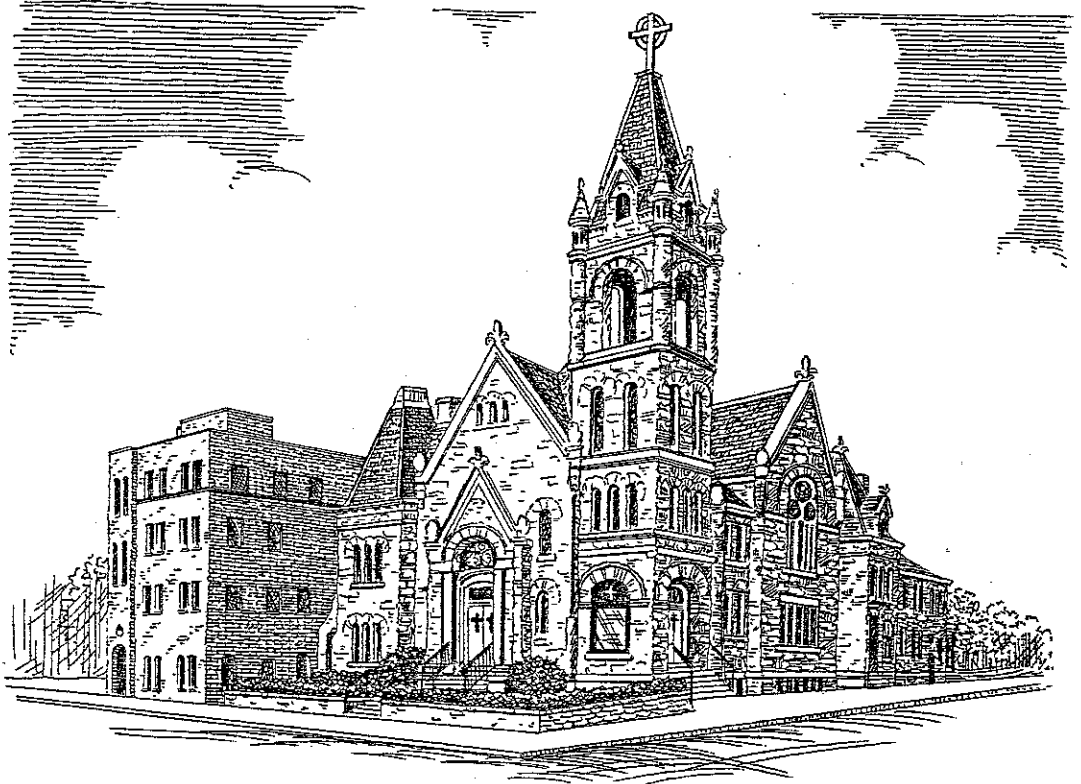


# THE VISITOR



## *The First English Lutheran Church*

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

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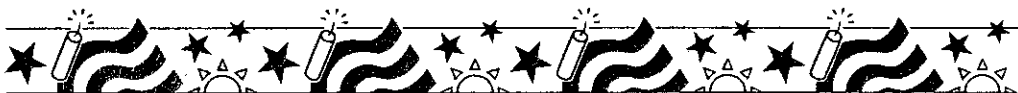
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"For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." Matthew 6:14-15

## **Dear Friends In Christ:**

### *A Reminder on Forgiveness...*

#### **SAND AND STONE**

Two friends were walking through the desert. In a specific point of the journey, they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but...without saying anything, wrote in the sand:

#### **TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE.**

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who got slapped and hurt started drowning, and the other friend saved him. When he recovered from the fright, he wrote on a stone:

#### **TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE.**

The friend who saved and slapped his best friend, asked him "Why, after I hurt you, did you write in the sand, and now you write on a stone?"

The other friend, smiling, replied, "When a friend hurts us, we should write it down in the sand, where the winds of forgiveness get in charge of erasing it away, and when something great happens, we should engrave it in the stone of the memory of the heart, where no wind can erase it."

