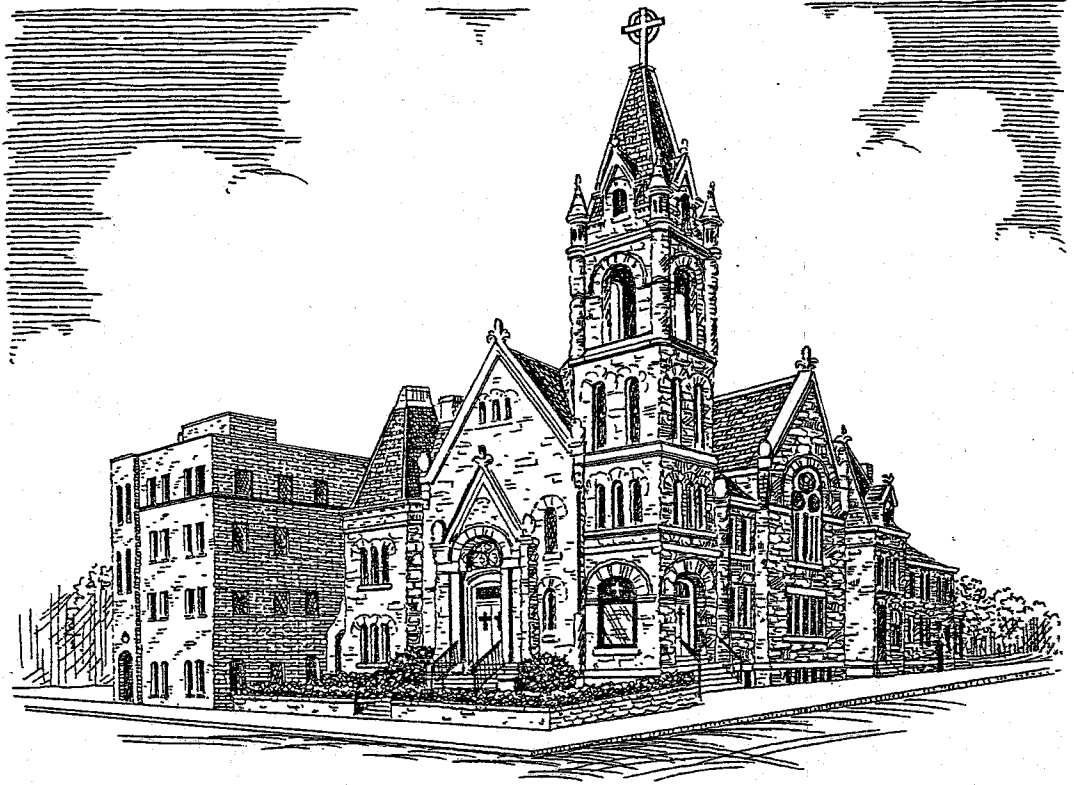


# THE VISITOR



## *The First English Lutheran Church*

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

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Now thank we all our God, With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done, In Whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers' arms, Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today.

*Martin Rinkhart 1586-1649*

## Dear Friends In Christ :

With the month of November, we see again the turning of the seasons, the gorgeous fall colors, and the gathering-in of the harvest. As Christians, our hearts naturally turn in thankfulness and praise to GOD our Creator and Redeemer. I am always reminded of these beautiful words of promise from GOD's Word:

Every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shadow due to change.

*James 1:17*

Truly, GOD is the giver of every good and perfect gift. The seasons of our lives may be filled with many changes, but His goodness and His steadfast love for us never change. For every breath, for every heartbeat, for the opportunity of each new day to love and to serve Him, we give GOD our praise and thanksgiving.

Part of who we are as Christians - is that GOD gives to us a Spirit of Joy and Gratitude. We express this in our daily prayers, in our songs of praise and worship, in our weekly tithes and offerings, and in the way we receive one another.

I believe that an important way that GOD calls us to live in this "Spirit of Thanksgiving" is for us to express our appreciation for one another. I would invite and challenge you in this Season of Thanksgiving to honor GOD by honoring one another; to express your thankfulness to GOD by intentionally appreciating one another. Today, look for something to affirm in those whom GOD has placed in your life: the store clerk, your spouse, your children, a coworker. Speak to them your word of appreciation & encouragement. Let us bless GOD by blessing one another.

