encouraged to think about how we as informed people of God can center our efforts on displaced families and refugees around the world. **Come, pray, and act responsively as the family of God!** Questions? Call Helen Anderson, CWU Representative, at 419-756-0381.

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*Alpha* is  
coming again!



March 4 through May 13, 2007

Sunday afternoons from 12:30 until 3:00

The Alpha course is a 10 week journey of delicious dinners, thought provoking talks and welcoming small groups where you can ask any question. (Plus a bonus weekend away!)

Registration Materials in the Church Office

WHO CAN YOU BRING TO ALPHA?

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES!

- Sunday,  
Mar 4      **Blood Pressure Readings**, 9:30 to 10:45 A.M. in the Narthex. Nurses coordinator: Barb Hill, 419-756-4998.
- Every  
Sunday      **Fireflies and Spirit!** children's and youth choirs rehearse during the 9:45 A.M. Sunday school hour. Directors: Becky Pittman and Dana Ruth.
- Sunday,  
Mar 4      **Matins Choir Rehearsal** at 9:30 A.M. They will sing at the 8:30 A.M. Holy Communion service on Sunday, March 11.
- Tuesday,  
Mar 6      **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets at 7:00 P.M. in the Narthex Lounge. Knitting instruction and patterns provided. Contact: Karen Ellis, 419-884-1882 or Jan Fisher, 419-589-2820.
- Wednesdays,  
Mar 7 & 21      **Workday Ladies Sew** patchwork quilts 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. on the third floor of Luther Hall (bring a sack lunch). Tracing and cutting, ironing, machine sewing, and tying. Coordinator: Marge MacDonald, 419-756-5714.
- Every  
Wednesday      **Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch**, 12:10 P.M. worship in the Chapel; lunch following in the undercroft.
- Every  
Thursday      **Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal**, 5:30 P.M. in the undercroft (please use the East side Luther Hall entrance). Contacts: Kristi Larson, 419-756-3858, or Joy Jones, 419-884-1016.
- Every  
Thursday      **Senior Choir Rehearsal**, 7:00 P.M. in the choir room in the rear balcony. Director: Dr. Timothy E. Guenther. (Please use the East side Luther Hall entrance).
- Friday,  
Mar 16      **Friendly Friday Group**, 10:30 A.M. program in the Emmaus Room. Lunch is served at 11:30; games until 2:00. Rides available. Coordinator: Margaret Battisti, 419-526-4381.
- Sat/Sun  
Mar 24 & 25      **Food Collection Weekend**. The January collection totaled 8 bags of groceries for Catholic Charities, and \$107 for our Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch Program. Thank you for your continued generous support!



## **THE LUNCH BUNCH**

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 6 . . .**

The Lunch Bunch meets on Tuesday, March 6, at 12:00 noon in the Emmaus Room. Cost of lunch is \$2.50. Pastor Cloyd Kress will show his slides of his recent trip to Alaska visiting his son. Lunch reservations by Monday, March 5, to the church office, 419-522-0662, or Pat Wells, 419-756-6863, are appreciated.

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## **MARCH WORSHIP**

Saturdays:	5:00 P.M.	Worship in the Chapel (Communion with 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday)
Sundays:	8:30 A.M.	Worship in the Nave (Communion 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday).
	9:45 A.M.	Sunday Church School for all ages
	11:00 A.M.	Worship in the Nave (Communion 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday)
	11:00 A.M.	Proclaim! Contemporary, Undercroft (Communion 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun.)
Wednesdays:	12:10 P.M.	Worship in the Chapel; lunch in the undercroft

### **SUNDAYS IN MARCH:**

- Mar 4    ➤Prague, Budapest, Vienna Tour information meeting, 3:00 P.M.,  
Emmaus Room
- Mar 11    ➤Daylight Saving Time begins: clocks ahead one hour on Saturday, March 10!  
➤Dr. & Mrs. Jim Mininger, guests, Lithuania Christian College  
➤Easter Lily and daffodil order deadline
- Mar 18    ➤Commemoration of St. Patrick, Bishop, Missionary to Ireland  
➤Youth fund raiser Spud Fest lunch  
➤American Guild of Organists Members Recital, 4:00 P.M. - Nave



Virginia and Jim Mininger

**THE MININGERS ARE COMING . . .**  
**THE MININGERS ARE COMING . . .**  
**MARCH 10 AND 11!**

Dr. Jim Mininger and his wife, Virginia, have graciously accepted the invitation to visit First English Lutheran to speak about the mission of Lithuania Christian College (LCC). The college not only serves students from Lithuania, but also reaches out to students from 18 other countries, many of which are former Communist bloc countries. It is truly an international learning community.