*Learn to write in the sand.*

**In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Paul**



## REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES!

- Monday,  
July 6                    **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, 419-529-6586.
- Wednesday,  
July 1 & 15            **Workday Ladies Sew** patchwork quilts 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. on the third floor of Luther Hall. Tracing and cutting, ironing, machine sewing, and tying. WELCA contact: Cheryl Lantz, 419-756-5506. *If you can sew patches to make quilt tops at home, contact Pat Reed at 419-756-1372.*
- Every  
Wednesday            **Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch**, 12:10 P.M. worship in the Chapel; lunch following in the undercroft.
- Every  
Thursday              **Music Therapy with Richland Newhope individuals**, 9:15-10:15 A.M. in the Emmaus Room with Becky Pittman, Board Certified Music Therapist. Join us! Contact Becky Pittman at 419-529-3876 or bpittman@felc-mansfield.org.
- 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 Becky Pittman, 419-529-3876.
- Friday,  
July 17                  **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  
July 25 & 26          **Food Collection Weekend.** The May collection totaled \$70 for our Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch Program and 8 bags of groceries for Catholic Charities. Thank you for your continued support!

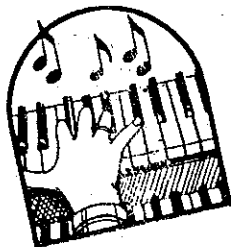
### Schedule Notes:

- Prayer Shawl** knitters will not meet in July or August.  
**Fireflies children's choir** will resume September.  
**Blood pressure readings** will resume in the Fall.  
**The Matins Choir** will not sing in July or August



## THURSDAYS AT THE RENAISSANCE, ORGAN CONCERTS ON THE MIGHTY WURLITZER!

Open to the public free of charge, come and enjoy the sounds of the Mighty WurLitzer theatre pipe organ at the Renaissance Theatre, 138 Park Avenue West, Mansfield.



July 9 - Donnie Rankin  
July 23 - Tim Guenther  
August 13 - Jerry Lang  
August 27 - Bob White

All the concerts began at 1:00 p.m.

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### CHURCH PARKING LOTS SEALED ON SATURDAY, JULY 11 (WEATHER PERMITTING)...

The east (Luther Hall) parking lot and the south and middle lots on Mulberry Street will be closed for sealing on Saturday, July 11 (weather permitting).



**Saturday 5:00 Chapel attenders** should park in the north Mulberry Street lot (corner of Park Avenue West) and enter by the Luther Hall door on Park Avenue West.

**There is the possibility that the east lot (Luther Hall), south and middle Mulberry Street lots may not be open for parking on Sunday, July 12.** If this is the case, then the north lot on Mulberry Street (corner of Park Avenue West), the small lot on the south side of the Flippin building (corner of West Second Street), and the bank lot on the corner of Walnut Street and the alley will be available for Sunday morning parking.

**SONROCK KIDS CAMP**  
**Vacation Bible School - July 17-19, 2009**  
**at our Blackfork Retreat Center.**



Come for the day or camp overnight! Families are encouraged to bring tents or campers.

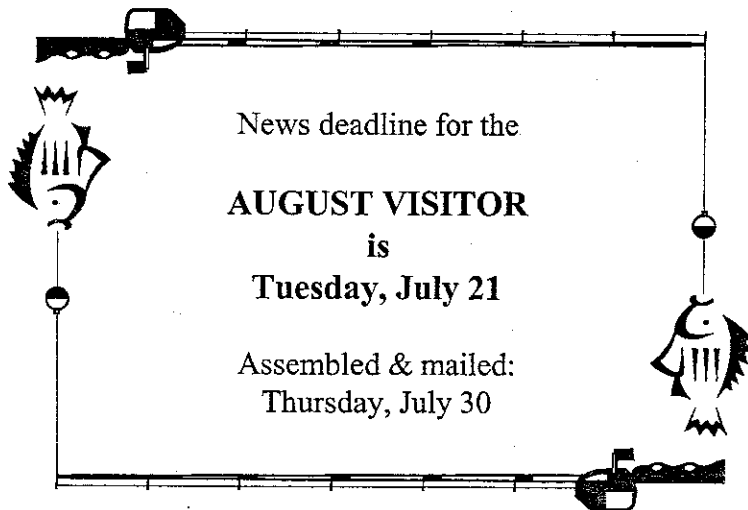
Watch for details in the Sunday bulletins, or contact Tricia Volz at 419-884-3273 or Becky Sarbach at 419-589-7945.

**SonRock Kids Camp — where kids build their lives on the Rock!**

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**LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES (LSS) DAY WITH THE CLIPPERS**, Saturday, July 18, 2009. 6:00 p.m. gates open for LSS Day participants at Huntington Park. 7:05 p.m. game time Columbus Clippers vs. Syracuse Chiefs. Tickets are \$4 each or a Family Pack (6 tickets) for \$21. **Order tickets by Tuesday, July 7 from Betty Guenther, 419-522-0662.** Checks payable to *Lutheran Social Services*. Directions to Huntington Park are available.

