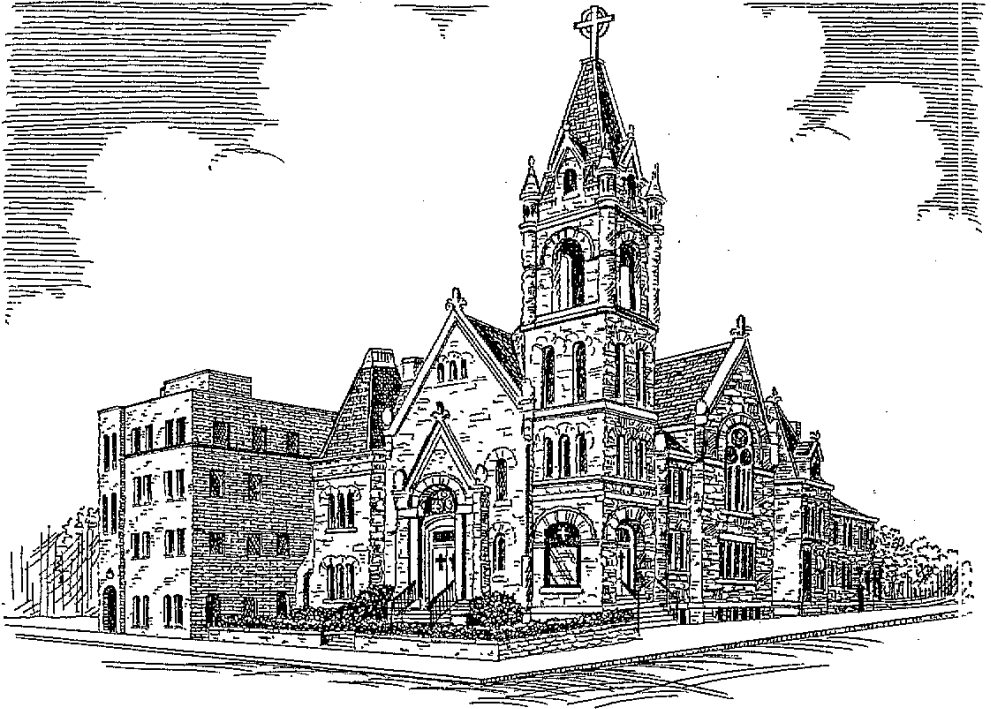


# THE VISITOR



## *The First English Lutheran Church*

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

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“But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power, and that my Name might be proclaimed in all the earth.”

- Exodus 9:16

## Dear Friends in Christ:

What an exciting month we have before us! On Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 we will be celebrating the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mansfield, Ohio!

Plan now to attend the one large combined worship service for our Anniversary Weekend, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 11:00 am on Sunday Morning. Pastor Sandy Mitchell will be our guest preacher for this special day. Pastor Mitchell is the Senior Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church of Ashland and a “Son of our Congregation.” Following our Sunday Worship Service there will be a Reception in the church narthex. Our new church pictorial directories will also be available for distribution. Our day of celebration continues in the afternoon with a Congregational Picnic at our Blackfork Retreat Center, beginning at 4:00 pm.

As we reflect back over our 175 years of witness in our community, it is a good time to give thanks to God for his many Blessings and Steadfast Love. Truly, we serve a great and wonderful God, who through all of the many changes of time is constant in his Grace and Love for us!

We also give thanks to God for the great “cloud of witnesses” that have gone before us --- all of those Faithful Saints. It is on the shoulders of their witness of love and sacrifices for Jesus that we build our ministry today in this 21<sup>st</sup> century. May we learn from their faithfulness as we seek to be faithful to Christ’s Calling to us today!

I believe that it is no small coincidence that in this 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year we are launching our Small Groups Ministry, through our *40 Days of Purpose Campaign*. As we look to our past, it is obvious that one of the great legacy strengths of First English Lutheran Church is the history of the many Small Groups that used to meet each week for Fellowship, Pray, Service, and Bible Study.

The very choice of the architectural design for our main sanctuary (built in the 1890’s and known as the Akron plan) was designed to encourage the meeting of

Christians in Small Groups. This is why the back of the main sanctuary used to be surrounded by a system of small classrooms. Meeting together in Small Groups --- Did you realize that this is how the early church first began? It was through Small Groups, meeting together in homes, that the Church of Christ experienced its phenomenal growth for the first 300 years of its existence. It was only later, under Emperor Constantine, that the Church began meeting together in large church buildings. From the very beginning of the Church, the dynamic of Small Groups has been a wonderful tool of the Holy Spirit to grow Christ's Church!

It was with this in mind, that three years ago we began intentionally training Small Group Leaders. Seventy-plus members of our congregation have been involved in this very intentional training process. Why should we have the training of leaders phase? Again and again, we heard from churches throughout the nation that they so much wished that they had trained a strong team of leaders before launching their Small Groups Ministry. We figured it was just smart to learn not only from our past, but from the past of others.

Now we are ready to launch our Small Groups Ministry congregation-wide. **Forty Days of Purpose** is a wonderful opportunity for every member of our church to experience the blessings and fun of being part of a Small Group. Here we grow together in Christ's Love and Grace. Our hope and prayer is that every person who is physically able will sign-up to participate in a Small Group for the 40 Days of Purpose. Sign-up sheets will be available at church on the weekends of September 2, 9, and 16. Plan now to bring your calendar and Sign-Up!

Some have asked, "Do I have to stay in this Small Group after the 40 Days of Purpose Campaign?" Of course not! But, we are hoping that you will have had such a positive experience that you will want to. And, if you would like to continue in a Small Group, but feel that there is another one that will be a better fit for you and your schedule --- we will be ready to help you find the right match for you!

We have a Great Month before us! We are celebrating our 175 years by launching out in new ministry for our Lord Jesus! Come and be part of the celebration by stepping out in new opportunities with Christ and His Church!

Together In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Paul

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2007

## RALLY DAY!!



9:45-10:45 A.M.

GAMES, CRAFTS, MOVIES, STORIES, SONGS!

LEARN ABOUT THE BEST FRIEND YOU WILL EVER HAVE - JESUS!

## 175<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!

ONE 11:00 A.M. SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE THAT WEEKEND!

*(No 5:00 Saturday Chapel, 8:30 or Proclaim! on Sunday)*

HOLY COMMUNION!

PASTOR SANDY MITCHELL, GUEST PREACHER!

CELEBRATION RECEPTION IN THE NARTHEX!

DISTRIBUTION OF NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES!

## CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC!!

BLACKFORK RETREAT CENTER

*(in the event of rain...backup location is the undercroft)*

- ☞ Fun starts at 4:00 P.M. with games!
- ☞ Dinner at 5:00 P.M.
  - ☞ Bring a covered dish to share for potluck.
  - ☞ Bring your own table service.
  - ☞ Beverages will be provided.
  - ☞ Hot dogs, ice cream and toppings will be provided.



♡ Come and enjoy the fellowship and learn about the daffodil garden!

**Directions to the Retreat Center:** US30 East to SR 603, turn left on 603. The Retreat Center is about 1 mile down on the right (past Molly's Cheese House).