*Always Giving THANKS to GOD for YOU!*

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Paul

# Lutheran CORE

## Organizes as Free-standing Synod, Begins Work Toward Reconfiguration of Lutheranism

More than 1,200 Lutherans from throughout the United States and Canada voted Saturday, Sept. 26, to create “a free-standing synod for all faithful Lutherans” and to work with “other compatible churchly organizations leading toward a possible reconfiguration of North American Lutheranism.”

“We will be free-standing, not a part of the structure of the ELCA. For us the ELCA churchwide expression has fallen into heresy as a result of the decisions that were made in Minneapolis,” the Rev. Paull Spring of State College, Pa., told the Lutheran CORE Convocation in suburban Indianapolis.

**“Lutheran CORE will be a free-standing synod for all faithful Lutherans. And we will take on most of the functions that characterize a synod —** pastoral care for congregations and pastors, global missions, the formation of new congregations, providing resources for congregational ministry, support for a life in community, theological education, with a leadership structure that will be accountable and capable of decision-making. We will work sensitively on the candidacy and calling processes,” said Spring, the retired bishop of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod, and chair of Lutheran CORE.

The Convocation — which included people from 41 states, Washington, D.C., and three Canadian provinces and was roughly three-quarters lay members — adopted a constitution that changed Lutheran CORE from a Coalition for Reform to a Coalition for Renewal. This action is more than a name change. It is a change in focus from trying to reform the ELCA to a renewing organization and an alternate church fellowship for Lutherans.

The Convocation also authorized the Lutheran CORE Steering Committee “to initiate conversations among the congregations and reform movements in Lutheran CORE and other compatible churchly organizations leading toward a possible reconfiguration of North American Lutheranism.” A report and recommendations will be brought to Lutheran CORE’s 2010 Convocation Aug. 26-27 in Columbus, Ohio. **“This could be one of the biggest events in Lutheran history in contemporary time,”** said the Rev. Jaynan Clark of Spokane, Wash., president of the WordAlone Network, one of the reform movements that comprise Lutheran CORE.

**The Convocation became even more significant when the ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted in August to change ELCA teaching and practice to affirm same-sex relationships and to allow pastors to be in those relationships in spite of the Bible's teaching on marriage and homosexual behavior.**

Convocation participants gathered at the foot of a large cross inside Holy Spirit Parish at Geist in Fishers, Ind. Organizers had to move the Convocation to the Catholic church from Christ the Savior Lutheran Church because of the large attendance. Even with the larger space, organizers were forced to close registration Sept. 14 due to space limitations.

“We are living in a period of historic opportunity for the Church in North America. I believe it is abundantly clear that God is reforming the churches of the Reformation,” said Ryan Schwarz of Washington, D.C., a member of the Lutheran CORE Steering Committee.

“The question for us is not so much whether we ought to re-vision Lutheranism in North America, but rather how will we respond to this clear invitation to re-vision Lutheranism in North America. **“We are forming a churchly community because our prior churchly community has walked away from the faith of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church,”** Schwarz said.

The Rev. Kenneth Sauer of Columbus, Ohio, opened the Convocation by describing the situation facing members of the ELCA. “We now have two churches within one organizational structure. One church emphasized Bible and Theology, the other culture and experience. **There are deep divisions over the fundamental meaning of the Gospel, the authority of Scripture, and the purpose and work of the Holy Spirit.**”

“The division reaches into congregations, synods, and seminaries and agencies. Only the churchwide organization seems to be of one mind.” “We are here to support one another. . . . Elijah needed to know that there were 7,000 in Israel that did not bow the knee to Baal, and we need to know that there are millions of faithful Lutheran Christians in this land who with us want desperately to know how to be faithful in the midst of a church we love which is falling apart,” said Sauer, the retired bishop of the Southern Ohio Synod and former chair of the ELCA Conference of Bishops.

The Convocation also heard from leaders of the African immigrant and Hispanic churches in the ELCA. Both communities have been deeply hurt by the ELCA's actions. Lutheran CORE is committed to support financially the ethnic and other ministries that have taken stands of conscience regarding the ELCA Churchwide Assembly decisions and to help others to do so as well.