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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, July 21

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

### Thursday, July 23 \*

9:30 A.M. Brookdale Sterling House

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

## JULY 2009 WELCA CALENDAR

CIRCLE/EVENT	DATE	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	MEETING PLACE/TOPIC
SARAH LYDIA FIRST TUESDAY EVE PLANNING TEAM	NO MEETING IN JULY			
MARY	10	FRIDAY	11:30 A.M.	Lunch at Applebee's
WORKDAY LADIES	1 & 15	WEDNESDAY	8:30 A.M.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor

Funeral Dinners: Squad A, Margaret Battisti

Altar Group Workers: Nave – Pat Wells, Chapel – Cheryl Lantz, Contemporary – Jan Fisher

## **2009 SEWING KITS, HEALTH KITS, SCHOOL KITS, AND LAYETTES FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF . . .**

Our Women of the ELCA (WELCA) support Lutheran World Relief by sending comforters (prepared by our Workday Ladies), Sewing Kits, Health Kits, School Kits, and Layettes.

**One kit and the items needed for it will be featured in the June, July, August, and September issues of The Visitor.** Please consider completing one or more kits to add to First Lutheran's contribution:

### **HEALTH KITS in July**

One hand towel

One washcloth

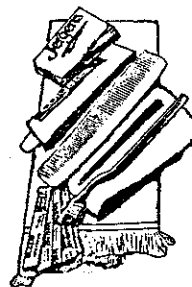
One bath-size bar of soap in original wrapping

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.

NOTE: DO NOT INCLUDE TOOTHPASTE IN THE KIT. A special kind is needed and provided.

Containers for completed kits are in the Narthex and lobby of Luther Hall. **All kits must be returned to the church as a complete kit ready for shipping. The deadline to turn in completed kits is October 4.** They will be packed and then taken to Seville, Ohio, later in October for shipping.

**Monetary donations for shipping costs** may be placed in a pew envelope with your name, envelope number, and amount (checks payable to First English Lutheran Church. Memo line: LWR kits shipping).

— Jan Fisher, 419-589-2820

## "PIES FOR PAULA" GOAL MET!

God has blessed FELC with willing and ready bakers and donors for the "Pies for Paula" fund raisers in May and June.



With a total of \$581, we have surpassed our monetary goal to benefit missionary Paula Powell in South Africa. Thank you all for your generosity! The fund raiser scheduled on July 12 is canceled. Watch for a letter from Paula to be posted on the church bulletin boards.

– Jeanne Hillman, Global Mission Chair

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

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

Our Bible theme for July is: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31.

The campers at our Blackfork Retreat Center have been very busy. They visited the zoo, and went hiking at Mohican State Park. They also went fishing and enjoyed miniature golf last month. The younger children have been having a fun summer. They are enjoying the shows at the library and playing outside. The children will be celebrating our country's birthday this month, and they will be taking some trips to local parks.

– Terry Bianchi, CDS Director

## JUNE COUNCIL MEETING WAS CANCELED

The Church Council did not meet on Tuesday, June 9. Council members were encouraged to attend the Andrew Ironside worship workshop hosted at Ontario Christian Fellowship that evening. The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14.

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### **MALAWI** **ORPHAN CARE MINISTRIES** *FELC Mission Team!*

**Zikomo kwambri.....**Thank you very much!!! There is so much for which we should be thankful. We are thankful that God is in control! The May elections in Malawi were peaceful and, overall, well run. There were some 'inconsistencies' reported, but the people involved chose to determine the correct course of action through the judicial system, not through violence or force. Thank God!

Their president was re-elected for another 5 year term. He has already been installed as their president for a second term, and the transition in parliament is going well. Sadly, Shadreck did not win a seat in parliament. He is disappointed, but believes that God's will was done. He might try again in 5 years.

The mission team also is thankful that all of the preparation for the mission trip went well. The preparations did not go

quite how the mission team anticipated - but God is in control, and He accomplished what He wanted, which was so much better than the team could have planned. Thank God! The mission team is looking forward to sharing with everyone about the people of Kanyenyeva, and how God is working among the people of Kanyenyeva and through the team.

Ken and Penny Ekegren, Pastor Andy and Joy Jones, and Gary Simmons will be in Malawi June 29 through July 13. Please pray for their safety in construction, travel and health. Please pray for God to work in them and among the people of Kanyenyeva.

