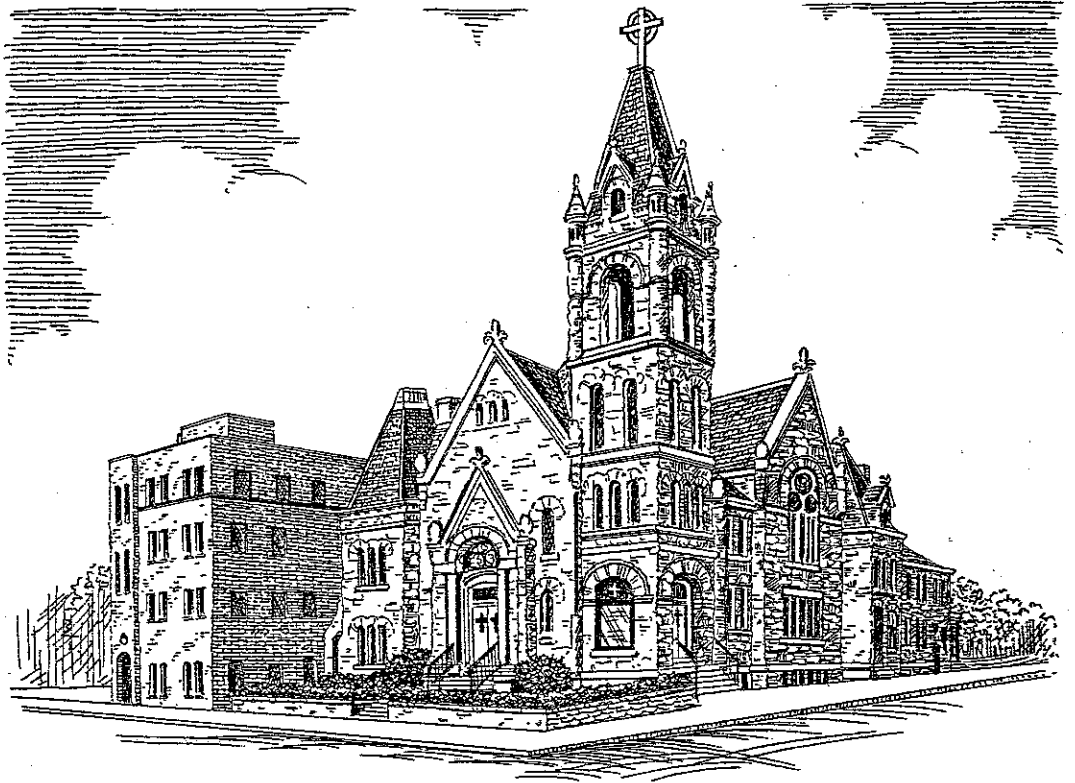


THE VISITOR



The First English Lutheran Church

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

IN THIS ISSUE **PAGE**

Senior Pastor 1

CWU May Friendship Day 3

All Women's Tea
Youth Local Summer Mission Trip

Geranium Order Form 4

May Worship 5

First Tuesday Lunch Group

Blood Pressure Reading 3

Matins Choir Rehearsal
Fireflies and Spirit! Choirs
Men's Group
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Workday Ladies
Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch
Music Therapy with Richland Newhope
Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal
Senior Choir Rehearsal
Friendly Friday Group
Food Collection

Red Cross Blood Drive 7

Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly
"Pies for Paula" Fund Raiser

Annual Congregational Meeting 8

Candidate Biographies: 9 - 10
Church Council & Nominating Committee

A Night of Jazz with Tom Croghan 11
Communion Services at Nursing Homes

Graduates' Names Requested 12

June Visitor Deadline
Recycle Used Ink Cartridges
Anyone Moving (change of address)

Offices Closed 13

5th Sunday - One Worship Service at 10 a.m.
Time & Talents Sunday (see insert page)

Requests to the Prayer Chain 14

Volunteer Scheduling Contacts

May Volunteers 15 - 18

+++ MAY CALENDAR +++

+++ TIME & TALENTS +++

May WELCA Calendar 19

Fair Trade Update

Malawi Orphan Care Ministries 20

May News in the Christian Day School 21

April Church Council Notes 22

Pastoral Acts 24

Lay Leadership Task Force Report 25

FELC Email Addresses and Web Site 26

Within the Fold 27

May 80+ Birthdays 28

Deaths 29

Let Your Life Be a Legacy

Memorials 30

Grace Matters Discontinued

Mission Statement 31

Church Staff/Congregation Officers

This Joyful Eastertide,
Away with sin and sorrow! My Love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow. Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst His three-day prison, Our Faith had been in vain.
But now has Christ Arisen! Arisen! Arisen!
But now has Christ Arisen!

George Woodard (1884-1934) LBW #149

Dear Friends in Christ:

The Good News of Easter Joy still rings true in our hearts. With Jesus' first appearance to the disciples, and later to Thomas --- just imagine the rollercoaster of emotions the first disciples must have experienced. You remember the reading, "On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace,' ... A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace'" (John 20:19, 26).

So often, people will focus on the interaction between Jesus and Thomas. Yes, we have come to know him as "Doubting Thomas." People focus on Thomas' doubt, and then doubt is juxtaposed against Faith. The conclusion drawn is that in order to have a strong Faith, a Christian must eradicate doubt. *Really?* I must disagree. I don't think this was the point the Apostle John was attempting to make with the Easter story, and I don't think doubt is necessarily the enemy of Faith.

Doubt vs. Faith makes faith a mere intellectual enterprise. It is not! Faith is a Relationship --- a dynamic relationship given to us as a Gift from God. I also find it helpful to think of Faith as a verb; it is Action. Doubt usually enters my life (and other Christians whom I know) when the Spirit leads me to take another step of Faith. I doubt the leading. I doubt God's ability to carry me through. Struggling with doubt, in situations such as this, does not weaken Faith, but rather strengthens it. Doubt is a part of Christian growth. The only Christians whom I know who are doubt-free are those who have died and gone to heaven.

The greatest enemy of FAITH, which I see illustrated in the gospel story, is FEAR. The disciples were paralyzed with fear, and their fear prevented them from acting in Faith. All they could do is hide behind closed doors, and jump at any little sound. And in their grief ... probably they turned on one another. When people feel afraid, they will often think, and say, and do any manner of mean-spirited or cruel things. Fear has a way of short-circuiting our thinking. People become afraid even to admit their fears. So they try to appear strong --- masking their fear with outbursts of anger, and blaming words. Fear will keep you “locked-up” and hiding from life.

Then Jesus appeared and gave the disciples what they needed most: **His Peace**. It was only then, that they could move beyond themselves and begin to move toward mission and ministry. Notice also that Jesus’ gift of Peace was not meant to make the disciples (or us) comfortable. Immediately after giving the disciples His Peace, Jesus commissions them for mission and ministry. We really are no different. Only as we experience God’s Peace (by being embraced by God’s Love, Presence, Power, and Control) are we able to courageously and faithfully follow the Holy Spirit’s leading into faithful and obedient service.

I don’t think that I am going to be praying that God will remove ALL doubts from your life. Rather, I am going to ask that God grant you His Peace and free you from all the powers of fear that bind you and curtail your Faith and Obedience. May the Peace of God, which surpasses all our human understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The PEACE of the Risen Christ Be With You Always!