Dr. Stephen Dintaman, Bible Professor at LCC, states the mission this way: "I regard LCC as an extravagant gift from believers who want to contribute to the building of the future of Eastern Europe. LCC's mission model involves both the sharing of the gospel of new creation through Jesus Christ, and being salt and leaven that changes the chemistry of the students who come through our program, who then, in turn, are change agents in businesses, churches, and throughout society. The liberal arts model of higher education allows us to engage students within the realm of free discourse and critical reflection. I find this setting profoundly consistent with modeling and presenting the Christian faith."

Come, listen, learn about an exciting ministry! Invite your friends to come with you. Open your heart to the possibilities of your sharing in this ministry!

**Schedule for the Mininger's Visit**

Saturday, March 10

6:30 PM Informal gathering in the undercroft

Sunday, March 11

8:30 AM Worship service in the Nave

9:45 AM Sunday School hour

11:00 AM Proclaim! contemporary service in the undercroft

11:00 AM Worship service in the Nave



Please use this form if you would like to give an **Easter lily or daffodil plant** in honor or in memory of a loved one.

**DO NOT PUT YOUR ORDER IN THE OFFERING PLATE.** Bring your order and payment

in directly to the church office or drop it in the mail.

This will help us prevent names from being inadvertently omitted from the listing.

The deadline for orders is **Sunday, March 11.** The cost of lilies is \$9 per plant; the cost of daffodils is \$9.00 per pot.

The lilies and daffodils will decorate the church Easter morning, April 8; they may be taken after the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

**INSTEAD OF RECEIVING A PLANT,** you may make a donation to one of the listed funds.

---

**2007**

**Lily Order:** Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$9.00 per plant)

**Daffodil Order:** Number of pots \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$9.00 per pot)

**Donation (no plants):**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Christian Day School Endowment Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Fund

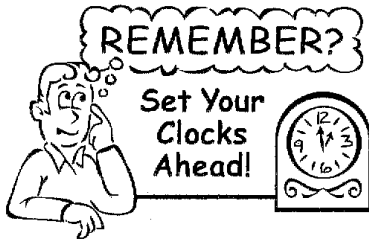
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Building Maintenance Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Mansfield for Malawi

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ Person ordering \_\_\_\_\_



## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 11 . .

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 A.M. on Sunday, March 11. Turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, March 10.

Legislature was passed in 2005 to begin Daylight Saving Time two weeks earlier and end one week later effective in 2007.

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## LENTEN COIN FOLDERS

Filled Lenten Coin Folders may be placed in the wooden boxes at the Narthex doors or brought to the church office during the week. Remember, our Lenten Coin Folder offerings are designated for Lithuanian Ministries.

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## AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

### MEMBERS RECITAL

Sunday, March 18  
4:00 P.M. in the Nave

Organists from the area will be featured.  
The public is welcome!

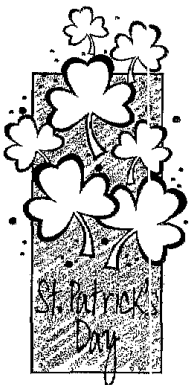


COMMEMORATION OF ST. PATRICK  
AND  
SPUD FEST LUNCH, SUNDAY, MARCH 18 . . .

In commemoration of St. Patrick, Bishop, Missionary to Ireland, we will include Irish related hymns and prayers in our worship services the weekend of March 17 and 18.

And then everyone is invited to the **Spud Fest** congregational lunch following the 11:00 worship services. **Baked potatoes and toppings, salad, dessert and beverages** will be provided.

Hosted by the youth group of First English. Free-will donations. Matching funds are being applied for from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Proceeds will help fund youth activities.



## LUTHER FELLOWSHIP MEETS TUESDAY, MARCH 20 . . .



Join us for a walk through Mansfield's history on Tuesday, March 20, when Mr. Scott Schaut, curator of the Mansfield Memorial Museum, will be our guest. Lunch is served in the Emmaus Room at 11:30 A.M. Cost is \$5. Sign up on the bulletin boards in the Narthex or Luther Hall by Sunday, March 18. Please include your phone number. Questions? Call Carolyn or Lowell Weeks at 419-756-1776.

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Our Nursing  
Home Ministry

## COMMUNION SERVICES AT NURSING HOMES . . .

In order to provide communion for First Lutheran members who live in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, monthly worship services are scheduled in four locations with Communion Deacons assisting the pastors. All residents of the facilities are invited to attend, and members of First Lutheran are encouraged to come and accompany a family member or friend.