- Zikomo kwambri!! Joy Jones

*Heartfelt thanks to all who contributed towards funding this mission trip! As of June 17, the amount raised is \$21,473. The total goal is \$22,000.*

## 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 *Carol Lauthers, 419-756-8870 (home) or 419-612-4088 (cell)*. 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 Carol Lauthers at the numbers 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

Greeters

Lay Readers

Luther Hall Sunday Door Duty

**Chris Cichanowicz,**

**Sunday School Superintendent**

**419-529-6593**

Nursery Helpers

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

Pew Pad Gleaners

**Roscoe Thompson, III, Worship Chair**

**419-522-7571**

Communion Preparers

Communion Assistants

Sound Booth Operators

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

8:00 am Sunday Prayer Partners

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

Blood Pressure Nurses

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

Ushers

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

Proclaim! Ushers/Greeters

Proclaim! Communion Preparers

Proclaim! Communion Assistants

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

Children's Church Leaders

# JULY VOLUNTEERS

## GREETERS 5:00 P.M.

July 4	Elva Bonser	July 18	Joci Kirst
July 11	Joci Kirst	July 25	Elva Bonser

## GREETERS 8:30 A.M.

Bill & Mary Ellen Schulz	Narthex
Jan Swartz	East Entrance

## USHERS 8:30 A.M.

Larry Faith
Rebecca Faith

## GREETERS 11:00 A.M.

Greg & Linda Hughes	Narthex
Lana Conry	East Entrance

## USHERS 11:00 A.M.

Jeff Davis
Annette Doklovic
Tom Hillman
Gary Simmons

## 8:00 A.M. SUNDAY PASTORS PRAYER PARTNERS TEAMS

July 5	Chris Cichanowicz and Lowell Weeks	July 19	Ken and Karen Frayer
July 12	Mary Schwartz and Jim Scheiber	July 26	Rob Hogsette and Steve Ritz

## 8:30 POWER POINT OPERATORS

July 5	Paul Ward	July 19	Gordon Moxley
July 12	Tom Sarbach	July 26	Paul Ward

## LUTHER HALL SUNDAY DOOR DUTY

	<u>8-9:45 am</u>	<u>9:45-11:05 am</u>
July 5	Henry Keultjes	Jodi Mumaw
July 12	Betty Guenther	Pat Reed
July 19	Betty Guenther	Shelley Shupp
July 26	Stan Cichanowicz	Ron Rehm

## 11:00 ASSISTING MINISTERS

July 5	Greg Hughes	July 19	Stan Cichanowicz
July 12	Chris Kaschube	July 26	Bob McCready

## LAY READERS

### 5:00 P.M. Saturday Chapel

July 4	Jean Ridenour	July 18	Jean Ridenour
July 11	Kay McNaul	July 25	Kay McNaul

### 8:30 A.M.

July 5	Liz Prather
July 12	Mary Hujus
July 19	Bill Schulz
July 26	Pat Reed

### 11:00 A.M.

Shirley Lane
Chris Kaschube
Diane Molyet
Dan Shupp

## ACOLYTES

### 8:30 A.M.

July 5	Paul Hogsette
July 12	Katie Ritz
July 19	Kate Hogsette
July 26	Stephen Ward

### 11:00 A.M.

Emily Blankenship
Katilyn Stransky
Lindsey Brenkus
Erin Blankenship

## COMMUNION PREPARERS

July 5	11:00 am	Jim & Lolita Scheiber
July 12	8:30 am	Carol Fry & Margaret Runyon

## COMMUNION SERVERS

(regular communion)

### July 5 - 11:00 am

Bread Servers	Pastor & Assisting Minister
Wine West	Pat Smith
Cups West	Hal Simmons
Wine East	Jack Leonard
Cups East	Pat Leonard
Intinction	Mary Schwartz

### July 12 - 8:30 am

Pastor & Paul Theaker
Gene Luedy
Marilyn Motson
Ken Frayer
Karen Frayer
Jerry Gallagher

**PEW PAD GLEANERS**

July 5	Ronda Rehm	July 19	Vi Deems
July 12	Lana Conry	July 26	Sharon Bowden

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS**

Becky Pittman, coordinator

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

Service Ministry Committee

**JULY ALTAR WORKERS**

Nave:	Pat Wells
Chapel:	Cheryl Lantz
Proclaim!:	Jan Fisher

+ + +

**11:00 PROCLAIM! CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

**Greeters/Ushers**

July 5	Robyn Russell	July 19	Ronda Rehm
July 12	Haley Pittman	July 26	Jessika Volz