# 40 Days of PURPOSE

Sept. 15	<b>Saturday Kick-Off Pep Rally</b> Supper & Childcare Provided	6:30-8:30pm
Sept. 15-16	<b>Campaign Kickoff</b>	All Services
Sept. 22-23	<b>Week #1 Introduction</b> <i>All Small Groups Begin Meeting During This Week</i>	All Services
Sept. 29-30	<b>Week #2 Theme: WORSHIP</b>	All Services
Oct. 7-8	<b>Week #3 Theme: FELLOWSHIP</b>	All Services
Oct. 13-14	<b>Week #4 Theme: DISCIPLESHIP</b>	All Services
Oct. 20-21	<b>Week #5 Theme: MINISTRY</b> <i>Ministry Fair Weekend!</i>	All Services
Oct. 27-28	<b>Week #6 Theme: EVANGELISM</b>	All Services
Nov. 4	<b>CELEBRATION SUNDAY</b>	Combined Service

## **YOU ARE NOT AN ACCIDENT!**

You were created by God for five purposes, and until you understand them, life will not make sense. This Fall you are invited to participate in an exciting spiritual journey called 40 Days of Purpose. Over the course of 40 Days, we'll explore God's amazing plan for you --- both here and now, and for eternity. Knowing God's purposes for creating you will reduce your stress, focus your energy, simplify your decisions, give new meaning to your life, and, most importantly, prepare you for eternity.

## **BEGINNING SOON IN A HOME NEAR YOU!**

You are invited to enjoy this important series in the comfortable home setting of one of our First English members. Sign-Up sheets, listing the different Host Homes with their times and locations, will be posted at Church on the weekends of September 2, 9, and 16. *Plan now to sign-up!*

Each of the six weekly video lessons is led by Pastor Rick Warren. By participating in a 40 Days of Purpose Small Group, you'll receive your own copy of *The Purpose Driven Life* and a personal study guide. We invite you to join us! Discover GOD's Purpose for You!

## **KICK-OFF CAMPAIGN PEP RALLY!**

Plan now to participate in the congregation-wide Kick-Off Pep Rally, Saturday Evening, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, at FELC from 6:30-8:30pm. Mark your calendar! Come and bring your whole family. Invite your friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Supper & Childcare will be provided!

## **CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED** **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

The church offices will be closed Monday, September 3, for the Labor Day holiday. The Christian Day School will be closed Friday, August 31, and Monday, September 3, for a teacher work day and Labor Day.

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### **The Lunch Bunch is now** ***FIRST TUESDAY!***

The Lunch Bunch will now be known as **FIRST TUESDAY** in an effort to reach out to and invite the downtown workers.

First Tuesday meets on September 4 at 12:00 noon in the Emmaus Room. Cost of lunch is \$2.50. Ted and Karen Ellis will share their experiences of their trip to Budapest, Prague, and Vienna. Reservations to Pat Wells, 419-756-6863, or the church office, 419-522-0662, by Monday, September 3, are appreciated. (The office is closed September 3 for the Labor Day holiday). **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

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## **COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES**

Please let the church office (419-522-0662) know what your college student's address will be for the coming academic year so we can keep in touch with them with The Visitor newsletter and those always-appreciated Valentine's Day cookie packages!

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES!

- Every Sunday      **Fireflies and Spirit!** children's and youth choirs rehearse during the 9:45 A.M. Sunday school hour. Director: Becky Pittman.
- Second Sunday      **Matins Choir** will NOT sing at the 8:30 Holy Communion service on Sundays, September 9 or October 14. Next rehearsal is November 4; sing on November 11.
- Monday, Sept 10      **Men's Group** meets at 9:30 A.M. the first Monday of the month for breakfast at Denny's on West Fourth Street in Ontario. Contact: Hal Simmons, 419-529-6386.  
*Note: this is the SECOND Monday due to the Labor Day holiday.*
- Tuesday, Sept 4      **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 Jar. Fisher, 419-589-2820.
- Wednesday, Sept 5 & 19      **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 Wednesday      **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 Becky Pittman, 419-529-3876. (Note the change of DAY from Thursdays)
- 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, Sept 21      **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 Sept 29 & 30      **Food Collection Weekend.** The July collection totaled 9 bags of groceries for The Salvation Army, and \$437 for our Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch Program. Thank you for your generous support!

## SEPTEMBER 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 SEPTEMBER:

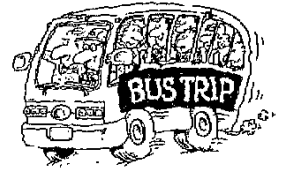
- Sept 9      ➔ Rally Day: 9:45 A.M. Sunday school for all ages.  
➔ 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: ONE 11:00 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE  
                  *(No 5:00 pm Saturday or 8:30 and 11:00 Proclaim! services)*  
➔ Holy Communion Celebrated (continuous)  
➔ The Rev. Sandy Mitchell, guest preacher  
➔ Celebration reception in the Narthex  
➔ New Pictorial Directories distributed  
➔ Congregational Picnic: 4:00 P.M. at the Blackfork Retreat Center
- Sept 16     ➔ 40 Days of Purpose Kick-Off
- Sept 23     ➔ 40 Days of Purpose Week #1 (*Introduction*)
- Sept 30     ➔ 40 Days of Purpose Week #2 (*Worship*)
- 

## ALTAR FLOWER OPENINGS IN 2007

As of August 24, an altar flower sponsor is not yet assigned for **OCTOBER 14, 2007**. If you would like to sponsor the altar flowers on this Sunday, please call the church office, 4-19-522-0662, to reserve date. Cost per week is \$35.

## LUTHER FELLOWSHIP BUS TRIP TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 . . .

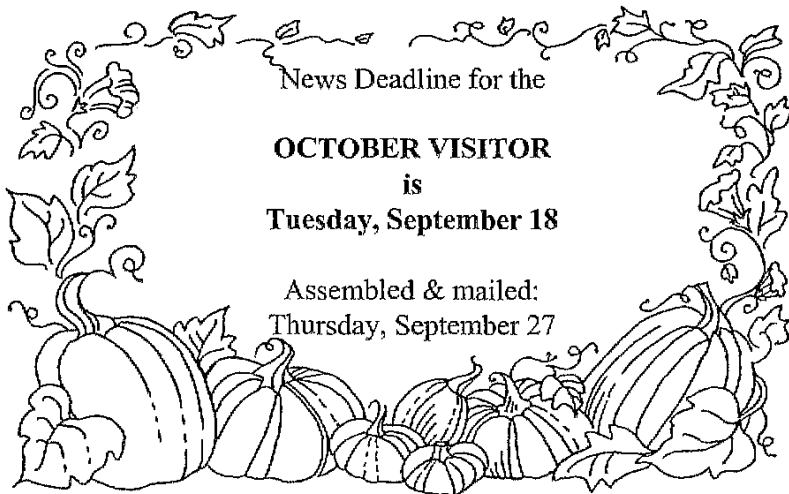
"The Farm at Walnut Creek," new this summer, is a small nature preserve in the heart of Amish Country and will be welcoming Luther Fellowship on Tuesday, September 18.



**We will leave the Mulberry Street parking lot at 9:30 A.M.** and head off to shop and dine at Der Dutchman in Walnut Creek. Afterward, we will travel to The Farm for an afternoon wagon ride to visit and feed the animals. If time allows, a stop at a cheese house may be possible before returning to Mansfield. **Cost of the trip is \$17 with lunch on your own.**

Sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin boards. Please include your phone number. Questions? Call Carolyn or Lowell Weeks at 419-756-1776. Luther Fellowship trips are open to First English Lutheran Church members and friends.

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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.