*Please note: as of February 2007, Winchester Terrace is no longer on the list, and Alterra Sterling House time is changed to 9:30 A.M.*

Tuesday, March 20  
9:00 A.M.  
Elmcroft of Ontario

Thursday, March 22\*  
9:30 A.M.  
Alterra Sterling House

Tuesday, March 20  
10:15 A.M.  
The Waterford

\* 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month

*Not scheduled in March*  
2:00 P.M.  
Mifflin Care Center

**PATIENT INFORMATION COMPUTERS ARE DOWN** at Med/Central Mansfield Hospital. IF YOU ARE IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM OR ADMITTED, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE, 419-522-0662, to let us know. The hospital will not call with the information. **Don't let your hospital stay go by without Pastoral care!**

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## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULING CONTACTS**

*The monthly volunteers list is published in The Visitor and is posted on the bulletin boards. The following are responsible for scheduling the listed areas of volunteer ministry:*

**Betty Guenther, Staff Secretary**

**419-522-0662**

Acolytes

Assisting Ministers

Lay Readers

Sunday Van Drivers

Van Ride Contacts

**Beth Harruff, Worship Chair**

**419-589-2762**

Communion Preparers

Communion Assistants

Sound Booth Operators

**Wanda Donnan, 419-524-8616**

Greeters

Welcome Table Hosts

**Gene Harsch, 419-774-0247**

Ushers

**Chris Cichanowicz,**

**Sunday School Superintendent**

**419-529-6593**

Nursery Helpers

**Becky Pittman, 419-529-3876**

Children's Church Leaders

**Ruth Sweval, 419-526-5090**

8:00 am Sunday Prayer Partners

Intercessory Prayer Teams

**Gene Luedy, 419-526-4304**

Pew Pad Gleaners

**Barb Hill, 419-756-4998**

Blood Pressure Nurses

**Renee Blankenship, 419-632-6162**

Proclaim! Ushers/Greeters

Proclaim! Communion Preparers

Proclaim! Communion Assistants

# MARCH VOLUNTEERS

## GREETERS 5:00 P.M.

March 3	Jean Ridenour	March 17	Marian Owen
March 10	Jean Ridenour	March 24	Joci Kirst
		March 31	Jean Ridenour

## GREETERS

Sherry Winbigler  
Margaret Runyon

## 8:30 A.M.

Narthex  
East Entrance

## USHERS

Paul Theaker  
Steve Ritz  
Mike Anderson

## 8:30 A.M.

## GREETERS

Susanne LeMunyon  
Lolita Scheiber  
Wanda Donnan

## 11:00 A.M.

Narthex  
East Entrance  
West Entrance

## USHERS

Gene Harsch  
Jon Funk  
Jack Leonard

## 11:00 A.M.

## WELCOME TABLE HOSTS

8:30 A.M. Nave	TBA
11:00 A.M. Nave	Mary Shaffer

## 8:00 A.M. SUNDAY PASTOR'S PRAYER PARTNERS TEAM

March 4	Ken & Karen Frayer, Jerry Gallagher
March 11	Chris Cichanowicz, Jim Scheiber
March 18	Mary Schwartz, Jane Starner, Rob Hogsette
March 25	Steve Ritz, Lowell Weeks

## 11:00 ASSISTING MINISTERS

March 4	Chris Kaschube	March 18	Terry Leedy
March 11	Bob McCready	March 25	Stan Cichanowicz

## LAY READERS

5:00 P.M. Saturday Chapel

March 3	Jean Ridenour	March 24	Kay McNaul
March 10	Kay McNaul	March 31	Jean/Kay/Pastor
March 17	Jean Ridenour		<i>(Palm Saturday)</i>

8:30 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

March 4	Amy Skropits	Carol Pierce
March 11	Liz Prather	Bill Schulz
March 18	Karyne Carey	Helen Anderson
March 25	Jerry Gallagher	Jo Wirstrom

## ACOLYTES

5:00 P.M. Saturday Chapel: A Linda Chapman

8:30 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

March 4	A Jack Harsch	A Travis Fisher
March 11	A Casey Kelley	A Alissa Ruth
March 18	A Sarah Ward	A Emily Blankenship
March 25	A Trayce Prather	A Lindsey Brenkus