**July 26 Communion Preparer**

Karen Ellis

**July 26 Communion Servers**

Ted & Karen Ellis  
Cindy & Robyn Russell

**Intercessory Prayer Team**

Matt Blankenship and Kristi Larson



## GLOBAL MISSION NEWS . . .

*Guest preacher from Lithuania on July 19!*

Friends and co-workers of Joe & Karyne Carey will be coming to FELC on July 19. **Dr. Steve Dintaman and his wife, Betsy, will be touring the United States and Canada this summer in behalf of Lithuania Christian College.** LCC is sending

Steve on this teaching ministry because LCC has a great story to share with Christians all over North America.

Starting from very humble beginnings just after the collapse of the Soviet Union, LCC has grown until today it enrolls 650 students from 21 countries. Steve has seen firsthand the power of the gospel and Christian higher education to change students' lives.

His approach to teaching and speaking is down-to-earth, practical, and humorous. He will share out-of-his-classroom experience with students from many different countries and faith backgrounds. All of his talks will be illustrated with pictures and stories from his and his wife's work at LCC. **You won't want to miss this opportunity.**

Dr. Stephen Dintaman has served as a pastor, college and seminary professor and missionary. He has a Ph.D. in Theology from Princeton Theological Seminary. Dintaman has served as Professor of Theology at LCC International University in Klaipeda, Lithuania for the past seven years. He is currently on a speaking tour in U.S. and Canada sharing the story of LCC International University, a Christian liberal arts university enrolling 650 students from 21 countries, located in Klaipeda, Lithuania.

**Mark your calendars now for Sunday, July 19, when Dr. Dintaman will be guest preacher at both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services.**

– Jeanne Hillman, Global Mission Chair

## RECYCLE USED INK CARTRIDGES . . .

First English Lutheran Church is receiving money for **recycling ink cartridges**. Staples has increased our rewards benefits by allowing us 20 ink cartridges per month. We could receive \$60 a month! Just bring ANY empty ink cartridges you have to the church office and we will take them to Staples. A special rewards card must accompany the cartridges when returning them, so please do not return them to Staples yourself. **As of May, we have earned \$129!**

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## STEWARDSHIP CORNER . . .

Thoughts on Stewardship from Andrew Ironside of Hillsong Church, Australia:



Corinthians 4:1-2: *Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.*

Servants follow instructions, but stewards initiate activities.

Servants learn through suffering, but stewards understand the invisible assignments.

Servants serve where they prefer to serve, but stewards serve where they are needed.

Servants serve in the Master's house, but stewards lead in His house.

Servants blindly follow task instructions, but stewards intuitively know what their leader wants.

Servants are not always interested in building relationships, but stewards always build friendships.

Servants will sometimes be small minded, but stewards see the big picture.

# PRESIDING BISHOP'S CALL TO PRAYER

God's work. Our hands.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

**In the seven weeks leading to the start of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly on Aug. 17, I invite you to join in 50 days of renewed and focused prayer** around the *Scriptures that will be used at the Assembly*. I ask you to pray especially for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, for those who will gather in Minneapolis, for decisions to be made, and for faithfulness in discerning those directions to which God is calling this evangelizing church in mission and service for the sake of the world.

– In God's grace, Mark S. Hanson, ELCA Presiding Bishop

## Week of June 28

*Reflecting on readings and prayers for Mon. 8/17*

Joel 2:28-32

Psalms 104:24-31, 35b

Romans 8:18-27

John 20:19-23

## Week of July 26

*Reflecting on readings and prayers for Fri. 8/21*

Leviticus 19:1-4, 9-18

Psalms 119:33-40

John 15:9-17

## Week of July 5

*Reflecting on readings and prayers for Tues. 8/18*

Micah 6:1-8

Psalms 15

Luke 4:16-21

## Week of Aug. 2

*Reflecting on readings and prayers for Sat. 8/22*

Acts 2:42-47

Luke 20:45 - 21:4

## Week of July 12

*Reflecting on readings and prayers for Wed. 8/19*

1 Cor. 12:27-13:13

Luke 9:1-6

## Week of Aug. 9

*Reflecting on readings and prayers for Sun. 8/23*

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalms 34:15-22

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

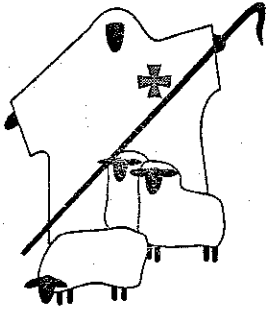
## Week of July 19

*Reflecting on readings and prayers for Thurs. 8/20*

Philippians 2:1-13

John 13:1-17

*Editor's Note: to learn more about the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, and for all the resources (scripture, prayers, songs) pertaining to 50 Days of Prayer, log on to [www.elca.org/50days](http://www.elca.org/50days).*