### Tuesday, September 18

9:00 A.M. Elmcroft of Ontario  
10:15 A.M. The Waterford  
(2:00 P.M. *Mifflin Care Center -  
not scheduled in Sept.*)

### Thursday, September 20

9:30 A.M. Alterra Sterling House

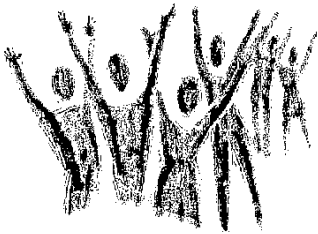
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## ***THE LUTHERAN* MAGAZINE** SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE . . .

It's time to renew or subscribe to *The Lutheran* magazine!

**Cost to our members is \$8.00 for a one year subscription.** Make checks payable to First English Lutheran Church. Note on the memo line "The Lutheran magazine." (The one-year subscription rate through Augsburg Fortress is \$15.95).

**Envelopes imprinted with "THE LUTHERAN" are available in the tract racks for your payment.** You can also mail your payment to the church office or stop by during the week. **Deadline is Sunday, September 30, 2007.**



## COMMUNITY PRAISE! CELEBRATION

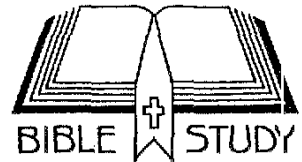
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - 7:00 P.M.**

Join the members of First English and other area churches the evening of Saturday, September 29, for a gathering of Praise and Worship. Area worship leaders will join our own musicians as we draw together in God's presence to worship and adore Him. Classic Hymns and Contemporary Praise Songs work together to build a framework of adoration.

If you heard about our night together last March, you'll want to be a part of this! Mark your calendars now for 7:00 PM, September 29 -- for the Community Praise! Celebration. Don't miss this uplifting time of worship.

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**2007 ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT**  
**OCTOBER 5, 2007 7:00 PM TO ??**  
**OCTOBER 6, 2007 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**



Come out to the Blackfork Retreat Center on Friday evening and stay overnight in the loft if you like. Bring your sleeping bag, pillow, and a snack for Friday evening.

Bible Study theme: *Contemplative Prayer*

Presenter: The Rev. Amy Little (a daughter of this congregation)

**Cost of retreat, including meals, \$20.00.** Members, please invite a friend to come along with you. You will experience spiritual renewal, uplifting Bible study, wonderful companionship.

**Pre-registration required. Deadline to register: October 1, 2007**

Questions? Contact Jan Fisher (419-589-2820) or Cheryl Lantz (419-756-5506)



## SEPTEMBER 2007 WELCA CALENDAR

CIRCLE/EVENT	DATE	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	MEETING PLACE/TOPIC
FIRST TUESDAY	4	TUESDAY	NOON	Emmaus Room. Program: Slides of Budapest by Karen & Ted Ellis
EVE	4	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.	Narthex Lounge. Prayer Shawl Ministry
WORKDAY LADIES	5 & 19	WEDNESDAY	8:30 A.M.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
SARAH	10	MONDAY	1:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room Program: Margaret Battisti Hostess: Vi Deems
LYDIA	10	MONDAY	7:30 P.M.	Home of Mary Schwartz, 1844 W Longview Ave Program & Hostess: Mary Schwartz
MARY	14	FRIDAY	9:30 A.M.	Emmaus Room Program: Global Mission Program Hostess: Virginia Blizzard
PLANNING MEETING	17	MONDAY	7:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room
RICHLAND/ASHLAND CLUSTER	25	TUESDAY	5:30 P.M.	St. Paul's, Bellville OH Speaker: Dr. William Schamadan

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

Altar Workers: Nave – Beth Harruff and Jan Shenberger, Chapel – Bev Graham, Contemporary – Jan Fisher

Coming Events: October 1<sup>st</sup> – Deadline for LWR kits.

October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> – Women's Retreat – Blackfork Retreat Center – Fri – 7:00 P.M.

Sat – 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M., Pr. Amy Little – presenter, Cost - \$20 meals included

November 25 – Thankoffering Sunday

**CREAMY PEANUT BUTTER FOR THE NEEDY**, a WELCA outreach ministry with our Wednesday Noon Lunch Program. Donation boxes are in the Narthex, undercroft, and Luther Hall lobby.

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## TO OTHERS, THROUGH OTHERS . . .

Every day in 35 countries, **Lutheran World Relief** works to combat the causes of poverty and the dignity it robs from people's lives. We advocate for Fair Trade that helps farming families and artisans earn a better income. We teach people to better care for themselves, their communities and the environment. We teach people how to be less vulnerable to natural disasters. We advocate with and for them for policy change that more fairly represents them. We counsel them after manmade and natural disasters, and help them recover with material aid. We do all of this exclusively with partners from the communities we serve. Our partners help us remain incredibly efficient and effective. Our partners let us help people help themselves...for a day when they won't need us at all.



I share all this with you because I want you to know how important it is for us to send LWR school kits, health kits, sewing kits, layettes and bath soap. It is also very important that we continue to send quilts. Sometimes that quilt is the most protection the recipient has for a cold night or a hot sunny day! Did you know that many places overseas, if a child doesn't have one of our school kits with the necessary "ingredients," they are prohibited from beginning school? Please consider joining in on this very worthwhile project! The necessary items for each kit are listed right here in The Visitor.

Deadline to turn in your donation is October 1, 2007. Let's see if we can top last year's contributions! Thank you so much for caring.

-Jan Fisher, LWR Kit chairperson

## 2007 SCHOOL KITS, HEALTH KITS, SEWING KITS, AND LAYETTES FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF . . .

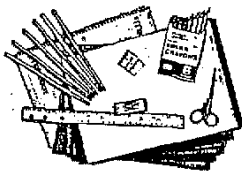
Our Women of the ELCA support Lutheran World Relief by sending comforters (which our Workday Ladies are preparing), School kits, Health kits, Sewing kits, and Layettes. **Listed below are the items needed for each kit.** Please consider completing one or more kits to add to First Lutheran's contribution:

### SCHOOL KITS

- Pads or notebooks of ruled paper  
approximately 8 ½ x 11" containing  
150-200 sheets of paper
- One blunt-nose scissors
- One 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with  
centimeters on one side and inches  
on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- Six new pencils with erasers
- One eraser approximately 2 ½" long
- 12 sheets of construction paper in  
assorted colors
- One box of 8, 16 or 24 crayons
- One cloth bag (provided)

Pack items in bag, fold handles over and secure with two large rubber bands or tie with yarn.

We have a good supply of cloth bags available to be filled for School kits.



### LAYETTES

- Two shirts
- Two gowns, sleepers, or onesies
- Two receiving blankets
- Four cloth diapers
- One sweater
- Two wash cloths
- One bath-size bar of soap
- Two diaper pins

Wrap items in one of the receiving blankets and secure with the diaper pins.

NOTE: items do not need to be new. Gently used items can be substituted for new ones. Sizes up to 24 months may be used. Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front. Infant sweatshirts may be substituted for the sweaters. A length of 36" or 45" flannel may be used to make gowns, blankets (36" x 36" or 45" x 45"), and diapers (22 1/2" wide x 36" long - cut with pinking shears).

*(continued)*

## HEALTH KITS

- One hand towel
- One washcloth
- One bath-size bar of soap in original wrapping
- One toothbrush in original wrapping
- One comb, wide tooth preferred
- One metal file or nail clippers with file, unwrap packaging
- Six Band-Aids, preferably ½ to ¾"

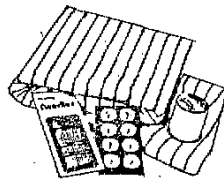
Wrap items in towel and tie securely with ribbon or yarn.