***We Are God’s Easter People!
Let Us LIVE for HIM!***

Working Together for Christ and His Kingdom,

Pastor Paul

Church Women United
MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY
FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009
12:00 noon luncheon here at FELC

Theme: *Building on Our Stories*, Joshua 4:19, the story of the people of Israel crossing the Jordan River into the Promised Land. Guest speaker is Rev. Faith Proietti. Least Coin offerings will be dedicated. *Reservations were requested.* CWU representative: Helen Anderson, 419-756-0381.

ALL WOMEN'S TEA
Saturday, May 2, 2009
11:30 a.m. in the undercroft



GENERATIONS OF LOVE TEA PARTY sponsored by Women of the ELCA (reservations were requested). Each attendee is asked to bring a donation for CHAP. It can be diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby lotion, or any other item that babies use daily.

YOUTH LOCAL SUMMER MISSION TRIP!
June 18 through June 23, 2009 . . .

A great opportunity for youth to serve the Lord by helping residents in our own community. Projects range from painting (both interior and exterior), mending/building porches, lawn care, basic carpentry and handiwork.

If any youth are interested, contact Tricia Volz (419) 884-3273 or Becky Sarbach (419) 589-7945 by **MAY 3, 2009**. A \$20 deposit is necessary to reserve a spot.

GERANIUMS



GERANIUMS

The **Festival of Pentecost** falls on **Sunday, May 31**. This festival is the climax of the "Great Fifty Days" of the Easter Season, and we will decorate the chancel with bright red geraniums, symbolic of the fire of the Holy Spirit.

If you would like to sponsor a plant in honor or in memory of someone, please **fill out the form below and return it to the church office either in person or by mail.**

SUNDAY, MAY 3, is the deadline for orders.

Cost is \$3.50 per plant.

The geraniums will decorate the chancel for our Pentecost services on Sunday, May 31; they may be taken after the 11:00 service that day. We encourage you to plant them in your garden at home as a continual reminder throughout the summer of the work of the Holy Spirit in your own life.

GERANIUM ORDER 2009

____ Number of Geranium Plants \$____ Amount (\$3.50 per plant)

____ I will take my geranium on Sunday, May 31.

____ I will pick up my geranium by Wednesday, June 3.

____ Please plant my geranium in the church yard.

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Person ordering _____

MAY WORSHIP

Saturdays:	5:00 P.M.	Worship in the Chapel (Communion with 1 st Sunday)
Sundays:	8:30 A.M.	Worship in the Nave (Communion 2 nd Sunday).
	9:45 A.M.	Sunday School for all ages. (<i>Last session May 17</i>)
	11:00 A.M.	Worship in the Nave (Communion 1 st Sunday)
	11:00 A.M.	Proclaim! Contemporary, Undercroft (Communion 3 rd Sun.)
Wednesdays:	12:10 P.M.	Worship in the Chapel; lunch in the undercroft

SUNDAYS IN MAY:

- May 3 ➔ Geranium order deadline.
- Sat, May 16 ➔ 5:00 p.m. Saturday Chapel: Rev Cloyd Kress, pastor; Scott Berry, organist.
 ➔ Northeastern Ohio Synod Assembly, Akron.
- May 17 ➔ **Annual Congregational Meeting, 9:45 a.m. in the Nave.**
 ➔ Bring your copy of the Annual Report to the meeting.
 ➔ "Pies for Paula" Fund Raiser
 ➔ East parking lot (Luther Hall) closed for Sunday school Fun Day.
 ➔ A Night of Jazz with Dr. Tom Croghan, 7:00 p.m., Nave.
- May 31 ➔ 5th Sunday - One Weekend Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. in the Nave.
 ➔ The Festival of Pentecost with Holy Communion. Wear something red!
 ➔ Time & Talents Sunday - our Time & Talents sheets will be collected.
 ➔ Congregation Pot Luck Lunch following 10:00 worship.

FIRST TUESDAY LUNCH GROUP **MEETS MAY 5 . . .**

Join us for *First Tuesday* on May 5 in the Emmaus Room. Lunch is served at Noon. Cost is \$2.50. Dr. Tom Croghan will speak on "Music: The Beginning, Yesterday, and Now." Everyone is welcome! Call Pat Wells with reservations by Monday, May 4, 419-756-6863.



REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES!

- Sunday,
May 3 **Blood Pressure Readings**, 9:30 to 10:45 A.M. in the Narthex. Nurses coordinator: Barb Hill, 419-756-4998. *Last reading until the Fall.*
- Sunday,
May 3 **Matins Choir rehearsal** at 9:30 A.M. They will sing at the 8:30 A.M. Holy Communion service on May 10.
- Every
Sunday **Fireflies and Spirit!** children's and youth choirs rehearse during the 9:45 A.M. Sunday church school hour. Director: Becky Pittman. *Last SCS classes - May 17.*
- Monday,
May 4 **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.
- Tuesday
May 5 **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets at 7:00 P.M. in the Emmaus Room. Knitting instruction and patterns provided. Contact: Karen Ellis, 419-884-1882 or Jan Fisher, 419-589-2820.
- Wednesday,
May 6 & 20 **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.
- 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,
May 15 **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
May 30 & 31 **Food Collection Weekend.** The March collection totaled 5 bags of groceries for The Salvation Army, and \$60 for our Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch Program. Thank you for your continued support!

✦ RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE ✦
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009
9 A.M. TO 2 P.M. -- EMMAUS ROOM

If you are in good health and weigh at least 110 pounds you can donate a pint of blood as often as every 56 days and a single donation can save up to three lives! Call Kay Leedy at 419-884-0405 to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

NORTHEASTERN OHIO SYNOD ASSEMBLY
May 16, 2009

The Northeastern Ohio Synod of the ELCA will hold its annual Assembly at the John S. Knight Center in Akron, Ohio, on Saturday, May 16. Please keep our staff and lay voting members in your prayers as they participate in the business of the Synod and greater Church: Pastor Paul Larson, Pastor Andrew Jones, Dr. Timothy E. Guenther, Chris Kaschube, Steve Ritz, Devera Ritz, and Alicia Schulz (Keultjes).

"PIES FOR PAULA" FUND RAISER
SUNDAY, MAY 17 . . .

To help support our newest missionary, Paula Powell in South Africa, home-made pies (and pie slices) will be offered for a donation after the worship services on May 17. The Global Mission Committee invites women and men in the congregation to participate in the pie baking. FELC has many good pie bakers! Plan now to bake and donate for "Pies for Paula."



- Jeanne Hillman

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, May 17, 2009

9:45 A.M. — Nave

Elections will be held after there is an opportunity for nominations from the floor. A consent to serve must be obtained from anyone whose name is put in nomination.

Council positions to be elected are:

Vice President: Don Harruff

Secretary: Mary Schwartz

Global Mission: Jeanne Hillman

Stewardship: Jan Fisher

Youth: Teri Brenkus

The names of the nominees for the **2009-2010 Nominating Committee** are listed below. We will **vote for 4** names. The person receiving the most votes will serve a two year term. The three people receiving the next highest number of votes will be elected to a one-year term. At the committee's first meeting they will select a chairperson.

Stan Cichanowicz

Susan Hogsette

Devera Ritz

Stacey Crall

Nancy Pasheilich

Tom Sarbach

Brief biographies of the candidates are published in this May Issue of The Visitor newsletter.