## 11:00 SUNDAY INTERCESSORY PRAYER TEAMS

Mar 4	Jim Scheiber, Ruth Sweval	Mar 18	Lowell Weeks, Chris Cichanowicz
Mar 11	Wes Volz, Ruth Sweval	Mar 25	Don Beddard, Mary Schwartz

## BLOOD PRESSURE NURSE

March 4: Nancy Long

### COMMUNION PREPARERS

March 4	11:00 am	Ken & Penny Ekegren
March 11	8:30 am	Bill & Mary Hayes

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

(regular communion)

	<u>March 4 - 11:00 am</u>	<u>March 11 - 8:30 am</u>
Bread Servers	Pastor & Asst Minister	2 Pastors
Wine West	Donna Rettig	Jackie Moxley
Cups West	Bob McCready	Jerry Gallagher
Wine East	Hal Simmons	Tom Pasheilich
Cups East	Pat Smith	Nancy Pasheilich
Intinction	Greg Hughes	Jane Stamer

### 8:30 POWER POINT OPERATORS

March 4	Tom Sarbach	March 18	Paul Ward
March 11	Gordon Moxley	March 25	Tom Sarbach

### 11:00 NURSERY HELPERS

March 4	Marianne Sweat	March 18	Ally Hannemann
March 11	Teri & Lindsey Brenkus	March 25	Mary Shaffer

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS

Becky Pittman, coordinator

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Finance Committee

### PEW PAD GLEANERS

March 4	Marilyn Motson	March 18	Pat Smith
March 11	Teri Brenkus	March 25	Marilyn Motson

+ + +

## **11:00 PROCLAIM! CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

### **Greeters/Ushers**

March 4 Larry and Cheryl Lantz  
March 11 Cindy and Robyn Russell  
March 18 Renee and Erin Blankenship  
March 25 Ted and Karen Ellis

### **March 18 Communion Preparer**

Karen Ellis

### **March 18 Communion Assistants**

Ted and Karen Ellis  
Tricia and Elizabeth Volz

### **Intercessory Prayer Team**

Matt Blankenship and Kristi Larson



**ANNUAL REPORTS DUE**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 23**

**Attention committee chairs and organization leaders!** Your annual report for May 2006 through April 2007 is due in the church office on Friday, March 23. *Be sure to include a list of your committee members.* Reports submitted by e-mail or on diskette are greatly appreciated (felcbguenther@neo.rr.com).

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**MANSFIELD FOR MALAWI**  
**Kenenyeva Orphan Project**

We have just been informed of the fact that for the past few months the Kenenyeva Orphan Care Ministries has been able to feed the orphans only once a month. The orphan care project is currently located on borrowed land. Due to the indecision of the land owner, the orphan project does not know how much longer they can use the land.

With this in mind, they didn't plant as much in their garden this year so they have less to harvest this month. They were still able to give seeds and fertilizer to the care givers for their family's use. However, due to the uncertainty of the land situation, they are unable to meet regularly to feed the orphans as they had

previously been. Also, due to the disagreements over the land situation, some of the committee members have quit, so there is a need for new leadership.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS SITUATION TO BE RESOLVED QUICKLY SO THEY CAN GET BACK TO THE WORK OF MINISTERING TO THE PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF THE ORPHANS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS.**

Also, please pray that we will be able to **raise the needed funds for Shadreck to come to the United States** to educate more people about AIDS, the orphan crisis in Malawi, and how we in America can help.

-Joy Jones





## MARCH 2007 WELCA CALENDAR

CIRCLE/EVENT	DATE	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	MEETING PLACE/TOPIC
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER	2	FRIDAY	1:00 P.M.	Southside Christian Church, Middle-Belville Rd.
SARAH	5	MONDAY	1:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room. Program: Jeanne Hillman Hostess: Margaret Battisti
LYDIA	5	MONDAY	7:30 P.M.	Home of Jackie Moxley, 3711 Shangri-la Ave E. Program: Kay McNaul Hostess: Jackie Moxley
LUNCH BUNCH	6	TUESDAY	NOON	Emmaus Room. Program: Israel trip by Stan & Chris Cichanowicz.
EVE	6	TUESDAY	7:30 P.M.	Emmaus Room. Prayer Shawl Hostess: Barb Hannemann
WORKDAY LADIES	7 & 21	WEDNESDAY	8:30 A.M.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
MARY	9	FRIDAY	9:30 A.M.	Emmaus Room. Easter Thoughts Hostess: Wanda Donnan
PLANNING TEAM	19	MONDAY	7:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room.