*UPDATE: Please do not put toothpaste in your health kit. The proper toothpaste will be added when the kits get to Baltimore.*

## SEWING KITS

- Three yards of 44" or 45" cotton or cotton blend fabric (four yards if 36")
- One spool of matching thread
- One package of needles for hand sewing
- One card buttons

Wrap items inside fabric and tie with string or yarn.



**All kits must be returned to the church as a complete**

**kit ready for shipping. The deadline to turn in completed kits is October 1.** They will be packed and then taken to Seville, Ohio, later in October for shipping.

— Jan Fisher, 419-589-2820

**BATH SOAP COLLECTED!** This year we will also collect bath soap to send to LWR for distribution overseas. **Please buy prepackaged bath soap, any brand,** and put it in the LWR Kit collection boxes. Great deals on multi-packs of soap are at the dollar stores, Wal-Mart, Sam's Club, Meijer, etc.

The shipping costs are quite high to get these goods delivered overseas. **Monetary contributions towards the shipping costs** may be placed in a pew envelope and clearly marked LWR SHIPPING with the amount and your envelope number. Contributions will be accepted through Sunday, October 1.

# SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL FOR EVERYONE!

## Children:

3 & 4 Year Olds  
 Kindergarten  
 Grades 1 & 2  
 Grades 3, 4, 5

## Studying/Location

*Firelight Series*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall  
*Firelight Series*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall  
*Firelight Series*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall  
*Firelight Series*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall

Grades 6, 7, 8  
 Grades 9 - 12

Youth Room, rear balcony  
 High School Room, west balcony

## Adults:

Juftak Class  
 Logos Class  
 Pastor's Class  
 The Believers

2<sup>nd</sup> floor Fireside Room  
 Chapel  
 Emmaus Room.  
 Narthex Lounge



## 2007-2008 TEACHERS AND VOLUNTEERS SUNDAY SCHOOL, CHILDREN'S CHURCH, NURSERY, AND CONFIRMATION MINISTRIES

Margaret Battisti  
 Sharon Bowden  
 Lindsey Brenkus  
 Teri Brenkus  
 Chris Cichanowicz  
 Stacey Crall  
 Lu Diday  
 Annette Doklovic  
 Amy Elgin  
 Linda Elgin  
 Allyson Hannemann  
 Beth Harruff  
 Pastor Andy Jones

Joy Jones  
 Angie Kaschube  
 Janet Kick  
 Heather Kraft  
 Kristi Larson  
 Pastor Paul Larson  
 Becky Pittman  
 Liz Prather  
 Ron Rehm  
 Ronda Rehm  
 Donna Rettig  
 Cindy Russell  
 Becky Sarbach  
 Tom Sarbach

Mary Shaffer  
 Shelley Shupp  
 Amy Skropits  
 Harold Simmons  
 Marianne Sweat  
 Tricia Volz  
 Renee Ward  
 Allison Weeks  
 Joan Wirstrom  
  
 Librarians:  
 Jeanne Hillman  
 Pat Reed



## SEPTEMBER NEWS IN THE CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Our Bible theme is "We are created in the image of God." Genesis 1:26-27.

On September 4, pre-school will begin with our center almost full. We will do activities dealing with walking and bus safety, small and large motor development. Music on Wednesday mornings will also begin. We welcome Mrs. Becky Pittman, FELC Coordinator of Music and the Arts, as our CDS music director.

Our enrollment for the fall is 110 children ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Please pray for us as we begin the new school year!

- Cheryl Lantz, CDS Director

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### LABELS FOR EDUCATION

REMINDER: **only the UPC CODE is needed** when cutting labels from boxes and soup cans from Labels for Education products.

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**GRACE MATTERS IS THE WEEKLY 30-MINUTE RADIO PROGRAM** of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The program is currently heard on station WHK-AM1420 (Cleveland), 7:30 a.m. Sunday; WKVX-AM 960 (Wooster), 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and WZLP-FM 95.7 (Loudonville), 10:00 a.m. Monday.

## 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 Strohming**, 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 Strohming at the number above.

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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

**Roscoe Thompson, III, Worship Chair**  
**419-522-7571**

Communion Preparers  
Communion Assistants  
Sound Booth Operators

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

Greeters  
Welcome Table Hosts

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

Ushers

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

Children's Church Leaders

**Chris Cichanowicz,**  
**Sunday School Superintendent**

**419-529-6593**  
Nursery Helpers

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

Pew Pad Gleaners

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

8:00 am Sunday Prayer Partners  
Intercessory Prayer Teams

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

Blood Pressure Nurses

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

Proclaim! Ushers/Greeters  
Proclaim! Communion Preparers  
Proclaim! Communion Assistants

# SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

## GREETERS 5:00 P.M.

Sept 1	Jean Ridenour	Sept 15	Marian Owen
Sept 8	<i>(175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: one 11:00 Sunday service)</i>	Sept 22	Joci Kirst
		Sept 29	Jean Ridenour

## GREETERS

Jan Swartz  
Devera and Katie Ritz

## 8:30 A.M.

Narthex  
East Entrance

## USHERS

Paul Theaker  
Steve Ritz  
Mike Anderson

## 8:30 A.M.

## GREETERS

Nip McCready  
Linda Hughes  
TBA

## 11:00 A.M.

Narthex  
East Entrance  
West Entrance

## USHERS

Eugene Calver  
Greg Hughes  
Pat Smith

## 11:00 A.M.

## WELCOME TABLE HOSTS

8:30 A.M. Nave	TBA
11:00 A.M. Nave	Greg Hughes

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

Sept 2	Ken & Karen Frayer
Sept 9	Chris Cichanowicz, Jim Scheiber <i>(175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: one 11:00 Sunday service)</i>
Sept 16	Mary Schwartz, Jane Starner, Rob Hogsette
Sept 23	Steve Ritz, Lowell Weeks
Sept 30	Ken & Karen Frayer, Jerry Gallagher

## 11:00 ASSISTING MINISTERS

Sept 2	Chris Kaschube	Sept 23	Terry Leedy
Sept 9	<i>(2 pastors)</i>	Sept 30	Annette Doklovic
Sept 16	Greg Hughes		

**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS**

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

	<u>8:30 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Sept 2	A Tracy Prather	A Haley Pittman
Sept 9	A (175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 11:00 worship only)	A Elizabeth Volz C Chelsea Heidlebaugh
Sept 16	A Kate Hogsette	A TBA
Sept 23	A Sarah Ward	A Emily Blankenship
Sept 30	A Trayce Prather	A Lindsey Brenkus

**LAY READERS**

5:00 P.M. Saturday Chapel

Sept 1	Jean Ridenour
Sept 8	(175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, one 11:00 a.m. Sunday service - Nave)

	<u>8:30 A.M.</u>	<u>11:00 A.M.</u>
Sept 2	Mary Hujus	Shirley Lane
Sept 9	(175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, one 11:00 service)	Helen Anderson

***(NOTE: Sept 16 - Nov 4: 40<sup>th</sup> Days of Purpose. No readers scheduled)***

### COMMUNION PREPARERS

	Sept 2	11:00 am	Jim & Lolita Scheiber
175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Sept 9	11:00 am	Bill & Mary Hayes