“The communion of African Lutheran Churches across North America is in full participation in this Convocation with deep gratitude to God,” said Challa Baro, evangelist for an Ethiopian immigrant congregation in Minneapolis. “As far as we are concerned our choice is very clear: We have to either give up our evangelical and prophetic ministry in our society and silently die as a denomination or rise to the task of realigning ourselves with churches, leaders and communities of similar conviction and work shoulder-to-shoulder with them,” Baro said.

“We know, and accept the fact that our response will bring consequences,” said the Rev. Eddy Perez, pastor of Iglesia Luterana San Pedro in Miami, Fla. “Some of our Hispanic Pastors, for instance, who serve as Mission Developers, could be in jeopardy of losing their mission funding, compensation and even their buildings.” **“My advice to the ELCA members is this: the time for hesitation is now over. God is demanding a response from us.** Through the prophet Elijah, God keeps saying to the members of the ELCA congregations: ‘How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him,’” said Perez.

**“We are not dividing the church. The church is already divided. We’re just mopping up what the church did,”** said the Rev. Paul Uring, a member of the Lutheran CORE Steering Committee. Uring, pastor of Upper Arlington Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio, outlined steps that individuals and congregations can take as they move into the future.

**“We’ve spent all our ELCA years and before, struggling and working against what has now happened. It’s over; it’s done. We don’t have to spend ourselves there anymore,”** he said. “Let’s take that energy, that passion and transfer it to a future that we don’t have clearly, but a future that surely is better than what we’ve been messing with. And let’s be gracious and kind, known for our positive spirit and hope. Let’s be known for what we believe, not what we’re against anymore. Let’s be faithful to the Gospel, the Word of God, and the Lord Jesus.”

“Let us stand together, as we see the future of Lutheranism change for the good. It’s worth it. Jesus calls us to do it. He is not defeated or set aside by any decision or action. **We have the opportunity to make an eternal difference,”** Uring said. “God has given us this new freedom and opportunity. **Let us rise in hope and forgiveness, to put aside the past and find the future we have been called to for Jesus’ sake and for the sake of those he loves and wants.”**

# How Then Shall We Live?

## The Re-Configuration of the Lutheran Church

*A Conference for ELCA Lutherans  
Living in a Post-Minneapolis World*

**Saturday, December 5, 2009**

8:30am	Registration
9:15am	Welcome & Opening Prayer – Pastor Paul L. Larson
9:30am	<b>Bishop Kenneth Sauer</b> – “So Here We Are!”
10:00am	<b>Rev. Mark Chavez</b> – “Lutheran CORE’s Progress for Reconfiguring North American Lutheranism”
10:30am	Break
11:00am	Q&A with Speakers Panel
11:30am	LUNCH BREAK – <i>On Your Own (Maps Provided)</i>
1:00pm	<b>Rev. William Sullivan</b> - “Renewing a Passion for the Great Commission”
1:30pm	<b>Rev. Paul Ulring</b> – “What Next? – Taking it Home”
2:00pm	Break
2:30pm	Q&A with Speakers Panel
3:15pm	Closing Prayer – Pastor Andrew W. Jones

**PRESENTERS:**

**Bishop Kenneth Sauer**

Bishop Emeritus of the Southern Ohio Synod and  
Former Chair of the ELCA Council of Bishops

**Rev. Mark Chavez**

Director – Lutheran CORE Steering Committee

**Rev. William Sullivan**

Service Coordinator - LCMC  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

**Rev. Paul Ulring**

Sr. Pastor, Upper Arlington Lutheran Church  
Lutheran CORE Steering Committee

*Hosted By:*

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church

53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, OH 44902

**Registration Deadline: Monday, November 30, 2009**

**COST - \$10 per Person**

**FELC MEMBERS - Only \$5 per Person**



## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 1 ...

Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 A.M. on Sunday, November 1.

Turn your clocks **BACK** one hour before going to bed on Saturday night, October 31!

## CONSECRATION WEEKEND

AT FIRST ENGLISH!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31**

AND

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

You won't want to miss our Consecration Weekend, October 31 and November 1, 2009 when we will each be making our personal commitments to Jesus, Our Lord and Savior.

**Regular 5:00 p.m. chapel service on Saturday, October 31**, followed by a time of fellowship in the Emmaus Room enjoying coffee, tea, and delicious cookies!

**Regular 8:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, November 1**, followed by a time of fellowship in the Narthex. Cookies, coffee, tea, and lemonade will be served!