Altar Group Workers: Nave – Pat Wells; Chapel – Bev Graham; Proclaim! – Jan Fisher

Funeral Dinners: Squad C, Sandie Volz & Pearl West.

COMING EVENT: Mother Daughter Banquet – May 11, 2007 6: 30 P.M.

## CREAMY PEANUT BUTTER DONATIONS:

### *OUR SUPPLY IS GONE! . . .*

Women of the ELCA (WELCA) sponsor this local outreach project. **We collect jars of creamy peanut butter** to be distributed to the folks who come to our Wednesday Noon Lunches. We feel that peanut butter is a good commodity because you don't have to refrigerate it, and yet it is nutritious. **There are collection boxes clearly marked "Peanut Butter" both in the Narthex and in Luther Hall.** This has been such a successful and needed ministry, that we have given away our entire supply already!

So when you go to your favorite grocery, please remember to pick up an extra jar of creamy peanut butter (any size) and drop it off at church. God bless you for caring about those less fortunate than we are! It's such a small thing, and it can make a big, big difference!

– Jan Fisher for WELCA

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## REQUESTS TO THE PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain provides prayer support to those with special needs or concerns. Prayer requests for members or non-members may be called in to ***Cheryl Strohminger, 419-884-2260.*** Join our prayer chain ministry and become a member of the Prayer Chain! There are no meetings to attend; just make one or two phone calls and pray! Questions about this ministry? Call Cheryl Strohminger at the number above.



## MARCH NEWS IN THE CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL . . .

Our theme for the month is "God provides," from Psalm 104. We will help the children experience the joy of God's creation by talking about our homes, and animal homes and where different animals live. We will also celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the first day of Spring.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

– Cheryl Lantz, Director

## FEBRUARY CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

*Editor's note: the February 13, 2007 Church Council meeting was cancelled due to the severe weather. The next scheduled Church Council meeting is on Tuesday, March 13.*

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### VOTING RESULTS CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, JANUARY 21, 2007

Lay Voting Members to the June 15-16, 2007 Synod Assembly: Christopher Kaschube, Robert Skropits, Carol Lauthers, and Amy Skropits. Proposed 2007 Budget: 84 yes, 2 no.

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### ALTAR FLOWER OPENINGS IN 2007

As of February 16, altar flower sponsors are not yet assigned for the following dates in 2007. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please call the church office, 419-522-0662, to reserve date. Cost per week is \$35.

April

22

May

7

July

8, 22, 29

September

16

October

14

November

4

December

9



## In the Church Library . . .

New accessions in our church library:

### VIDEOS

*Jesus*, Warner Bros., Rated G

*Introducing Jesus of Nazareth*, ELCA, Mosaic Vol. 71

*Introducing The Old Testament*, ELCA, Mosaic Vol. 70

*Prayer*, ELCA, Mosaic Vol. 69

*Holy Communion*, ELCA, Mosaic Vol. 74

*Mission Support - Where Your Money Goes*, ELCA

*The Greatest Adventure Stories from The Bible - The Nativity*, Hanna Barbera

*The Greatest Adventure Stories from The Bible - Noah's Ark*, Hanna Barbera

*The Greatest Adventure Stories from The Bible - (1) David & Goliath*,

(2) *Daniel & The Lion's Den*, Hanna Barbera

*Esther - The Girl Who Became Queen*, Veggie Tales

*Adventures from the Book of Virtues - Honesty*, PBS for Kids

*Adventures from the Book of Virtues - Responsibility*, PBS for Kids

*Heroes of The Bible*, Veggie Tales

*Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree*, The Walt Disney Co.

*Harry Potter and The Prisoner of Azkaban*, Warner Bros.

*Adventure in Wonderland*, The Care Bears

*Alaska - The Last Frontier*, (on loan from Pastor Kress)

*The Best of Alaska*, (on loan from Pastor Kress)

### BOOKS

*101 Amazing Things About God*, Marsha Marks

*Brush of an Angel's Wing*, Charlie W. Shedd

*God's Answers For Your Life*, Billy Graham Evangelistic Assoc.