*The agenda for the annual meeting is open,
and there will be time for any discussion.*

The Annual Report will be mailed the first week in May.

**BRING YOUR COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE MEETING!**

Biographies of the 2009 Church Council Candidates

VICE PRESIDENT: vote for 1 for a 3-year term: **Donald R. Harruff.** Don is retired from 45 years in banking. He is a graduate of Shelby High School and various Banking schools. Church activities (past and present) include Finance Committee, Property Committee, sound booth, Call Committee, money counter and Senior Choir. He's been a member of FELC for 51 years. Don enjoys hunting, bridge, and golf. He and his wife, Beth, have two adult children, and four grandsons.

SECRETARY: vote for 1 for a 3-year term: **Mary Schwartz.** Mary is retired executive secretary, Ontario local schools. She is a Madison High School graduate. Church activities (past and present) include Congregational Life and Worship Committee chair, Congregation Council secretary, Wednesday lunch coordinator, Prayer Partners, communion preparer/server, small group participant, Bible study, usher. Mary enjoys reading, sewing knitting, gardening, Bible study, and time with family. She and husband, Bill, have four adult children, one foster son, and 10 grandchildren.

GLOBAL MISSION: vote for 1 for a 3-year term: **Norma Jeanne Mowry Hillman.** Jeanne is "retired" and employed at the Tribune-Courier (Ontario, OH); treasurer, Jared Mansfield Chapter; National Society Daughters of the American Revolution; volunteer, Ohio Genealogical Society Library and Gift Shop; trustee, Richland County Chapter, OGS; and Ashland/Mansfield Area coordinator, Church and Synagogue Library Association. She is a graduate (Valedictorian) of Springfield Township local schools. She was baptized, confirmed and married in FELC. Church activities include Juftak Sunday school class, WELCA, WELCA parenting project, FELC Library, Church Council and chair of the Global Mission Committee. Jeanne enjoys travel and genealogy. She and husband, Tom, have three adult children, seven grandsons, and eleven great-grandchildren.

STEWARDSHIP: vote for 1 for a 3-year term: **Janis A. Fisher.** Jan retired in March 2008 as administrative assistant in Human Resources at OutSource Partners, Inc.. She is a graduate of Mansfield Senior High School, and attended Mansfield Business College, Miami University, and The Ohio State University - Mansfield branch. Church activities (past and present) include WELCA coordinator and treasurer, Proclaim! praise team, Worship Committee, altar group, Workday Ladies, Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Global Mission Committee. Jan enjoys time with family, gardening and yard work, reading, praise and classical music, and serving the Lord. She has two adult children and two grandchildren.

YOUTH MINISTRY: vote for 1 for a 3-year term: **Teri Brenkus.** Teri is a full-time mother keeping up with three very busy teens, and works part time doing accounting and marketing at Possum Run Greenhouse, and is secretary for the Clear Fork Youth League. She is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School and Knox County Joint Vocational School (Secretarial Careers). Church activities include Sunday school teacher, nursery worker, and children's church leader. Teri enjoys softball, coaching soccer, and being involved in and supporting her children's activities. She and husband, Mike, have three teen-aged children, Lindsey, Mike, and Stuart.

Biographies of the 2009-2010 Nominating Committee Candidates *Vote for four (4)*

Stan Cichanowicz. Stan is retired from the General Electric Company. He and his wife, Chris, have been members of First English Lutheran Church since 1992. They have two daughters, Becky Pittman of Mansfield and Debbie Olson of Norfolk, Virginia, and four grandchildren. Stan has been a long time member of the Senior Choir, serves as an Assisting Minister, is a member of the Personnel Committee and represents FELC on the Inter-church Council of Mansfield, where he serves as secretary. He also is an active member of the Ontario Lions Club.

Stacey Crall. Stacey is a clerk at the Richland County Commissioners office. She is a graduate of Lexington High School and earned a BSBA degree at Bowling Green State University. Church activities include Greeter, lay reader, and fill-in Sunday school teacher. Stacey enjoys reading and playing with her boys. She and husband, Tom, have two sons, Tyler, 5, and Justin, 2.

Susan Hogsette. Susan is Physical Therapist Director at Mohican Sports Med and Rehabilitation. She is a graduate of Shelby High School and earned a BS degree from The Ohio State University. Church activities include small group leader, Renewing God's House of Prayer BRIDGE Committee member, Lenten soup supper provider and Tetelestai host. Susan enjoys her kids' sporting events, reading, studying work-related materials, and spending time with family and friends. She and husband, Rob, have been married 19 years and have two children, Kate, 15 and Paul, 11.

Nancy Pasheilich. Nancy is retired. She is a graduate of Lexington High School and attended Miami University. Nancy has served two terms on Church Council as Congregational Life chair, and is a communion assistant. Her hobbies include quilting and painting. She and husband, Tom, have two sons and one daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren.

Devera Ritz. Devera works as an office manager. She is a graduate of Cardington Lincoln High School, and earned a BS in Elementary Education from The Ohio State University. Church activities include Sunday school Believers Class, small group, Worship Committee, and Concert Task Force. Devera enjoys reading, traveling, needlework, and watching her daughter show her horse and lambs and play soccer. She and husband, Steve, have a daughter, Katie.

Tom Sarbach. Tom is project manager at Armor Fire Protection. He is a graduate of Loudonville High School, Dennison University, and Penn State University. Church activities include 8:30 power point operator, Sunday school teacher, Senior High advisor, and Youth Committee. Tom enjoys hunting, coaching baseball, and bicycling. He and wife, Rebecca, have a daughter, Grace, and his sons, Tommy and Zach.

First English Lutheran Church Presents

"A Night of Jazz"

With

Tom Croghan

and Friends



Sunday, May 17, 2009
 Concert at 7:00 PM Doors Open at 6:30 PM
 53 Park Ave W, Mansfield No Charge for Admission



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.

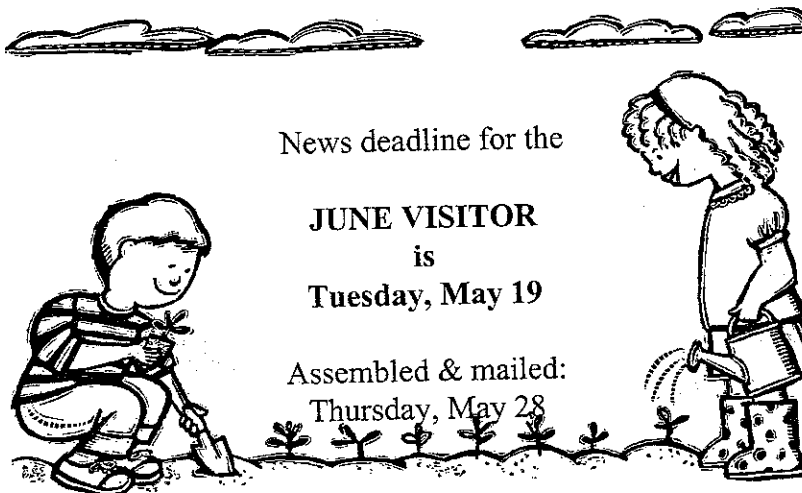
Tuesday, May 19

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

Thursday, 21

9:30 A.M. Brookdale Sterling House

GRADUATES' NAMES REQUESTED. Please call the church office if your student is graduating this spring from high school, college or technical school, 419-522-0662. A listing will be published in the June Visitor.