**Combined 11:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, November 1**, in the sanctuary. Following the combined service, **EVERYONE** is invited to **join together in the undercroft for one of those famous Lutheran pot luck meals!!** Please bring a dish to share. Table service and beverages will be provided.

The Stewardship Committee doesn't want to interrupt your regular worship times, but we **DO** want to **CELEBRATE THIS OCCASION!** We hope to see you all there to celebrate together! Questions can be directed to Jan Fisher, Stewardship Chair.



**BE A GOOD  
STEWARD**

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES!

- Sunday,  
Nov 1      **Blood Pressure Readings**, 9:30 to 10:45 A.M. in the Narthex. Nurses coordinator: Barb Hill, 419-756-4998.
- Sunday,  
Nov 1      **Matins Choir rehearsal** at 9:30 A.M. They will sing at the 8:30 A.M. Holy Communion service on November 8.
- Monday,  
Nov 2      **Men's Group** meets at 9:30 A.M. the first Monday of the month for breakfast at Denny's, West Fourth Street in Ontario. Contact: Hal Simmons, 419-529-6586.
- Tuesday  
Nov 3      **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,  
Nov 4 & 18      **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,  
Nov 20      **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  
Nov 28 & 29      **Food Collection Weekend**. The September collection totaled \$115 for our Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch Program, and 5 bags and 1 box full of groceries for Catholic Charities. Thank you for your continued support!

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP

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

### SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

- Nov 1      ➔ Daylight Saving Time ends; turn clocks back one hour on Saturday night.  
➔ All Saints Sunday, Holy Communion at all worship services.  
➔ Consecration Weekend, fill out and hand in pledge cards for 2010.  
➔ Regular 5:00 and 8:30 services; cookie fellowship following worship.  
➔ Combined 11:00 service with Proclaim! in the Nave; pot luck lunch following.
- Nov 22    ➔ Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday in the Liturgical Church year:  
                  Holy Communion at all worship services.
- Nov 29    ➔ The First Sunday of Advent  
                  ➔ 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - one 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday (no 5:00 Saturday  
                                  Chapel, 8:30 Sunday or 11:00 Proclaim! services).  
                  ➔ Pot Luck congregational lunch following 10:00 worship.
- 



## November

### ***FIRST TUESDAY LUNCH GROUP MEETS NOVEMBER 3...***

Join us for *First Tuesday* on November 3 for lunch at Noon in the Emmaus Room. Cost is \$2.50. Sunda Peters, vice president of the Richland County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, will share with us the exciting features the new OGS building will have in helping to trace family histories. The new building will be open late summer 2010 on State Route 97 near Bellville. She will also update us on the progress restoring the Block House in South Park. Invite your friends to join us! Call Pat Wells with reservations by Monday, November 2, 419-756-6863.



**WORLD  
COMMUNITY  
DAY**

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED  
WORLD COMMUNITY DAY  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009 ...**

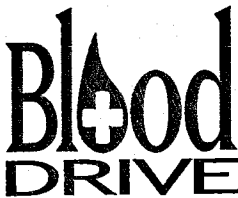
The World Community Day celebration will be held on Friday, November 6, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2010 Park Avenue West.

The program begins at 1:00 p.m.

The theme for the day is "Piecing Earth Together." The logo shows the creation story from the book of Genesis depicted as a quilt, reminding us of the environment's broken nature, and the need to repair the earth so that it can once again provide. The "quilting bee" is part of our American heritage.

This Celebration offers the opportunity for women to continue that tradition through sharing in prayer, worship, and action. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is invited!

- Helen Anderson, CWU representative

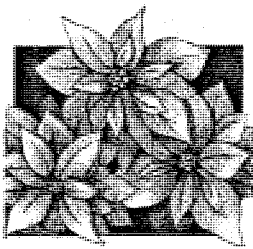


**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2009**

**9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Our next blood drive will be held Tuesday, November 10, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Emmaus Room and should only take a total of 45 - 60 minutes of your time. 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! Please take time to mark your calendars. Those wishing to make an appointment may contact Kay Leedy at 419-884-0405. Thank you!



**POINSETTIAS** are a tradition at First English Lutheran Church, an opportunity to honor a loved one and at the same time beautify the Chancel on Christmas Eve.

**Deadline for ordering is FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13.** Our order must be called in to the florist at the end of that day. Cost

per plant is \$9.00 (red flowers).