*In His Time - Recognizing God's Answers*, A Guideposts Book

*The Life of Jesus and More Than A Carpenter*, Josh McDowell

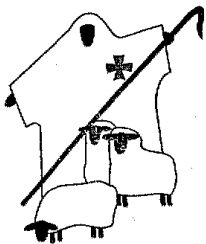
*The Power of Prayer in a Believer's Life*, Charles Spurgeon

*The Psalms Around Us*, Countryside Press

*The Quilter's Apprentice*, a novel by Jennifer Chiaverini

*Round Robin*, An Elm Creek Quilts novel, Jennifer Chiaverini

*The Tender Years*, Janette Oke



## WITHIN THE FOLD . . .

Spaghetti Supper - Many Thanks! Our youth greatly appreciate the support of the congregation during our spaghetti supper on January 20. Without the help of our parents, dedicated volunteers, and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, we would not be able to reach our goals. To our parents, thank you for assisting us whenever asked; to the many volunteers who see a need for our youth, thank you; and to Thrivent

Financial for Lutherans, thank you for your generous matching funds. With our congregation and our faith to guide us, we will become well-rounded Christians. Thanks!

- The Youth

And grateful thanks to the special person who took the soiled Emmaus Room table cloth home following the spaghetti dinner and returned it sparkling clean - you are appreciated!

From Tom & Evelyn Woodard: "We want to thank everyone at First English Lutheran Church for their cards and poster for our 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays. They were so appreciated and made our days. May God bless each and everyone."

From Dee Hautzenroeder: "Thanks to all of you for making my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration so enjoyable with such warm greetings, cards, gifts, and HUGS. God has been good to me, I'm so very thankful."

From Bill Graham: "Thank you, Prayer Partners, and all of your prayers, also. Pastor Kress for the time spent with Bev and me when I was hospitalized. All your prayers were a great help to us."

From Glen Eggeman: "Thank you for all the prayers, calls, and cards during my recent health problems. God bless everyone."

From Bob & Nip McCready and Cheryl & Dean Strohminger: "Thank you for all the hugs, kind words, cards, and calls of sympathy for the loss of brother, Don McCready. You're a very kind and thoughtful church family."

From Catholic Charities: "Thank you for your donation of food to Catholic Charities enabling us to assist the less fortunate of Richland County. We appreciate your efforts to continue to supply food for our pantry." -Susan Zaletel, Site Manager, Mansfield Office



## MARCH 80+ BIRTHDAYS . . .

Best wishes to our members who will be 80+ years of age this month! We send warm greetings to you, and thank God who has blessed you through the years with a full and good life. May you remain strong in faith in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

### MARCH

1	Mr. Jack Leonard	616 Cline Ave, #114	44907-1047
7	Mr. Virgil Frase	Oak Grove Manor 1670 Crider Road	44903
7	Mrs. Georgia Moore	250 Delaware Ave., Apt A-23B Lexington, OH	44904-1215
14	Mr. Frank Sqrow	2150 Rodeo Ct, #29 Thousand Oaks, CA	91362-3057
15	Mrs. Marjorie MacDonald	328 Muth Rd.	44903-1922
17	Mrs. Mildred Weekley	676 Wildwood Dr.	44907-1624
20	Mrs. Kathryn Bowman	c/o John Bowman 1326 E. Ellis Drive, Tempe, AZ	85282
24	Mr. Eugene Marshall	151 Parkwood Blvd.	44906-3217
24	Mrs. Minnie Fraifogl	174 Woodbine Dr.	44906-2354
27	Mrs. Evelyn Martz	2580 Marion Ave. Rd.	44903-8711
29	Mrs. Evelyn Bates	80 Woodbine Dr.	44906-2352



## FROM OUR VISITATION PASTOR . . .

*"Life Changing Love"*

Luke 7:36-50

This story is based on the life of a person whose experience with Jesus changed her life. Let me share this story in the first person.

I am little known in the record books of history. I am a real person and I had a lot of experiences. My fame is known throughout the city of Capernaum, but these stories told are not the real me. Although I remain nameless in the pages of your Bible, my story is something like this.

I was born in a small village some miles from the city of Capernaum. My father was a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee. Life was always difficult in our home. My parents did not understand me. We were always fighting. When I grew old enough, I left home and journeyed to Capernaum to earn my own way. Jobs were not easy to find, and soon I was without money. I did not want to return home and admit defeat, and so I did the only thing I could think of doing. I found a gentleman friend who gave me a room and my food. As time when on, my fame spread throughout the city. It is horrible to know the shame and guilt this type of life brings. As I walked in the streets, the "good" people pulled their robes close so they might not brush against me. Many times they would cross the street just to avoid walking past me.

After some months of this existence, I began to hate everyone. I took long walks in the

country in order that I might be alone. I could not go on living like this! And yet, what power would ever make me whole again? I had even thought of taking my own life. One afternoon, as I walked, I came upon a group of people listening to a teacher. The man who spoke was powerfully built. His voice drew me like a magnet. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. For God is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish." (Luke 6:27-36) "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by me." (John 14:6) As I heard his words, my heart began to pound with excitement. Here was a man who knew my need. Here was a teacher who would not use or ridicule me, but could bring me new hope. He understood the burning pain within my soul burdened with the guilt which had overwhelmed and defeated me.