News deadline for the

JUNE VISITOR

is

Tuesday, May 19

Assembled & mailed:

Thursday, May 28

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.

ANYONE MOVING: Let us know the date of your move so we can keep our mailing data base up to date. The church pays 75¢ per piece if your mail is returned because we don't have an updated address for you.

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED MAY 25

The church offices and Christian Day School will be closed on Monday, May 25, 2009 for the Memorial Day holiday.

TIME & TALENTS SUNDAY

May 31, 2009

Fill in the Time & Talents sheet insert in this issue of The Visitor! Bring it back on Sunday, May 31, when they will be collected at the 10:00 a.m. worship service.



5TH SUNDAY – ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

MAY 31, 2009

One Sunday worship service at

10:00 a.m.

this weekend!

Congregational Pot Luck Lunch following worship!

Watch for details!



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.

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

MAY VOLUNTEERS

GREETERS 5:00 P.M.

May 2	Elva Bonser	May 23	Joci Kirst
May 9	Elva Bonser	May 30	(one 10:00 am Sunday service)
May 16	Joci Kirst		

GREETERS

8:30 A.M.

Bill & Mary Hayes
Janet Shenberger

Narthex
East Entrance

USHERS

8:30 A.M.

Paul Theaker
Steve Ritz
Mike Anderson

GREETERS

11:00 A.M.

Shelley Shupp
Marie Young

Narthex
East Entrance

USHERS

11:00 A.M.

Bill Schwartz
Mary Schwartz
Harold Simmons
Dick Layer

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

May 3	Mary Schwartz, Rob Hogsette	May 24	Steve Ritz
May 10	Lowell Weeks, Chris Cichanowicz	May 31	Ken & Karen Frayer
May 17	Jim Scheiber, Jerry Gallagher		

LUTHER HALL SUNDAY DOOR DUTY

8-9:45 am

9:45-11:05 am

May 3	Stan Cichanowicz	Ron Rehm
May 10	Betty Guenther	Tom Hillman
May 17	Wes Volz	Betty Guenther
May 24	Cindy Russell	Jodi Mumaw
May 31	Henry Keultjes (9:00-10:05 am)	

11:00 ASSISTING MINISTERS

May 3	Greg Hughes	May 24	Bob McCready
May 10	Stan Cichanowicz	May 31	Annette Doklovic
May 17	Chris Kaschube		

LAY READERS

5:00 P.M. Saturday Chapel

May 2	Kay McNaul	May 23	Jean Ridenour
May 9	Jean Ridenour	May 30	<i>(one 10:00 Sunday service this weekend)</i>
May 16	Kay McNaul		

8:30 A.M.

May 3	Pat Reed
May 10	Karyne Carey
May 17	Sherry Winbigler
May 24	Liz Prather
May 31	<i>(one 10:00 service)</i>

11:00 A.M.

Helen Anderson
Stacey Crall
Sandie Volz
Shirley Lane
Diane Molyet <i>(10:00 service)</i>

ACOLYTES, CRUCIFERS, TORCHBEARERS

8:30 A.M.

May 3	A Michael Ward
May 10	A Paul Hogsette
May 17	A Katie Ritz
May 24	A Stephen Ward

11:00 A.M.

	A Sara Hannemann	
	A Katilyn Stransky	
	A Rachel Shupp	
	A Haley Pittman	
Pentecost May 31	<i>(one 10:00 am service)</i>	A Emily Blankenship
		C Chelsea Heidlebaugh
		T Erin Blankenship
		T Lindsey Brenkus

PEW PAD GLEANERS

May 3	Pat Smith	May 24	Jane Sprang
May 10	Lolita Scheiber	May 31	Sharon Bowden
May 17	Stacey Crall		

COMMUNION PREPARERS

May 3	11:00 am	Jim & Lolita Scheiber	
May 10	8:30 am	Bill & Mary Hayes	
Pentecost	May 31	10:00 am	Wes & Sandie Volz

COMMUNION SERVERS

(regular communion)

	<u>May 3 - 11:00 am</u>	<u>May 10 - 8:30 am</u>
Bread Servers	Pastor & Assisting Minister	2 Pastors
Wine West	Pat Smith	Becky Sarbach
Cups West	Lana Conry	Renee Ward
Wine East	Greg Hughes	Ken Frayer
Cups East	Linda Hughes	Jackie Moxley
Intinction	Chris Cichanowicz	Jerry Gallagher

Pentecost Sunday

May 31 - 10:00 am

(continuous communion)

Bread Servers	2 Pastors
Wine West	Hal Simmons
Cups West	Jane Sprang
Wine East	Gene Calver
Cups East	Jo Wirstrom
Intinction	Pat Wells

8:30 POWER POINT OPERATORS

May 3	Paul Ward	May 24	Gordon Moxley
May 10	Tom Sarbach	May 31	Tom Sarbach (10:00)
May 17	Paul Ward		

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS

Becky Pittman, coordinator

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Christian Day School Committee

MAY ALTAR WORKERS

Nave: Devera Ritz
Chapel: Cheryl Lantz
Proclaim!: Jan Fisher

BLOOD PRESSURE NURSE

May 3: Sandie Volz

11:00 PROCLAIM! CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Greeters/Ushers

May 3	Sarah Jones	May 24	Jessika Volz
May 10	Haley Pittman	May 31	<i>(one 10:00 Sunday service)</i>
May 17	Cindy Russell		

May 17 Communion Preparer

Karen Ellis

May 17 Communion Servers

Ted and Karen Ellis
Ronda and Ashley Rehm

Intercessory Prayer Team

Matt Blankenship and Kristi Larson



MAY 2009 WELCA CALENDAR

CIRCLE/EVENT	DATE	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	MEETING PLACE/TOPIC
SARAH	4	MONDAY	1:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room Program: Jerry Gallagher
LYDIA	4	MONDAY	7:00 P.M.	At the Home of Jan Beddard
FIRST TUESDAY	5	TUESDAY	NOON	Emmaus Room Dr. Tom Croghan, "Music: The Beginning, Yesterday & Now"
EVE	5	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room Prayer Shawl
MARY	8	FRIDAY	11:30 A.M.	Lunch at Panera Bread 2070 Walker Lake Road Mansfield, Ohio 44903
WORKDAY LADIES	6 & 20	WEDNESDAY	8:30 A.M.	3 rd Floor
PLANNING TEAM	18	MONDAY	7:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room

Altar Group Workers: Nave – Devera Ritz; Chapel – Cheryl Lantz; Proclaim! – Jan Fisher
 Funeral Dinners: Squad B, Marianne Sweat

FAIR TRADE UPDATE . . .

By selling through Fair Trade, farmers and artisans build a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. By supporting Fair Trade, we make choices in line with our religious beliefs and affirm human dignity by promoting:

- Fair Wages
- Children's Rights
- Women's Rights
- The Right to Organize
- Environmental Rights
- Indigenous Rights

(Excerpt from the LWR website)



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF COFFEE AND TEA. We have a new shipment of *Equal Exchange* coffee and tea! We have restocked the shelves. The prices are the same and all marked on the packaging. Please support the coffee and tea farmers who produce these wonderful products by purchasing one of the many kinds of coffee or tea available. WELCA does not mark up these products. For more information go to lwr.org then click on Fair Trade.