## WITHIN THE FOLD . . .

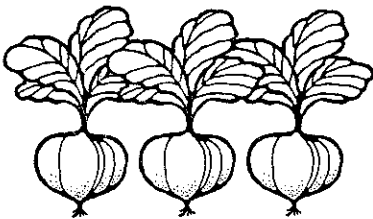
From Lynda Ringold: "My family and I want to express our deepest gratitude for your prayers and loving support at the death of our beloved Jim. Your cards, the poster, your gifts of food and the lunch following the service were greatly appreciated. I am thankful most of all for the hugs and words of comfort. God has used you all to help us bear this loss."

From Ray Vore (June 14, 2009): "I would like to thank Pastor Paul, Pastor Andy, Pastor Kress, and all my friends at First English Lutheran Church for all your prayers in my time of need. A special thanks to Pastor Kress for stepping in for my friend Jim Scheiber and bringing me home from the hospital. The Lord has heard all your prayers, and has brought me through my surgery in good spirits, minimum pain, and a renewed appreciation for life. May God bless each and every one of you."

From Karl and Josephine Kirst: "Karl is now home from the hospital after his surgery (5/18/09) and is doing well. We thank everyone for their cards, concerns, and prayers."

From Karyne Carey: "Thank you to the Prayer Shawl Ladies for the lovely blue shawl, a sign of your love and care. It comforts me and reminds me that God is with me always and holds me in His loving arms."

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## GOT PRODUCE?

Your surplus fresh garden produce is welcome for our Wednesday Noon Lunch program! Call Mary Schwartz at 419-747-2600 if you have extra to share from your garden.



## JULY 80+ BIRTHDAYS . . .

Best wishes to our members who are 80+ years of age this month! We are glad to 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.

### JULY

2	Mr. Don Gestenslager	1090 Burkwood Rd.	44907-2412
5	Mrs. Helen Honse	355 Westlawn Dr.	44906-2313
9	Mrs. Mary Jackson	3125 State Route 430	44903-8590
15	Mrs. Marjorie Reining	594 S. Trimble Rd., Apt. B	44906-4114
17	Mr. Robert Dorner	781 Pulver List Rd.	44905-2546
19	Mrs. Virginia White	91 Chestnut Court	44906
19	Mrs. Elaine Lemon	546 Connor Dr.	44905-2027
30	Mr. Richard Theaker	1671 Middle-Bellville Rd.	44904-1827
31	Miss Marilyn Motson	990 Briarwood Rd., Apt. 3	44907-2361

*Editor's note: if you **DO NOT WANT** your 80+ birthday published in The Visitor, please let the church office know, 419-522-0662.*



## Pastor's Notes

### FROM OUR VISITATION PASTOR ...

With these summer days, my thoughts are centered on one of the greatest

pitchers to be enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. His name is Mordecai Brown. He was born into the home of an Indiana farmer. From childhood, this boy wanted to be a baseball player. His mother always said to him, "Trust Jesus. If he wants you to be a great baseball player, He will help you. Trust Jesus."

One day, while still a small child, he got his hand caught in a farm machine which took off most of his forefinger and crushed his second finger. Depressed, he asked, "how can I ever be a pitcher?" But trust had been built into Mordecai Brown by his mother, so he went out to play ball regardless of his injured hand. He tried to throw with his left hand, but without success. However, he got so that he could hold and throw the ball with his right hand rather well, at least well enough to make the team, where he was assigned to third base.