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

	(regular communion) <u>Sept 2 - 11:00 am</u>	(continuous communion) <u>Sept 9 - 11:00 am</u>
Bread Servers	Pastor & Asst Minister	2 Pastors
Wine West	Greg Hughes	Ken Frayer
Cups West	Linda Hughes	Karen Frayer
Wine East	Pat Wells	Bill West
Cups East	Donna Rettig	Pearl West
Intinction	Marianne Sweat	Sherry Winbigler

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS

Becky Pittman, coordinator

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Evangelism Committee

### 11:00 SUNDAY INTERCESSORY PRAYER TEAMS

Sept 2	Lowell Weeks, Ruth Sweval	Sept 23	Jim Scheiber, Ruth Sweval
Sept 9	Wes Volz, Mary Schwartz	Sept 30	Wes Volz, Mary Schwartz
Sept 16	Don Beddard, Chris Cichanowicz		

### PEW PAD GLEANERS

Sept 2	Marilyn Motson	Sept 23	Marilyn Motson
Sept 9	Viola Deems	Sept 30	Sharon Bowden
Sept 16	Pat Smith		

## 11:00 NURSERY HELPERS

Sept 2	Marianne Sweat	Sept 23	TBA
Sept 9	Teri & Lindsey Brenkus	Sept 30	TBA
Sept 16	Joan Wirstrom		

## SEPTEMBER ALTAR WORKERS

Chapel: Bev Graham  
Nave: Beth Harruff and Janet Shenberger  
Proclaim!: Jan Fisher

+ + +

## 11:00 PROCLAIM! CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

### Greeters/Ushers

175 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Sept 2	Cheryl Lantz and Tiffany Thompson
	Sept 9	<i>(One 11:00 am Sunday service - Nave)</i>
	Sept 16	Cindy and Robyn Russell
	Sept 23	Jerry and Lu Diday
	Sept 30	Ted and Karen Ellis

### Sept 16 Communion Preparer

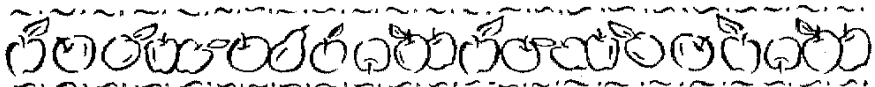
Karen Ellis

### Sept 16 Communion Assistants

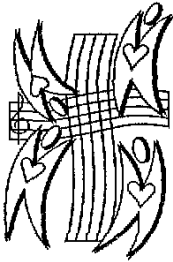
Matt and Renee Blankenship  
Ted and Karen Ellis

### Intercessory Prayer Team

Matt Blankenship and Kristi Larson



## COORDINATOR OF MUSIC AND THE ARTS . . .



### *THE BELLS ARE RINGING AGAIN!*

There are many exciting things happening at FELC this fall. A **handbell choir** is one of them! We would love to have YOU be a part of this musical group. Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays, October 10, 17, 24, and 31 from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. **We will perform at the combined 11:00 service on Sunday, November 4.** No experience necessary! Please call me if you have any questions (419-529-3876) or email me at [zacandbecky@earthlink.net](mailto:zacandbecky@earthlink.net).

See you there!

Thank you to our August performers: Katie Ritz; Collin Griebeling; Matins Choir: Pat Reed and Marilyn Calver; Harold Wright; and Drew Weeks. We appreciate your willingness to serve God through your gifts of music.

– Mrs. Becky Pittman

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## SANCTUARY PIANO RESTORATION

Have you noticed anything different in the Chancel the past few weeks? Perhaps a different look, or a different sound than you have been accustomed to seeing or hearing.



The Steinway Grand Piano in our sanctuary has undergone a major restoration, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor. The action was removed and adjusted, hammers were filed and restored, pedals repaired and adjusted, a broken/missing string replaced, the exterior finish lovingly improved, and the entire instrument given a thorough cleaning and tuning. It now plays very evenly and clearly, even at the softest dynamic levels.

Restoration work was done by Mr. Roy Nieman, local piano technician for the Mansfield Symphony, Renaissance Theatre, and Ashland Symphony, among other area arts organizations.

We are most thankful to our generous patron for underwriting this work, which finishes the one outstanding element that remained to be completed from our chancel renovation project. And just in time for our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration!

–Dr. Tim Guenther



# Council Notes

## AUGUST CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES . . .

Matt Blankenship called the Tuesday, August 14, 2007 meeting of the First English Lutheran Church Congregation Council to order at 7:05 P.M. Pastor Larson opened the

meeting with prayer.

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Pastor Larson stated that a check for \$1187.72, to benefit Wednesday Noon Lunch, was received from Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, St. Paul Lutheran Church and Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church in the Lucas area who held an ice cream social July 21. Pastor Larson said he, Pastor Jones and Ken Frayer attended a leadership conference at Willow Creek Church in Chicago. He reviewed conference highlights. Sandy Mitchell will preach Sunday, September 9, for our church's 175th anniversary celebration, with one 11:00 A.M. worship service that day. Plans are continuing for the 40 Days of Purpose. Gordon and Amy Strohminger and family resigned as security persons and will be moving from the penthouse, with Sunday, September 2, as their last day on duty.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Matt Blankenship presented a written recommendation from the Capital Campaign Task Force. Information was given as to how the task force reached the recommendations. The Executive Committee, based on the input of the Capital Campaign Task Force, recommends that First English Lutheran

Church embark on a capital campaign in 2008 to address the following needs in the following priority order with the intent of borrowing \$300,000 to complete #1, roof replacement, during the 2008 construction season. The other items are to be completed as funds are available and in the order listed.

This recommendation was approved by Council. Council will bring this recommendation to the congregation for input and approval.

**1. Main structure roof replacement (including trim, gutters, painting and chimney removal):**

a. Shoemaker Quote 4/3/06	\$220,500
b. Strip metal	\$ 6,500
c. Misc. metal repairs	\$ 7,000
d. Additional plywood decking	\$ 16,000
e. Architect fee	\$ 8,000
f. Remove and replace ice melt	\$ 10,000
g. Inflation + contingencies	\$ <u>32,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>

**2. Renovate undercroft kitchen:**

a. Install exhaust hood and fire suppression system, base line code requirements	\$ 50,000
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**3. Repair remaining west side stained glass windows and install storms:**

a. West side only \$ 98,000

**4. Repair plaster & paint**

a. Scaffolding \$ 40,000

b. Painting \$ 90,000

c. Additional plaster repair \$ 3,000

d. Paint stairwells \$ 17,000

e. Architect fee \$ 2,500

f. Contingency \$ 15,000

g. Inflation \$ 7,200

**TOTAL \$174,700**

**GRAND TOTAL \$622,700**

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE:** Nancy Pashelich said a reception will be held in the Narthex following the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration worship service September 9. The annual church picnic will be held that day at the Blackfork Retreat Center beginning with games at 4:00 P.M. and dinner at 5:00 P.M. Congregation Life will handle the food for the Saturday, September 15, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. 40 Days of Purpose pep rally. Greg and Linda Hughes will do the decorating.