– Jan Fisher

MALAWI

ORPHAN CARE MINISTRIES

Springtime in America. It's time to clean off the outdoor furniture, plant some flowers and get out the grill. Hamburgers, steaks or chicken sizzling on the grill is ritual in many parts of America. It's the odor one can smell on most summer weekends in neighborhoods around the country. Whether you use charcoal or gas, cooking outside on a grill is a choice that most of us make. If it is raining or we don't have the desire, we use the indoor appliances that we have, the oven or microwave.

In many parts of the world, how one cooks is not a choice. The people in Malawi and many other parts of the world do not have access to or cannot afford electricity and gas. Currently, their only option is to burn wood:

Most Malawians find it difficult to switch [from wood to alternative energy sources]. Statistics indicate that almost all Malawians depend on charcoal for cooking. Other conventional sources of fuel such as gas, solar and paraffin are rare and expensive. Jane Sumani is a housewife in the commercial capital, Blantyre. She says, "I use charcoal because electricity is very expensive for cooking or heating. Moreover, charcoal is also sold in smallest quantities at affordable prices for most of ordinary Malawians. I cannot stop using it, I cannot stop."

Coal-burning stoves are also cheaper than electrical appliances like cookers and heaters. A brand new hotplate costs around

U.S. \$30, while a locally made charcoal stove costs around U.S. \$2 and needs no sophisticated maintenance. A sizable bag of charcoal in urban areas costs about U.S. \$7. Sumani says for an average family of seven, like her own, it may last a week. But those who use electricity may pay twice as much for their cooking and heating.

From Nyasa Times, Feb. 5, 2009

Charcoal in Malawi is not what we use--a bag of pre-formed briquettes that you purchase in the grocery store to use for a cookout. Charcoal there is pre-burned wood which is used for everyday cooking in an outdoor fire.

Research has shown that 140,000 tons of charcoal are produced every year in Malawi. Environmentalists say this is the main reason for the loss of about 50,000 hectares (approx. 193 sq. miles) of indigenous forest every year -- the highest deforestation rate in the region of the Southern African Development Community."

From Nyasa Times, Feb. 5, 2009

The Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries and its 5 surrounding villages will be given the opportunity to begin using solar cookers this summer. Once a solar cooker has been acquired, the only expense is a cooking bag, which costs about U.S. \$1, and will last for 1-2 weeks. This summer, the Malawi Mission Team plans to bring with them 100 solar cookers for distribution in the Kanyenyeva area. The use of solar cookers

will enable the people of Kanyenyeva to decrease their dependence on wood while using a free, renewable energy source. The cost of a cooking bag is much less than the cost of charcoal, so they will be able to use their money to help pay for other things like school fees for their children and more sources of protein for their diets.

Currently, the people of Malawi do not pasteurize their water so many children become ill and die each year from water-borne illnesses. **The use of solar ovens will also give them the opportunity to pasteurize their water**, without burning wood, so they should experience a decrease in water-borne illnesses.

Please continue to pray for:

- a peaceful Presidential and Parliamentary campaign and election. The election will be held on May 19;
- for God to be glorified in the work of the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries;
- for the witness of Calvary Church and its pastor, Tom Mambo. Pastor Mambo had been working full time as well as being a full time pastor, husband and father. He has taken a step of faith by quitting his job, his source of income, so he can be a full time pastor, husband and father. Please pray that the financial and spiritual needs of his family and congregation are met.

– Joy Jones



MAY NEWS IN THE CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL . . .

The Bible verse for May is: "I will make you fishers of men." Luke 5:11. We will be reading stories about Jesus this month. The children will also be making gifts for Mother's Day, and preparing for "graduation."

Graduation will be held in the undercroft on Friday, May 29, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us. We expect to see many parents and grandparents there. The children will be singing and dancing and showing their work from this past school year. Some of our pre-school children will be finished for the year, and we will miss them. The rest of the children will be ready for a fun-filled and relaxing summer.

We would like to thank everyone who attended the CDS/Youth Sunday service on April 19. The children from CDS and Sunday school did a great job. We would especially like to thank Mrs. Becky Pittman for all her hard work. The staff and children truly appreciate the congregation's continued support.

– Terry Bianchi, CDS Director



APRIL CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES . . .

President Ken Frayer called the Tuesday, April 14, 2009 meeting of the First English Lutheran Church Congregation Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

PROPERTY:

Tom Pasheilich presented a Property Committee report about concerns with the Luther Hall roof. The problem with the flat roof over Luther Hall is that it leaks when heavy rain or ice and snow build up then melt. There is an inadequate roof drain system, the existing roofing system is out of warranty, and water "ponds" in low areas. Council approved to present for congregational approval the option of replacing the roof, adding roof drains, ceiling removal, new lay-in ceiling and new lighting/wiring for the third floor of Luther Hall. It was stated that volunteers could do much of the work with the ceiling removal, lay-in ceiling and lighting/wiring installation. Many volunteers will be needed to assist with these projects, otherwise we will need to hire the work done. This information will be presented to the congregation during a special meeting on Sunday, April 26, 2009, at 9:45 a.m.

Shawn Volz presented additional Property Committee information. The van was sold to Milliron for \$250; a new door will be replaced in the infant care room at the cost of \$2,150 with the cost split 50/50 between the church and CDS; pricing of 7.79 per CCF unit for natural gas has been

locked in from August 2009 through August 2010; Blackfork Retreat Center volunteer mowing schedule will be prepared; Lowell Weeks will be asked to have the church bus inspected then it will be put back on the insurance coverage May 1 for use by CDS; quotations are needed to seal parking lots this summer.

SENIOR PASTOR: Pastor Larson expressed appreciation to everyone who helped with worship services during Holy Week. He expressed thanks to Lu Diday and her committee for preparing and serving the Easter brunch.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Pastor Jones mentioned the Inter-Church Council Good Friday noon worship held at our church was well attended, and expressed appreciation to our congregation for opening our church to the community. Council approved for confirmation April 26 the following young people: Billy Gleason, Mike Brenkus, Robyn Russell, Haley Pittman and Elizabeth Volz. Pastor Jones gave a Malawi Mission Team update. The Thrivent Financial for Lutherans grant application was not approved. Over half of the initial \$18,000 goal has been raised. An informational

session about the Malawi Mission trip will be held between services on May 3.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Dr. Tim Guenther sent a written report, stating he will be at Valparaiso University April 21 and 22 for the annual Institute of Liturgical Studies, and will present a workshop for the Synod on Saturday, April 18, on the liturgy planning website of the ELCA, *Sundays and Seasons*.

WELCA: Cheryl Lantz stated the Lenten Breakfast was excellent and expressed appreciation to Pastor Larson for leading the worship service. The All Women's Tea will be held Saturday, May 2, 11:30 a.m.

FINANCE: Rob Skropits reviewed the Finance Report and presented an expense authorization form for any expense over \$500.00.

LAY LEADERSHIP TASK FORCE: Ken Frayer presented and discussed a written draft of a Lay Leadership Task Force report, with the intent to finalize and publish the report in the May Visitor.

EVANGELISM: Steve Ritz expressed many thanks to all who helped in any way with the *Tetelestai* production. There were a little over 300 people in attendance the two nights of the event. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans assisted with meal expenses, leaving only \$13.00 expense to the church

for meals. There was no paid advertising, just public service advertising and personal invitations. Ken Frayer won the "prize" for inviting the most people to the event. The next event will be a Jazz Concert by Dr. Tom Croghan on Sunday, May 17, 7:00 p.m.