One day the manager happened to be directly behind the first baseman when Mordecai Brown threw a ball from third base. It had all kinds of twists and turns and gyrations, but it landed perfectly in the first baseman's glove. Astonished, the manager said to him later, "Mordecai, you are a born pitcher." Mordecai said simply and trustingly, "Yes, I asked Jesus a long time ago to make me a pitcher." After some practice, Mordecai

Brown began to pitch. He would throw the ball with that abbreviated first finger and the crushed second finger in such a way that it would come dancing, twisting, turning and gyrating up and down toward the batter and leave him completely baffled. Mordecai's strikeout record was one of the best in the big leagues. Mordecai Brown became one of the greatest pitchers in the history of the game. Jesus took those twisted, broken fingers and planted the idea that they could be an asset instead of a liability. Between faith and incredible skill, Mordecai Brown handled life's "impossibility."

That is the same kind of faith that we need. Scripture states: "With God nothing shall be impossible." There are at least two reasons why we lack faith -- we focus on our problem rather than the source of our strength -- God, and we expect to "feel" God's presence and power rather than accepting God's gifts through faith. Many people suffer from self-doubt and lack of faith because they focus on the problem rather than on the one who has the solution - God. The writer of the Book of Hebrews states, "Without faith it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to God must believe that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."

So, when you face self-doubt or great obstacles in your life, focus not on the problem, but on the source of victory over the problem - God Himself. Our faith in Jesus Christ is a faith that works.

— Cloyd E. Kress, Visitation Pastor

# MEMORIALS

## ENDOWMENT FUND

**Virginia McBride:**

C. Eugene and Ruth Kreitler

Lynn Kaemmerer

## ANDERSON LECTURE FUND

**James Ringold:**

Bill and Mary Ellen Schulz

## MEMORIAL FUND

**James Ringold:**

Lois McCullough

## GLOBAL MISSIONS

**Virginia McBride:**

David Prather

## RENEWING GOD'S HOUSE APPEAL

**Paul Conrad:**

Wes and Sandie Volz

**Virginia McBride:**

Bill and Mary Schwartz

Wes and Sandie Volz

**James Ringold:**

Bill and Mary Schwartz

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Paul Conrad:**

Tom and Jeanne Hillman

## SEMINARIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Virginia McBride:**

Norm McCracken

**Paul Conrad:**

Norm McCracken

## WEDNESDAY NOON LUNCH PROGRAM

**Paul Conrad:**

Bill and Mary Schwartz

Albert and Joanne Marvin

Harold and Lucy Amsbaugh

Gene Harsch

Bill and Mary Ellen Schulz

Miriam Dye

John and Theresa Sutter

Thomas and Linda Gano

Sue McCoy

Greg and Annie Bibler

Jon McCoy

Marilyn Dinges

Betsy Cave

Eddie and Joan Chiudioni

Marty and Bonnie Elias

Dale and Evelyn Treace

Carol Dalglish

Lois McCullough

## LET YOUR LIFE BE A LEGACY

No matter what each person's individual situation may be in life, we can all leave a Living Legacy of Faith. How? ... by remembering your church in your estate planning. As a witness of your great love and faith in Jesus, we invite you to give the tithe (10%) of your estate to the eternal work of God's Kingdom. There are so many good organizations that seek our support, but only Jesus gives The Gift that "Keeps On Giving" ... The Gift of Forgiveness and The Joy of Eternal Life! Through Legacy Giving we now participate with Christ in giving a Gift that will "keep on giving" till Jesus comes. Let the Light of your Love shine forth through your Legacy Gift to the endowment funds of First English Lutheran Church.

*"O LORD, So teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom."* Psalm 90:12

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We remember the families and friends of those who died May 23 - June 19, 2009:

<b>Paul Conrad</b>	<b>May 26</b>
<b>True Westfall</b>	<b>May 31</b>
<i>(brother-in-law of Pr. Cloyd Kress)</i>	
<b>Otto Schulz</b>	<b>June 6</b>
<i>(brother of Bill Schulz)</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.

## PASTORAL ACTS

Funerals:	May 26, 2009	June Trease (by Pastor Kress)
	June 1, 2009	Paul Conrad
Memorial Service:	June 22, 2009	Virginia McBride

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**WHEN PLANNING FOR YOUR FINAL RESTING PLACE**, consider our First English Lutheran Church Columbarium. Brochures about our Columbarium are available in the tract racks, or contact the church office, 419-522-0662.