The crowd began to break up, and this Jesus began to walk toward the home of a well-known religious leader. I had seen Simon before, and he had been one of those "good" people who had made a special effort to avoid me. After they entered Simon's home and were seated, I made my way to the back door, entered, and sat at Jesus' feet. I had only planned to anoint his feet with some sweet smelling oil and then leave, but my plans did not work out that way. As I knelt, I was suddenly filled with a sense of guilt and shame. My eyes filled with tears and I began to cry.

Tears fell on Jesus' feet and I had nothing with which to wipe them, so I took down my hair (which in my land is unlawful for a woman to do in public) and began to wipe his feet with my hair. Although I tried to stop, I could not. Finding someone who understood me gave me new hope. Looking into my past, I felt sorrow and shame. My tears were a mixture of bitterness and joy.

As I knelt, Simon murmured to himself, "If he were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." Then Jesus spoke, "Simon, I have something to say to you. A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii and the other fifty. When neither could pay their debts, he forgave them both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon replied, "I suppose the one he forgave more." Jesus then said, "You are right." Then Jesus turned to me and pointed out to those at the table that I had shown more thoughtfulness and love because of my actions than Simon had shown. He had forgotten to carry out the common courtesies of washing his guests' feet when they had arrived. Then Jesus said to me, "Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you; go in peace." I know I have been forgiven. Not by man, for many people still seek to avoid me, but I know I am forgiven by God.

I have broken all ties with those whom I formerly lived and have decided to go back to my small village and take whatever work is available. I am going back home a wiser and happier person. I have come to know the love of God, which does not seek for its own gain but seeks to give to others.

When Jesus went to the cross, he knew that this was the path he must tread. For humankind needed God's forgiveness. We can never find God's forgiveness until we also receive God's acceptance. Dr. Addison Leach, a Seminary Professor of mine, told this story. A boy was practicing shooting his gun near his home. By accident, the boy missed his target, hit and broke a large picture window in Dr. Leach's home. By the time he had gotten outside, the boy was gone. The next day, his anger had subsided. He cleaned up the broken glass, replaced the window, and paid the bill himself. After he had finished, he realized the boy who broke the window was still carrying the guilt of this deed in his mind. He began to search and found the boy on a nearby farm. At first the boy denied he had broken the window. Then Dr. Leach said, "Son, the window's fixed, the damage is paid for, and I would now like to repair the damage between you and me. I forgive your deed and want you to know that I hold nothing against you." Hearing this, the boy smiled. He no longer had to bear the guilt within himself. He had found forgiveness and accepted it.

We have sinned against our Creator. Yet, many times we will not admit it because the stakes are too high. If we admit our guilt, we will have to pay for our sins. But God, in Jesus Christ, steps between us and God and speaks; "While you were helpless, I died for you. While you and God were enemies, God paid the price of your sins through the death of His Son on the Cross." (Read Romans 5:6-11)

—Cloyd E. Kress, Visitation Pastor



We remember the families and friends of those who died January 20 to February 16, 2007:

<b>Ruth Lintern</b> <i>(mother of Pastor Paul Lintern)</i>	<b>January 23</b>
<b>Fred Heuss</b> <i>(brother of Marilyn Calver)</i>	<b>January 26</b>
<b>Joseph Andrasic</b> <i>(uncle of Dave Prather)</i>	<b>January 29</b>
<b>Jene Donnan</b> <i>(brother of Bob Donnan)</i>	<b>February 6</b>
<b>Darrell Rhodes</b> <i>(grandfather of Susan Hogsette)</i>	<b>February 11</b>
<b>David Wilcox</b> <i>(brother of Eleanor Lime)</i>	<b>February 11</b>
<b>Edith Smart</b>	<b>February 14</b>

We pray for Christ's gifts of healing and peace to touch their lives during this time of loss and sorrow that they may be comforted with the promise of the Resurrection through faith in Christ our Savior.