GLOBAL MISSION: Jeanne Hillman mentioned that Kay Leedy has posted pictures of our missionaries on the church website. Council approved Global Mission Committee to hold a fundraiser, "Pies for Paula," by selling homemade pies after Sunday worship services on May 17, June 14 and July 12 to help support Paula Powell, a missionary in South Africa.

WORSHIP: Roscoe Thompson presented information and Council approved scheduling one large combined worship service at 10:00 a.m. on the fifth Sunday of the months in 2009, specifically May 31, August 30 and November 29, each to be followed by a congregational pot luck meal.

STEWARDSHIP: Renee Ward said Time and Talent Sunday is scheduled for May 31.

SERVICE MINISTRY: Becky Sarbach stated a blood drive is scheduled at our church on Thursday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Her committee is looking for service projects for church small groups participation.

(continued)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Chris Cichanowicz expressed thanks to the Sunday School teachers and youth for their assistance with the Children's Church craft project. Vacation Bible School will be held at the Blackfork Retreat Center July 17, 18 and 19, with a schedule of activities published before VBS. The program consists of 5 lessons, 4 of which will be held the last 4 Sundays of Sunday School and the 5th one on July 18. May 17 is the last day of Sunday School until Fall. Council approved closing the Luther Hall parking lot on May 17 for a fun day for Sunday School. Nancy Thompson will be the nursery worker during the summer months.

YOUTH: Becky Sarbach presented a report on behalf of the Youth Committee. The Youth Group will do a local mission event three days, between June 18 and 23. There will be a breakfast for confirmands and parents between worship services on Sunday, April 26.

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL: Linda Elgin reported 100 children are enrolled in CDS.

ADJOURNMENT: This meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. with prayer by Pastor Larson.

- Mary M. Schwartz
Congregation Council Secretary

PASTORAL ACTS

Funerals:	March 25, 2009 March 28, 2009 April 4, 2009	Mini Fraifogl Susanne Beal Ronald Pickett (by Pastor Kress)
Baptized:	April 11, 2009 (Easter Vigil)	Brady Alan Simons and Natalie Ann Simons, son and daughter of Donald and Rita Simons.
Confirmed:	April 26, 2009	Michael Detrich Brenkus David William (Billy) Gleason Haley Christine Pittman Robyn Lin Russell Elizabeth Ruth Volz

A Report from Your Lay Leadership Task Force

“The Health Assessment Team”

WHAT MAKES FOR A HEALTHY CHURCH?

Some months ago, a “Lay Leadership Task Force” was formed here at First English. The initial issue: the difficulty of recruiting people willing to serve as chairpersons of church committees. The current issue: the overall “health” of our church body. We have now transitioned to become the “health assessment team,” as we have come to regard the initial issue as just one symptom in our total health picture. This small team would not presume to think that we can diagnose the problem(s), – or prescribe what the “fix” should be. No. It must be the larger body of you, the congregation, who does that.

We have come upon a tool – a survey – that is the product of a long term research project by Natural Church Development. There has never been such an extensive, statistically valid, worldwide church growth research project ever conducted. This tool has, to date, been used by over 56,000 churches, in 70 countries - large and small churches, young and old churches, growing and declining churches. The survey has been proven to be statistically reliable (you get the same results if you repeat the survey) and valid (the survey measures what it is supposed to measure). Regardless of the size of the church body, the program calls for only 30 persons to fill out the survey. It has been statistically proven that having more persons complete the survey still consistently yields the same results. After much prayer and discussion, we have decided to use this survey. We will purchase it and the tabulation service from a licensed source, our Synod office, at the nominal cost of \$125.

What do we hope to learn? We hope to identify our strengths and weaknesses among the following eight essential qualities (principles) that are proven to apply to healthy, growing churches where ever in the world they may be:

- empowering leadership
- gift-based ministry
- passionate spirituality
- effective structures
- inspiring worship services
- holistic small groups
- need-oriented evangelism
- loving relationships

Imagine a barrel with eight staves, of unequal length. You can fill the barrel only to the level of the shortest stave. The barrel is a healthy, spirit-filled, church that is growing – at least in quality if not also in quantity. The staves are these eight principles. We hope that this survey will help us identify

our “short staves,” the weaknesses that hinder our healthy growth and development as a church body. When the results of the survey are in, our job will be to engage the congregation in the process of identifying the reasons why this is our “minimum factor,” and developing strategies to address and redress the problem(s). The Synod office will be providing a “coach” to help us move through the process.

This church has already identified its Core Principles: Fellowship – Invite – Rejoice – Serve – Teach. We are doing many things very well but we can do more and we can do better. Our efforts are directed at identifying the ways in which we can better serve our Lord and His Kingdom. We appreciate your continued support and prayers.

Mike Anderson
Ken Frayer
Beth Harruff

Susan Hogsette
Nancy Pasheilich
Steve Ritz

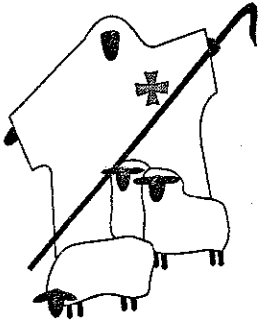
Alicia Schulz
Amy Skropits
Pastor Larson

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

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.



WITHIN THE FOLD . . .

From Marshall and Evelyn Smith: “Dear Friends, We want to thank you for the poster and good wishes you sent for our 60th Anniversary. We had a wonderful celebration with all of our children here. Thank you, too, for the poster for Marshall. He is feeling fine. We will see you in May. God bless.”

From Margaret Runyon: “Thank you to Pastor Larson for his faithful visits and many prayers during my recent heart surgery. Thank you to Pastor Cunfer, one who is always ready and willing to do for others. He stayed with me during my heart catheterization. Many thanks to my friend, Carol Fry, for looking after my home and the many times I called upon her for my emergencies. Many thanks to my Guardian Angel and great friend, Sandy Brown, who generously and lovingly opened her home to me and Cinder during my recovery. I never could have recovered on my own. What a God’s blessing - she has given me a new beginning. Thank you to FELC for the beautiful Prayer Shawl, the many get well cards, the signed poster, the Wednesday Noon Lunch get well cards, and telephone calls. With God all things are possible.”

From Glen and Jane Eggeman: “To our church family, Thank you for all your prayers, cards, calls, and hospital visits. Also, thank you for the prayers for our granddaughter during her difficult pregnancy. We have been blessed with a healthy baby boy, and both he and mommy are doing well. God bless each and every one of you.”

From The Salvation Army: “Thank you for your donation of five bags of canned goods that will bless many families in the Richland County area. It is only through your generosity that The Salvation Army can continue in its mission of Doing the Most Good. The Salvation Army commits to be good stewards of your contribution by providing basic necessities to those who are struggling to make ends meet.”

– Captains Marcus and Joy Jugenheimer, Corps Officers

From The Shelter: “Your donation of three afghans is deeply appreciated by the staff of The Shelter. Your contributions help us better serve the women and children who ask for our help. The Domestic Violence shelter has served victims of domestic violence in Ashland, Huron and Richland Counties for over twenty-five years. We could not do it without the support of our friends and neighbors in the community.”