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

Pastor Larson	plarson@felc-mansfield.org
Pastor Jones	ajones@felc-mansfield.org
Pastor Kress	ckress@felc-mansfield.org
Timothy Guenther	tguenther@felc-mansfield.org
Becky Pittman	bpittman@felc-mansfield.org
Karen Frayer	kfrayer@felc-mansfield.org
Betty Guenther	bguenther@felc-mansfield.org
Connie Stewart	cstewart@felc-mansfield.org
Church Office	office@felc-mansfield.org

*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)

*Emergency cell phone numbers if the pastors cannot be contacted at church or home:*  
Pastor Paul Larson, 419-632-1875. Pastor Andy Jones, 419-989-3715.

# July 2009

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 8:30AM - Workday Ladies (3rd) 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>2</b> 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>3</b> 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>4</b> 5:00PM - Holy Communion (Chapel) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**
<b>5</b> 8:30AM - Worship (Nave) 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 11:00AM - Holy Comm (Nave) 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp (UC) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>6</b> 9:30AM - Men's Group @ Denny's 7:00PM - Property Committee (UC) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>7</b> 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (ER) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>8</b> 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>9</b> 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>10</b> 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL) 11:30AM - Mary Circle-Lunch @ Applebee's **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>11</b> 5:00PM - Worship (Chapel) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**
<b>12</b> 8:30AM - Holy Comm (Nave) 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 11:00AM - Worship (Nave) 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp (UC) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>13</b> 2:00PM - Finance Meeting (FR) **MALAWI MISSION TRIP**	<b>14</b> 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (ER) 7:00PM - Council (UC)	<b>15</b> 8:30AM - Workday Ladies (3rd) 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	<b>16</b> 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC)	<b>17</b> 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL) 10:30AM - 2:00PM Friendly Friday Srs (ER) VBS (BRC)	<b>18</b> 5:00PM - Worship (Chapel) VBS (BRC)
<b>19</b> 8:30AM - Worship (Nave) 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 11:00AM - Worship (Nave) 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp @ Blackfork Retreat 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee VBS (BRC)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00AM - Holy Comm (Elmcroft) 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 10:15AM - Holy Comm (Waterford) 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (ER) **VISITOR DEADLINE**	<b>22</b> 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	<b>23</b> 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 9:30AM - Holy Communion (Sterling House) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC)	<b>24</b> 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL)	<b>25</b> 5:00PM - Worship (Chapel) *Food Collection*
<b>26</b> 8:30AM - Worship (Nave) 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp (UC) 11:00AM - Worship (Nave) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee *Food Collection*	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (ER) 7:00PM - Worship Committee (ER)	<b>29</b> 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	<b>30</b> 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 12:30PM - VISITOR Assembly (3rd) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC)	<b>31</b> 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL)	

**Legend:**  
 BRC - Blackfork Retreat Center  
 C - Chapel in Luther Hall  
 CDS - Christian Day School  
 Ch Rm - Choir Room  
 ER - Emmaus Room  
     First Floor, Luther Hall  
 FR - Fireside Room  
     Second Floor, Luther Hall  
 Nave - Main Sanctuary  
 UC - Undercroft  
     (church basement)  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - Third Floor, Luther Hall  
 NL - Narthex Lounge

## 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. Becky Pittman, Coordinator of Music and The Arts  
Mrs. Terry Bianchi, Christian Day School Director  
Karen Frayer, Bookkeeper  
Connie Stewart, Parish Secretary/Printer  
Betty Guenther, Staff Secretary/Visitor Editor  
Michelle Myers, Christian Day School Secretary  
John Meyer, Custodial/Maintenance  
Jim Scheiber, Property Manager  
Nancy Thompson, Nursery Care Worker

#### First Lutheran sponsored missionaries

Bolivia, South America: Rev. Nick and Shannon Kraft, and children Madison, Tanyon, Moises, and Tucker  
South Africa: Paula Powell  
World Mission Prayer League Missionaries to India: Brian and Barbara Sorge and family  
World Mission Prayer League Missionaries to Peru: Henrik and Patty Christopherson

#### CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Ken Frayer	Personnel	Sherry Winbigler, convener
Vice President	Don Harruff	Property	Shawn Volz
Secretary	Mary Schwartz	Service Ministry	Becky Sarbach
Christian Day School	Linda Elgin	Stewardship	Jan Fisher
Christian Education	Chris Cichanowicz	Worship	Roscoe Thompson, III
Congregational Life	Luella Diday	Youth Ministry	Teri Brenkus
Evangelism	Steve Ritz	SCS Superintendent	Chris Cichanowicz
Finance	Rob Skropits	Women of the ELCA	Cheryl Lantz
Global Mission	Jeanne Hillman		