**DO NOT PUT YOUR ORDER IN THE OFFERING PLATE.** Turn your order and money in directly to the church office either in person or by mail. This will help us prevent names from being inadvertently omitted from the listing. *The plants may be removed by the donor after the 11:00 P.M. Christmas Eve service.*

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

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**2009**

**Poinsettia Order:**

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$9.00 per plant)

**Donation (no plant):**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Christian Day School

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

\$\_\_\_\_\_ General Fund

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Renewing God's House of Prayer

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

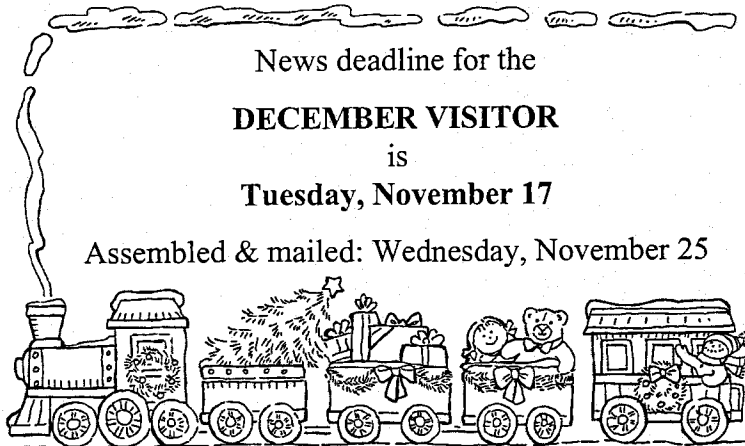
In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

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

**MEETING SCHEDULED WITH  
NORTHEASTERN OHIO SYNOD  
BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON  
NOVEMBER 15, 2009**

A debriefing concerning the actions taken at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in August 2009 will be led by Northeastern Ohio Synod Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on Sunday, November 15, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bellville.

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**SNOW-BIRDS AND ANYONE MOVING:** Let us know the dates when you are going/coming back or making 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.



Our Nursing  
Home Ministry

## COMMUNION SERVICES AT NURSING HOMES . . .

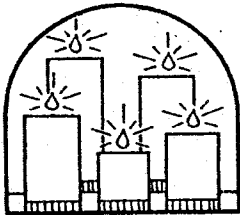
In order to provide communion for First Lutheran members who live in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, monthly worship services are scheduled in four locations with Communion Deacons assisting the pastors. All residents of the facilities are invited to attend, and members of First Lutheran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

### Tuesday, November 17

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

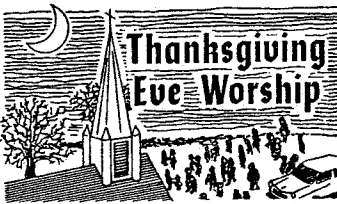
### Thursday, November 19

9:30 A.M. Brookdale Sterling House



## ***FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS* AT ASHLAND UNIVERSITY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2009 . . .**

The Ashland University *Festival of Lights* will be held on Sunday, November 22, 7:00 P.M. in Memorial Chapel, corner of Claremont and College Avenues in Ashland. The Ashland University Choir, Ashland Area Chorus, Women's Chorus, and University Organist, **Dr. Timothy E. Guenther**, present this traditional Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols in preparation for the Advent/Christmas season.



## **THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP** **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 7:00 P.M.**

Gather with us on the evening before Thanksgiving Day to give thanks for all the blessings God has bestowed upon us.

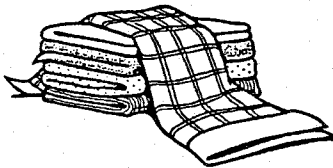
Plan to join us in worship on Wednesday, November 25, at 7:00 P.M. in the Nave. Your own Thanksgiving celebration will be a richer one!

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## **CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED** **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

The church offices will be closed on Thursday, November 26, for the Thanksgiving Day holiday. The Christian Day School will be closed November 26 and 27.

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## **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF** **QUILTS AND KITS . . .**

Once again the awesome and caring people of First English Lutheran Church have stepped up to the plate and donated a wonderful and generous amount of kits and quilts to Lutheran World Relief. Everything was delivered to the ingathering site in Seville, Ohio, on October 17, 2009.