– Katherine Ezawa, Executive Director



MAY 80+ BIRTHDAYS . . .

We send greetings to our members who will be 80+ years old this month! We extend our best wishes to each of them and honor them for their

faithfulness through the years. God grant His blessing on each of them and fill their hearts with joy and peace in Jesus Christ.

MAY

4	Mrs. Polly Sowash	6266 Pinehurst Pointe, Westerville, OH 43082-8522	
10	Mrs. Marguerite Hollinger	1630 Friday Lane	44906-2302
18	Mrs. Violet Oberlander	918 Greenfield Dr.	44904-2116
20	Mrs. Maxine Zimmerman	1301 Millsboro Road Primrose, Apt. 205	44906
23	Mrs. Evelyn Konves	208 Euclid Ave.	44903-1824
23	Mrs. Anna Dorner	781 Pulver List Road	44905-2546
27	Mrs. Frances Pore	1205 Warner Ave.	44905-2617
29	Mrs. Margaret Battisti	1002 Pearce Dr.	44906-2934
30	Mr. Bill Schulz	571 Sloane Ave.	44903-2041
31	Mrs. Jane Brollier	Traditions at Bath Road, Rm 323 300 E Bath Rd, Cuyahoga Falls, OH	44223
31	Mrs. Hilda Feiler	229 Bowland Rd.	44907-1158

OPEN HOUSE INVITATION to celebrate Maxine Zimmerman's 90th birthday! Friends are invited to gather on **Sunday, May 17, at 2:00 p.m. on the second floor at Primrose Retirement Community**, 1301 Millsboro Road. Questions? Contact Maxine's daughter-in-law, Wendy Zimmerman, at 419-589-2799.



We remember the families and friends of those who died March 21 - April 24, 2009:

Mini Fraifogl <i>(mother of John Fraifogl)</i>	March 21
Susanne Beal <i>(wife of Louis Beal)</i>	March 25
Robert Wantek <i>(father of Suzanne Rippel)</i>	April 3
Mick Bell <i>(brother-in-law of Penny Ekegren)</i>	April 9
Dennis Ward <i>(dear friend of Norma Price)</i>	April 16
Rev. David Volk <i>(good friend of Pastor Carl Cunfer)</i>	April 17

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.

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*

MEMORIALS

YOUTH MINISTRY

Minnie Fraifogl:

Margaret Battisti

MEMORIAL FUND

Susanne Beal:

Jody and Jenn Beal

Cheryl Dreher

Helen Klein

Meitjliss family

Paul and Paul Wilford

RENEWING GOD'S HOUSE APPEAL

Evelyn Schwartz:

Wes and Sandie Volz

Robert Myers:

Wes and Sandie Volz

Minnie Fraifogl:

Grace Simmons

Joe and Julie Janisch

Elizabeth Roth

Margaret Hanlon

Sandra Ranson

Ron and Marge Ridenour

(Fraifogl continued)

Tom and Susi Maiyer

Nancy Fraifogl

John Ness

Lynn LaFene

Marge, Tom, and Karen Wappner

Elizabeth Crawford

Barry and Terri Davis

Nellie Brewer

George and Louise Smith

Mr. & Mrs. Sylvester Kleshinski

Bob and Beverly Weaver

Anna Janisch

Carol Heter

Matt, Pat, and Amy Janisch

Rich and Sharon Cicolani

Greg and April Smith

Tom and Bev Mathis

Emmett and Terri Gray

Garry and Cathy Stinehelfer

Terry Stinehelfer

Tom and Dot Blaney

Aurora Animal Care Center

Walter and Ruth Richardson

Anne Lara

GRACE MATTERS. On April 12, 2009, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America discontinued production of new programs for its radio ministry, but will continue to make past programs available on the Grace Matters web site.

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.

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. 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
Janet Kick, 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	Gene Harsch	Property	Shawn Volz
Secretary	Mary Schwartz	Service Ministry	Becky Sarbach
Christian Day School	Linda Elgin	Stewardship	Renee Ward
Christian Education	Chris Cichanowicz	SCS Superintendent	Chris Cichanowicz
Congregational Life	Luella Diday	Worship	Roscoe Thompson, III
Evangelism	Steve Ritz	Youth Ministry	Annette Doklovic
Finance	Rob Skropits	Women of the ELCA	Cheryl Lantz
Global Mission	Jeanne Hillman		

April

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		

May 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				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL) 12:00PM - CWU May Fellowship Day (UC)	2 11:00AM - 2 PM All Women's Tea (UC) 5:00PM - Holy Communion (Chapel)
3 8:30AM - Worship (Nave) 9:30AM - 10:45 Blood Pressure Reading 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 9:45AM - Sunday School all ages 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp (UC) 11:00AM - Holy Comm (Nave) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee	4 9:30AM - Men's Group @ Denny's 1:00PM - Sarah Circle (ER) 7:00PM - Property Committee (UC) 7:00PM - Lydia Circle @ Jan Beddards'	5 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 10:00AM - Pastoral Care (FR) 12:00PM - First Tuesday (ER) 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (NL) 6:00PM - 8 PM Malawi Mission Trip Meeting (FR) 7:00PM - Prayer Shawl Ministry (ER)	6 8:30AM - Workday Ladies (3rd) 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	7 9:00AM - 2 PM Blood Drive (ER) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 2:00PM - Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC) 7:00PM - Senior Choir Rehearsal	8 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL) 11:30AM - Mary Circle @ Panera	9 5:00PM - Worship (Chapel)
10 8:30AM - Holy Comm (Nave) 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 9:45AM - Sunday School all ages 11:00AM - Worship (Nave) 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp (UC) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee	11 2:00PM - Finance Meeting (FR) 6:30PM - Small Group (ER)	12 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (NL) 5:30PM - 8 PM Malawi Mission Trip Meeting (FR) 7:00PM - Council (UC)	13 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	14 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 2:00PM - Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC) 7:00PM - Senior Choir Rehearsal	15 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL) 10:30AM - 2:00PM Friendly Friday Srs (ER)	16 5:00PM - Worship (Chapel) **Synod Assembly** @ Akron, Ohio
17 8:30AM - Worship (Nave) 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 9:45AM - Sunday School all ages 9:45AM - Annual Meeting (Nave) 11:00AM - Worship (Nave) 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp (UC) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee 7:00PM - 9 PM Tom Croghan Jazz Concert(Nave)	18 7:00PM - WELCA Planning (ER)	19 9:00AM - Holy Comm (Elmcroft) 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 10:15AM - Holy Comm (Waterford) 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (NL) 6:00PM - 8 PM Malawi Mission Trip Meeting (FR) **Visitor deadline**	20 8:30AM - Workday Ladies (3rd) 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	21 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 9:30AM - Holy Communion (Sterling House) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 2:00PM - Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC) 7:00PM - Senior Choir Rehearsal	22 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL)	23 5:00PM - Worship (Chapel)
24 8:30AM - Worship (Nave) 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 11:00AM - Worship (Nave) 11:00AM - Proclaim! Contemp (UC) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee	25 ****CDS CLOSED*** **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**	26 9:30AM - CDS Chapel 12:00PM - 1 PM Bible Study (NL) 6:00PM - 8 PM Malawi Mission Trip Meeting (FR) 7:00PM - Music & Worship	27 9:30AM - CDS Music (UC) 12:10PM - Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	28 9:15AM - 10:15 Music Therapy (ER) 12:00PM - Bulletin Assembly (3rd) 12:30PM - VISITOR Assembly (3rd) 2:00PM - Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30PM - Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal (UC) 7:00PM - Senior Choir Rehearsal	29 7:00AM - Prayer Partners (NL)	30 *Food Collection*
31 9:30AM - Fellowship/Coffee 10:00AM - Combined Worship (Nave) 12:00PM - Fellowship/Coffee **Time & Talent Sunday** *Food Collection*						