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## PASTORAL ACTS

Funeral: February 19 Edith Smart



**ELW Hymnal Fund**

**Martha Hostettler:**

Donna Dolan  
Tim Dolan

**Organ Maintenance Fund**

**Evelyn Earick:**

Frank & Alfreda Sqrow

**Memorial Fund**

**Joseph Andrasic:**

Clancy & Carol Lauthers

**Huldah McNeal:**

Dave Meister Family

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**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH E-MAIL AND WEB SITE**

Pastor Larson

felclarson@neo.rr.com

Pastor Jones

felcassociate@rrbiznet.com

Timothy Guenther (home)

tguenthr@richnet.net

Dot Blaney

felcoffice@neo.rr.com

Betty Guenther

felcbguenther@neo.rr.com

Christian Day School

felccds@rrbiznet.com

*Please, no junk mail, cutesy stories, or chain letters.* Reserve the use of church e-mail for important correspondence with the staff. Visit our web site at: [www.felc-mansfield.org](http://www.felc-mansfield.org)

**Mark your April Calendar!**

# † Holy Week †

## Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

April 1

- 5:00 PM Saturday Festival Communion  
8:30 AM Festival Worship  
11:00 AM Festival Holy Communion  
11:00 AM Proclaim! Contemporary  
Worship

## Wednesday

April 4

- 12:05 PM Holy Communion (chapel)  
(lunch in the undercroft)

## Maundy Thursday

April 5

- 12:05 PM Holy Communion (chapel)  
7:00 PM Holy Communion (nave)

## Good Friday

April 6

- 12:05 PM Inter-Church Council  
Ecumenical Good Friday  
Worship at St. Luke's  
7:00 PM Tenebrae Service (nave)

## Holy Saturday

April 7

- 8:00 PM Easter Vigil and Eucharist  
(No 5:00 PM worship)

## Easter Day

Sunday, April 8

8:30 & 11:00 AM

Festival Eucharists

(Senior Choir at both services;  
The Classic Brass Quintet at 11:00)

9:45-10:45 AM

Continental Breakfast (undercroft)

11:00 AM

Proclaim! Contemporary Worship

## MISSION STATEMENT

### First English Lutheran Church, Mansfield, Ohio

First English Lutheran Church exists as a visible sign of the continuing presence of Jesus Christ through his body on earth, the Church. Christ's presence is made known through the ministry of this congregation as:

We regularly worship and experience through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit the vitality of the Word, the assurance of God's acceptance through the divine commands and the earthly elements of the Sacraments, and the fellowship of our brothers and sisters in the faith.

We invite those unfamiliar with the saving grace extended to all who proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior to unite with us and to join us in continually familiarizing all with the Grace of God through our nurturing and caring efforts.

We reach out to the needs of our community and our world in compassion, generosity, and equity. We practice stewardship of our resources (time, talent, and monetary) as responsive expressions of the blessings we have received from the Lord so that the ministry of this congregation will be assured of continuing viability.

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THE VISITOR is published monthly by First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, Ohio 44902-1698. Church office hours: 8:30 - 4:30 Monday - Friday. Church phone: 419/522-0662. FAX: 419/522-0075. Website: [www.felc-mansfield.org](http://www.felc-mansfield.org). Christian Day School phone: 419/522-7500.

#### CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Paul L. Larson, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Andrew W. Jones, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Cloyd E. Kress, Visitation Pastor

Dr. Timothy E. Guenther, Director of Music

Mrs. Cheryl Lantz, Christian Day School Director

Dorothy Blaney, Parish Administrator

Betty Guenther, Staff Secretary/Visitor Editor

Connie Stewart, Printer/Mailing Coordinator

Gina Hutchison, Christian Day School Secretary

John Meyer, Custodial/Maintenance

Gordon & Amy Strohming, Security

Janet Kick, Nursery Care Worker

#### First Lutheran sponsored missionaries

Bolivia, South America: Rev. Nick and Shannon Kraft, and children Madison, Tanyon, Moises, and Tucker

Nairobi, Kenya: Rev. Bob and Denise Schmalzle, and children Aaron and Jacob

World Mission Prayer League Missionaries to India: Brian and Barbara Sorge and family

#### CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Matt Blankenship	Personnel	Sherry Winbigger
Vice President	Gene Harsch	Property	Shawn Volz
Secretary	Mary Schwartz	Service Ministry	Kay Leedy
Christian Day School	Paul Theaker	Stewardship	Renee Ward
Christian Education	Chris Cichanowicz	SCS Superintendent	Chris Cichanowicz
Congregational Life	Nancy Pasheilich	Worship	Beth Harruff
Evangelism	Steve Ritz	Youth Ministry	Annette Doklovic
Finance	Rob Skropits	Women of the ELCA	Cheryl Lantz
Global Mission	Jeanne Hillman		