**GLOBAL MISSION:** Jeanne Hillman reported that proceeds of \$688.52 were received from the Lincoln Highway Buy-Way sale Saturday, August 11, in the parking lot at the corner of Park Avenue West and Mulberry Street. An additional donation of \$500 from a non-member and \$5.00 in Sunday's offering to total

\$1,193.52 to benefit the Kanyenyeva Orphan Ministries in Malawi. A garage sale was held at Joy Jones' home August 17 and 18 to continue the benefit. Jeanne expressed thanks to the many people who helped with this effort. Council approved to have a fund raiser to purchase a mini bus for the Kanyenyeva Orphan Ministries as a gift celebrating our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**WORSHIP:** Roscoe Thompson stated they are working on the September 9, 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration worship service.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Renee Ward outlined plans for a "Get in the Game" Ministry Fair to be held October 20 and 21, 2007 as part of the 40 Days of Purpose Campaign. Focus of the ministry fair is to create new ways to involve volunteers.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** Chris Cichanowicz reported Vacation Bible School was successful and expressed appreciation to Tricia Volz and a lot of volunteers. A nursery worker is needed until mid October, and volunteers are needed for the 11:00 A.M. worship service and the 8:30 A.M. service after September. CROP Walk is scheduled for October 7.

**CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL:** Linda Elgin reported the CDS fund raiser this year is to sell nuts, with approval from Council for this project.

**WELCA:** Cheryl Lantz said Lutheran World Relief quilts, school, health and sewing kits, layettes and soap are being collected by WELCA with the deadline of October 1, 2007. WELCA retreat at the Blackfork Retreat Center is scheduled for Friday, October 5 and Saturday, October 6.

**FINANCE:** Rob Skropits stated that June, 2007 expenses were \$10,000 over income that month. As of August 14, no draw has been taken from the Endowment Fund income that was budgeted for 2007. However it is expected it will be necessary soon.

**PROPERTY:** Shawn Volz said the chapel air conditioner is no longer working. They are looking into replacing it with a heat pump. Work continues on the junior high school Sunday School

rooms. Roscoe Thompson sold divider doors on eBay to a church in New York state for \$499, and a bookshelf for \$85 to someone in Cleveland. The money generated from this sale will offset money spent on the project. The exterior doors to the sanctuary are in need of repair and paint. Work will be done on more gravel at the retreat center.

**PERSONNEL:** Sherry Winbigler of Personnel Committee recommended approval to employ Karen Ellis as printer substitute, approved by Council. Sherry stated that Personnel Committee is working very hard to get back into Worker Compensation group rates.

**ADJOURNMENT:** This meeting adjourned at 9:55 P.M. with prayer by Pastor Larson.

- Mary Schwartz, Secretary

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## **REMEMBER TO RECYCLE AND HELP OUR MISSIONS!**

Take your recyclable materials to **Milliron Industries**, 2384 State Route 39, Mansfield, and tell them **ACCOUNT #480**. The receipts of the recyclable materials we donate in the church's name will be allocated for the five missionaries and missions we support: the Kraft, Schmalzle, and Sorge families, and Rytas Orphanage, Klaipeda, Lithuania; scholarships to Lithuania Christian College; and Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries, Malawi. A list of recyclables accepted is on the table in the Narthex.

- Global Mission Committee



## IN OUR CHURCH LIBRARY . . .

Pat Reed is our official designer for the library

bulletin board, and I enjoy seeing what the new month will bring. Pat also does a wonderful service in cataloging the books for the library. Just like at home, the work is never ending, but we are happy to receive new donations and take requests for good reading. We have reference materials for Sunday school teachers, and material for topics in the women's circles. Thanks for your patience as we organize the main library, children's library in the Emmaus Room, and the annex library in the narthex lounge.

A highly recommended book is one from the keynote speaker at the Global Mission Event in Columbus. Immaculee Ilibagiza is the author of *"Left to Tell."* An easy read with only 215 pages that you won't want to put down until you finish it. If the book is not available, please leave your reservation with name and phone number in my church mailbox.

The Kraft family in Bolivia have mailed us a DVD about their ABC Kids. Nick and Shannon Kraft are bringing the children in Bolivia to Christ!

**New additions to the library include:**

*White Chocolate Moments*, Lori Wick  
*Facing Your Giants*, Max Lucado  
*Who You Are When No One's Looking*,  
Bill Hybels  
*Me, Myself, and Bob*, Phil Vischer

Remember when **Terry Teykl** was leader of the Prayer Seminar at FELC? We have a series of his books that will refresh your memory and you can recall the high points of his lectures: (Catalog Call Number 242)

*Making Room to Pray*  
*Outside the Camp*  
*Mosquito on an Elephant's Rump*  
*Pray the Price*  
*How to Pray After You've Kicked the Dog*  
*Blueprint for the House of Prayer*  
*The Presence Based Church*  
*Prayer Room: Intercessor's Handbook*  
*Fifty Days of Prayer to Invite the Holy Spirit -*  
*Acts 29*  
*Preyed On or Prayed For*

A regular reader recommends the *"Left Behind"* series. There are 12 books in the series, and they are located in the library across from the elevator on the third floor of Luther Hall. Self-serve; write your name on the library card in the book and leave the card on the desk.

Thank you to Paul Ward for connecting my "new" used computer.

—Jeanne Hillman



## GLOBAL MISSION NEWS . . .

The 2007 Global Mission Event (GME) is over, but not forgotten.

What an awesome experience: meeting old friends, making new friends, fellowship with Christians, sharing quality time, sharing stories, hearing keynote speakers, excellent food and service, a very clean campus, clean classrooms, clean accommodations, and our God provided beautiful weather for the wonderful, exciting event.

We were so fortunate to have four FELC members (Jan Fisher, Linda Elgin, Cheryl Lantz, and Jerry Gallagher) to help organize the event, and therefore we could have the inside scoop on what was going to happen, where to go, and what to do. Fifteen attended from FELC. Kay Leedy will post pictures on our website: [www.felc-mansfield.org](http://www.felc-mansfield.org).

The 2007 GME held in Columbus included lectures by knowledgeable presenters. Pertinent movies were available in the evenings for those who wanted to stay up late. Carts driven by volunteers and also bus service provided much needed rides for attendees.

Fantastic music, wonderful singers and instrument players, candlelight services,

and Eucharist – with the Holy Spirit there, one could not help but come away refreshed and renewed in spirit.

If you were not able to attend, there are six DVD's (purchased by WELCA) covering the event and will be available for your viewing. Well worth your time if you want/need inspiration!

GME is a great Christian experience for an awareness of the many different and diversified projects that ELCA is involved in, and also what we can do to help. Sixty-six million Lutherans do make a difference!

Next year, the GME will be held in La Crosse, Wisconsin. We are thinking of the possibility of hiring a bus to go to the 2008 summer event. Perhaps we could share the bus expense with other area church members. Wouldn't that be a great opportunity to meet other Christian neighbors and work together for Christ?

What a wonderful way to plan a family vacation. (There were 300 children at this year's GME.) Learn what is happening in our Lutheran Churches in the name of Jesus. Mark your calendar now for **July 17-20, 2008 Summer Global Mission Event, University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse, WI.**

–Jeanne Hillman

## GLOBAL MISSION MAILBAG

### LITHUANIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, JIM MININGER, PRESIDENT:

Dear Friends of LCC: Thank you for your generous gift to LCC's *transformations* campaign. You should know that this gift is so much more than a financial commitment. You've given a deserving student the gift of a Christian liberal arts education that will help them prepare for work in a rapidly-changing global marketplace.

As you know, LCC challenges students to grow as leaders motivated to serve others and society. The work of LCC graduates, and by extension, your gift will have wide-reaching effects, extending around the globe and lasting for a lifetime. Is there any better gift? We think not.