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)
 3rd - Third Floor, Luther Hall
 NL - Narthex Lounge

WORSHIP

- Serve on the Committee

- Greeter 5:00 pm Saturday
 8:30 am Sunday
 11:00 am Sunday
- Usher 5:00 pm Saturday
 8:30 am Sunday
 11:00 am Sunday
- Assisting Minister 11:00 am Sunday
- Scripture Reader: 5:00 pm Saturday
 8:30 am Sunday
 11:00 am Sunday
- Acolyte 8:30 am Sunday
 11:00 am Sunday
- Senior Choir Member
- Martins Choir Member
- Adult Hand Bell Choir Member
- Children's Choir Sing Accompany
 Direct Aide
- Special Music: Instrumental
(Instrument _____)
- Special Music: Vocal
- Drama
- Tape worship service
- Altar worker (prepare worship space)
- Prepare Communion: 8:30 am Sunday
 11:00 am Sunday
- Communion Server: 8:30 am Sunday
 11:00 am Sunday
- Nursery Assistant: 8:30 am Sunday
 11:00 am Sunday
- Children's Church Leader (11 am Sun)
- Children's Church Assistant (11 am Sun)
- Banner Making
- Liturgical Dance

Celebrate!

FIRST ENGLISH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH of MANSFIELD

Serve the
Lord
with Gladness!

Sharing our Time and Talents 2009

The First English Lutheran Church
53 Park Avenue West (at Mulberry St.)
Mansfield, Ohio
Phone: 419-522-0662
Web Site: www.felc-mansfield.org

Dear Christian Friends,

As friends in Christ we all care about First English Lutheran Church. One way that you can show how much you care for the church and its members, is to share your time and talents with others.

Take a minute to think back over the last year in our congregation. Think about how beautiful the sanctuary looks during the Christmas Season. Think back to the many times we have been blessed by hearing our little children sing, or our bigger kids play bells. We have also been blessed by many musicians who have played or sang for us. Think about the many wonderful and yummy congregational dinners. If you have been touched by sorrow or joy you might have received a prayer shawl. The hungry in our community have been fed at Wednesday Noon Lunch and by our peanut butter and jelly drive. Have you seen our Jr. and Sr. High School Youth around the church? They are active in the church, our community, and this last year in Tennessee at their mission trip. We also touch other parts of the world with our Global missions. We have many Small Groups active in the church learning and growing in their faith.

All of these things happen because individuals in the congregation volunteer to make these things happen. These events and activities help our Church, our Community, and our World. Please take time to fill out this survey letting us know areas of interest to you. Please know that many of these things do not take a large commitment of time. If everyone helps think of the good we can do for everyone!

God Bless You,
Renee Ward
Stewardship Chairperson

Name _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____
Cell Phone _____
Work Phone _____
E-Mail Address _____

ANDERSON LECTURE SERIES

Serve on the Committee

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Serve on the Committee

Volunteer: field trips
 story teller
 lunch helper
 rock babies

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Serve on the Committee

Confirmation Student Mentor
 Sunday School Teacher
 Sunday School Teacher's Helper
 Vacation Bible School Teacher
 Vacation Bible School Helper
 Bible Study Leader
 Other Study Leader
 Library Helper
 Computer Instructor
 Computer Tech (trouble shooter)
 Assist with Background Checks
 Children's Church Leader
 Children's Church Assistant
 Children's Church Helper

STEWARDSHIP

- Serve on the Committee
- Assist the yearly pledge campaign by:
 - develop Visitor & bulletin notices
 - recruit Temple Talkers
 - recruit Telephone Callers
- Coordinate timing of the Narthex displays
- Attend training seminars

WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA)

- Circle member: daytime
 evening
- Form a new Circle group
- Funeral dinners: provide covered dish
 help serve
- Bake cookies
- Workday Ladies (patchwork quilting)
- Retreat Planning
- Prayer Chain
- Assist with LWR Coffee Project
- Prayer Shawl Ministry

YOUTH MINISTRY

- Serve on the Committee
- Chaperone Retreats
- Group Advisor/Leader
 - High School
 - Junior High
 - Elementary
- Group Helper
 - High School
 - Junior High
 - Elementary

PROCLAIM! WORSHIP

- Welcome Team
- Praise Team: vocal
 instrumental
- Communion Preparer
- Communion Server

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Sound Board (Nave worship)
- Sound Board (Contemporary worship)
- Computer/PowerPoint (Nave worship)
- Computer/PowerPoint (Contemporary worship)

CHURCH OFFICE

- Weekly Bulletin Assembly
- Assemble Monthly Newsletter (The Visitor)
- Stuff Envelopes for Mailings
- Calligraphy
- Poster Making
- Photography
- Bulletin Boards
- Data Entry for special projects

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

- Sunday Coffee Fellowship Host:
 - 8:30 am 11:00 am
- Congregational Dinners (Fastnacht, picnic, Easter breakfast, etc):
 - assist with food preparation
 - serving
 - clean-up
 - decorations
- Christmas Decorating
- Hospitality (provide overnight housing)
- Help with a one-time special event when the occasion arises
- Do you have a new idea for ministry/event?
- Assist planning events

DRAMA MINISTRY

- Planning Committee
- Hosts/Greeters
- Costumes
- Actors
- Publicity
- Props/Lighting
- Music: instrumental
 vocal

EVANGELISM

- Serve on the Committee
- Pew Pad Gleaners
- Web site support
- Tape Ministry distribution
- Name Tag maintenance and support
- Welcome Table Host

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Serve on the Committee
- Have Auditing Experience

GLOBAL MISSION

- Serve on the Committee
- Attend Global Mission Event
- Correspond with Missionaries

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRIES

- Communion Deacons (home communion)
- Nursing Home pianist (once a month)
- Hospital Visitor
- Phone Call and Card Ministry
- Friendly Visitors (visit shut-ins)
- Meals Team (meals for convalescents)

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

- Serve on the Committee

PRAYER MINISTRY

- Pastors Prayer Partners
- Intercessory Prayer Team
- Prayer Seminar Volunteer Worker

PROPERTY

- Serve on the Committee
- General Handyman skills
- Carpentry skills
- Plumbing skills
- Electrical skills
- Painting
- Retreat Center maintenance
- Mowing (Retreat Center)
- Snow removal
- Help on scheduled work days
- Bus maintenance
- Sunday Morning Door Monitor-Luther Hall

SERVICE MINISTRY

- Serve on the Committee
- Wednesday Noon Lunch: prepare food
 serve food
 clean-up
 host/hostess
- Transportation:
 - Bus driver (CDL required)
 - Provide transportation to/from appointments or church activities
- Church Nurses (blood pressure readings)
- Habitat for Humanity:
 - help with construction
 - provide meals to workers
- Coordinate/Help Red Cross Blood Drives