And what will students do with this wonderful gift they have been given? Many things--unique to themselves and their dreams. Julianna Kovsarova (class of 2006) is just one example. Her dream is to

establish Christian orphanages around the world. Consider how many people she can touch and how many lives she can change when she takes our Christian principles to those whose lives might not otherwise know the Word of Jesus Christ.

Again, thank you for sharing in our vision of transformational education and helping to increase the number of students who can undergo learning and change in a Christian environment.

**Thanks to your Missions Committee and the congregation** for this contribution to student scholarships. We are grateful for your support of LCC's mission and vision to develop a new generation of Christian leaders for Eastern Europe!

—Annette Lough,  
Campaign Coordinator and  
Director of Annual Giving





## MALAWI ORPHAN CARE MINISTRIES



Shadreck has good news and bad news. We will start with the bad news and end with the good news. The potentially bad news is that the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries is currently discussing whether they will continue their relationship with Word and Deed Ministries. As Shadreck has said to me, he knows that the people in America are very willing to help and have the orphans' best interests in mind; however, he feels like it is very difficult to work with the Malawian person that Word and Deed hired to oversee the orphan projects in Malawi. There have been some misunderstandings on both sides between this person and the board of the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries. As I write this, there are two people from Word and Deed Ministries in Malawi on their yearly trip to check on the various ministries that Word and Deed supports there. They are hoping to meet with the board and the person which they hired to oversee the orphan projects to correct these misunderstanding.

We, at Malawi Orphan Care Ministries, are waiting to hear the outcome of these talks before any decisions are made regarding how we will respond. Our hope is to continue to support the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries until they can become self-sufficient. We have some options which include: supporting the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries through a different organization, if they chose to terminate their relationship with Word and Deed and affiliate with a different organization, or if the

Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries does not become affiliated with another organization and terminates their relationship with Word and Deed, we might support a different orphan ministry through Word and Deed. Remember, these are preliminary ideas and we will wait to hear the outcome of their discussions before making any decisions. Please pray that God's will is done and that these misunderstandings can be corrected in a Christ-like manner.

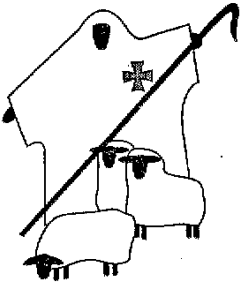
The other bad news is connected with the good news. Yamikani, Shadreck's wife, has been in the hospital briefly due to severe dehydration. The reason she is having severe nausea is due to her pregnancy. She is about 9 weeks pregnant, as of the middle of August, so is nearing the end of her first trimester. Hopefully, she will feel better soon. Please pray that she will be able to eat nutritious food and be able to keep it in her system

Since Shadreck returned to Malawi, he has been working on a web site for the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries. You can access the web site at [www.kanyenyevaorphancare.org](http://www.kanyenyevaorphancare.org).

Please pray for

- a resolution to the misunderstandings between the KOCM board and the Malawian Word and Deed staff,
- good health for Yamikani and her baby,
- wisdom for the leaders of Malawi to help their country become self-sufficient.

– Joy Jones



## WITHIN THE FOLD . . .

From Mary Wendland: "I would like to thank everyone at First Lutheran for your prayers, expressions of sympathy, and cards after the tragic accidental death of my son-in-law, Fredrick Mueller. Your many kindnesses are very much appreciated. Please continue to pray for Cindy as she wages her battle against cancer."

From Mildred Them: "The families of Mildred Them and John Bucklew thank the congregation for the signed sheet with signatures of friends from church. It was very comforting to me."

Red Cross Blood Drive - Thank You. Seventeen pints of blood were donated at the FELC blood drive on August 20. The blood supply in this area has been critically low, and we are so thankful to all those who took time out of their busy schedules to give this gift of life. (Three lives are saved with each pint of blood donated!) Thanks to Ruth Sweval and Carolyn Weeks for helping with registration. You are a blessing!

- Kay Leedy, Blood Drive Coordinator

Sale proceeds to Malawi. "Thank you to everyone who donated items and helped to price and sell those items at the garage sale which was held at my house August 17 & 18. We were able to raise an additional \$295 for Malawi Orphan Care Ministries. This money will be used to purchase food for the orphans as well as school supplies and clothes for them. This money would not have been raised without everyone's help. Thank you very much....Zikoma kwam biri!!!!"

- Joy Jones

From Mary Andrasic: "Dear Women of the ELCA, Thank you so much for preparing the lunch following Joe's memorial service."



## SEPTEMBER 80+ BIRTHDAYS . . .

Best wishes to our members who are 80+ years of age this month! We honor them on their special day, and thank God who has given them a long and full life. We pray for God's rich blessing on them now and in the years to come. May their hearts be filled with joy and peace in Jesus Christ.

### SEPTEMBER

1	Mr. Robert Enskat	885 Red Oak Trail	44904
2	Mrs. Edna Marshall	151 Parkwood Blvd.	44906-3217
7	Mrs. Geraldine Freemon	Primrose Retirement Community, Room 134 1301 Millsboro Road	44906
8	Mrs. Lucille Hunter	706 Scott Dr.	44906-4003
9	Mrs. Dorothy Corley	c/o Carolle Gilbert 410 Fairway Drive Springboro, OH	45066-3313
14	Mrs. Martha Dye	793 Sunset Blvd, Apt. 3	44907-2563
20	Mr. Eugene Luedy	925 Dickson Pkwy.	44907
21	Mrs. Marjorie Saltzgaber	949 Red Oak Dr, Ashland, OH	44805-9101
22	Mrs. Wilda Soka	175 Maple Lane	44906-2346
23	Mr. Max Dye	616 Cline Ave. #105	44907
23	Mr. James Shaum	2160 Ferguson Rd.	44906-1103
24	Mrs. Marjorie Wappner	The Waterford, Apt. 258 1296 S. Trimble Road	44906
30	Mrs. Virginia Blizzard	175 Lynn Drive	44906-2342



We remember the families and friends of those who died July 21 - August 24, 2007:

<b>Virginia Dye</b>	<b>(June 7)</b>
<i>(daughter of C. K. &amp; Sophia Dye, in Naperville, IL)</i>	
<b>Kay Buckle</b>	<b>July 29</b>
<i>(daughter of Mildred Them)</i>	
<b>Jessie Wallace</b>	<b>August 9</b>
<b>Ruth Black</b>	<b>August 9</b>
<b>David Blizzard</b>	<b>August 15</b>
<i>(son of Virginia Blizzard)</i>	

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**

Wedding:	July 28, 2007	Byron Corley and Condrea Lewis
Graveside Service, Mansfield Cemetery:	August 8, 2007	Virginia Dye (Her father, C.K. Dye, was a former president of FELC Church Council.)
Funeral:	August 11, 2007	Jessie Wallace
Memorial Service:	August 14, 2007	Ruth Black



## FROM OUR VISITATION PASTOR ...

### *The Christian's Battle: Righteousness and Sin*

I John 3:1-10; Isaiah 53:1-12

In the ancient world, people spoke of knowing God and about being in God. These Greek concepts filled the minds of those to whom John wrote. Let me explain how these were acted out in John's day. In the fifth and sixth centuries before Christ, during the great classical age, Greeks were convinced they could arrive at God by the sheer process of intellectual reasoning and argument and thought. The Greeks glorified the intellect. A person could know God in an intellectual sense, but that may not have any influence morally...he may not even be a good person.

Later on, in John's day and the time of the New Testament, Greeks sought to find God in an emotional experience. Usually, this was done through what they called Mystery Religions. These religions were centered around a form of the passion play. The stories of these plays were all founded on the life of some god who lived, suffered terribly, died a cruel death and rose again. Before attending the play, the initiate was given a long course of instruction which worked him up to an intense pitch of expectation and emotional sensitivity. This was not so much knowing God but feeling God. It was kind of a religious drug. Its aim was to help the person to escape from ordinary life. You can now understand how persons living in John's day could be religious, coming to know or feel God, but allow nothing of their religious experience to touch their daily life. Our answer to the translating of God into know-

ledge or feeling, ignoring the moral responsibility of the commandments of God, is to return to the God of Scriptures.

John states that the only way we can show we know God is by obedience to God. The only way we can have union with God is through Jesus Christ, God's Son.

In Christianity, intellectual effort and emotional experiences are not neglected...far from it. But they must be combined to issue into moral action or obedience. In Chapter three of First John, John states three marks which represent the Christian's struggle to be morally active or obedient. We shall study the Christian's struggle in the next three articles: I John 3:1-10, *Righteousness and Sin*; I John 3:11-18, *Love and Hate*, and I John 3:19-4:6, *Truth and Error*.

Let's begin by looking at 3:1-3 where John introduces this chapter with a description of the privileges of the Christian life. Clearly, this passage delineates between the human race, who are called creatures of God, and those who live in a covenant relationship with God through Jesus Christ and are called the Children of God. And being a Child of God will make a difference: "*Everyone who has this hope in him/her purifies himself/herself just as God is pure.*"

(continued)

In the old Testament, Zoa, or Life, was communicated to God's chosen people (Israel) through a covenant or an agreement. God, on His own initiative, made a special approach to Israel, first through Abraham, and later through the 10 Commandments. He became uniquely their God, and they became uniquely His people. The Law (10 Commandments) were the ground rules which had to be kept in order to keep the agreement alive. It's like a mortgage on a home. We must make our payments on time or the agreement between us and the bank can become void. It turned out to be very difficult for Israel to obey the 10 Commandments. In fact, because of sin's effect on the human race, they were unable to keep The Law, so it turned into a curse. The effect of Jesus' death on the cross is often described that "he took upon Himself the curse of sin." The curse of sin was death, both physical and spiritual death. In dying physically on the cross and experiencing the spiritual death of separation from God, which he experienced when he said, "*My God, My God, why has thou forsaken me,*" Jesus took upon Himself the curse of sin for the human race.

Through what Jesus has done, taking the curse of sin, God has given this creation the gift of Zoa (Life). Literally, God "adopts" people into the family of God. It is a deliberate act of God. Having received this gift of Zoa (Life), we respond in love to God and our brother, thus bringing honor and glory to God. Note, everyone who is "adopted" into God's family tries to be like God: "*Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*" So, the first contrast John presents is between Righteousness and Sin.

A scorpion, being a poor swimmer, asked a turtle to carry him on his back across a river. The turtle hesitated, saying, "I fear you'll sting me while I'm swimming and I'll drown." "My dear turtle," said the scorpion, "if I should sting you and you should drown, so would I, for, as you know, I cannot swim. Now where would be the logic in my stinging you in mid-stream?" "You're right," replied the turtle, "hop on." The scorpion climbed aboard, and half way across the river, gave the turtle a mighty sting. They both sank to the bottom of the river. As they were sinking, the turtle said, "Do you mind if I ask you something? You said there is no logic in your stinging me like that. Why did you do it?" "It had nothing to do with logic," the drowning scorpion replied, "It's just my character." It is the character of those who live in Christ to seek to put away sin in their lives. It is the character of those of the world to move toward lawlessness, self-centeredness and sin.

Now, we must examine verse 9 closely: *No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him: he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.* Although a Christian may sin, and in fact often does sin, it is nevertheless impossible for him to go on persisting in sin indefinitely. Scripture says that when a person has been reborn of God, something radical happens to him. He receives a new nature... something new has been launched. This course is holiness...purity... "*in order that we might be pure, just as God is pure.*" (vs. 3)

(continued)

John Newton was the only child of a respectable sea captain. When he was a small boy, his devout mother dedicated him to the Christian ministry. When he became 17, he laid aside every religious principle he had ever learned and headed his life in the opposite direction. He participated in such wickedness that his friends thought he had lost his sanity. He became the captain of his own ship and even carried cargoes of slaves on some occasions. A violent storm at sea helped to "awaken his conscience." He wrote, "I cried to the Lord...and I remembered

Jesus whom I had so often derided." Gradually, he came to consecrate every thing to Christ and became a minister in the Church of England. We best remember John Newton from a hymn he wrote. It tells the story of his spiritual journey:

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.*

-- Cloyd E. Kress,  
Visitation Pastor

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## MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

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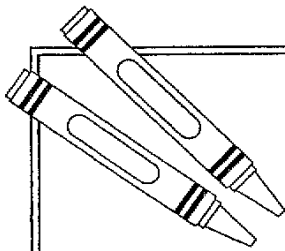
### Honorariums—Communion Offering

Cloyd & Alice Kress' 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary:

Alverna Hentges

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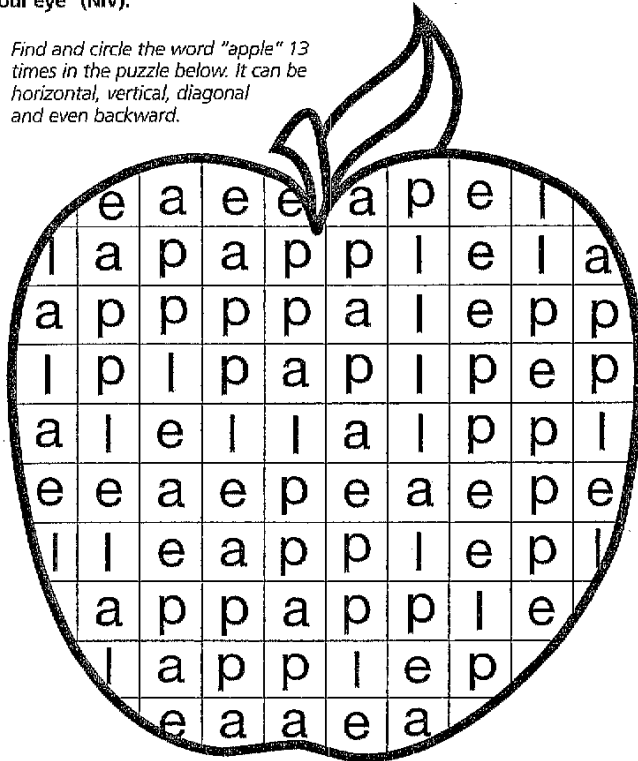


# Just for **KIDS**

## Apple of Your Eye

When something is said to be the "apple of your eye," it means it's precious to you and you would protect it as you would your own eye. With school starting up again, we should remember God's instructions in Proverbs 7:2: "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye" (NIV).

*Find and circle the word "apple" 13 times in the puzzle below. It can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backward.*





**CAMP MOWANA**  
**Fall Festival and Benefit Auction**  
**Sunday, October 7, 2007**  
**12:30 - 5:30 P.M.**



Live Music! Great Food! Hayrides! Crafts!  
Pony Rides! Petting Zoo! Face Painting! Pumpkin Carving!

Benefit Auction beginning at 3:30 features handmade quilts, fine handcrafts, theme baskets, and lots of other unique items. All proceeds will benefit summer camperships.

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*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)

## 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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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

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