Our Workday Ladies had twenty quilts to donate, and the congregation donated 7 sewing kits, 2 layettes, 12 health kits, and 47 school kits. (Trish Volz's Sunday School class assembled 20 school kits on Rally Day. The contents of those were provided by WELCA.)

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THIS VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT!!**  
God bless you all for caring so much about others!     - Jan Fisher, LWR kits coordinator



**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY –  
ONE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**NOVEMBER 29, 2009**

**One Sunday worship service at**

**10:00 a.m.**

**for the weekend!**

***Congregational Pot Luck Lunch following worship!***

**Bring a main dish, side dish, or dessert to share.**





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

It is good to give thanks to the Lord (Psalm 92:1). This is our Bible theme for November. The children will be giving thanks as well as learning about nutrition, food, families, and cultures this month.

Visits are planned to the Mansfield Memorial Museum. Our Thanksgiving Pizza Feast will be held on Friday, November 20, and all our families will be invited.

Some of the exciting events in October at the Christian Day School were the visit to the Mansfield fire station and a show at the Renaissance Theater, as well as trick or treating around town.

The children and staff would like to thank everyone who supported our book fair in October. We are also thankful for your continued support and prayers.

– Mrs. Terry Bianchi, Director

### NOVEMBER 2009 WELCA CALENDAR

CIRCLE/EVENT	DATE	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	MEETING PLACE/TOPIC
SARAH	2	MONDAY	1:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room Program: Miriam Dye Hostess: Marilyn Dinges
LYDIA	2	MONDAY	7:30 P.M.	Pat Wells' home
FIRST TUESDAY	3	TUESDAY	NOON	Emmaus Room Program: Richland County Chapter of Ohio Genealogical Society-Sunda Peters
EVE	3	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room Prayer Shawl Hostess: Jan Fisher
MARY	13	FRIDAY	10:00 A.M.	At the home of Virginia Blizzard Hostess: Wilda Soka
WORKDAY LADIES	4 & 18	WEDNESDAY	8:30 A.M.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
PLANNING TEAM	16	MONDAY	7:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room.

Altar Group Workers: Nave – Devera Ritz; Chapel – Cheryl Lantz; Proclaim! – Jan Fisher

Funeral Dinners: Squad E, Nancy Pashelich & Beth Harruff

COMING EVENTS: November 6 World Community Day @ St Paul Lutheran Church  
1 PM Theme-“Piecing Earth Together”

## 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! 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

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

Children's Church Leaders

**Chris Cichanowicz,**

**Sunday School Superintendent**

**419-529-6593**

Nursery Helpers

**Roscoe Thompson, III, Worship Chair**

**419-522-7571**

Sound Booth Operators

**Larry Lantz, 419-756-5506**

Pew Pad Gleaners

**Beth Harruff, 419-589-2762**

Communion Preparers

Communion Assistants

**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

# NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

## GREETERS 5:00 P.M.

Nov 7 Joci Kirst  
Nov 14 Joci Kirst

Nov 21 Elva Bonser  
Nov 28 *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - one 10:00 a.m. Sunday service*

## GREETERS 8:30 A.M.

Ken & Vi Deems Narthex  
Janet Shenberger East Entrance

## USHERS 8:30 A.M.

Paul Theaker  
Steve Ritz  
Mike Anderson

## GREETERS 11:00 A.M.

Marianne Sweat Narthex  
JoAnn Sweat East Entrance

## USHERS 11:00 A.M.

Jeff Davis  
Annette Doklovic  
Tom Hillman  
Gary Simmons

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

Nov 1 Ken & Karen Frayer  
Nov 8 Lowell Weeks & Chris Cichanowicz  
Nov 15 Rob Hogsette & Steve Ritz  
Nov 22 Jim Scheiber & Mary Schwartz  
Nov 29 Ken & Karen Frayer

## 8:30 POWER POINT OPERATORS

Nov 1 Paul Ward  
Nov 8 Gordon Moxley  
Nov 15 Tom Sarbach  
Nov 22 Paul Ward  
Nov 29 *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - one 10:00 am Sunday worship*

## PEW PAD GLEANERS

Nov 1 Jodi Mumaw  
Nov 8 Lolita Scheiber  
Nov 15 Stacey Crall  
Nov 22 Jane Sprang  
Nov 29 Marilyn Motson

## 11:00 ASSISTING MINISTERS

All Saints  
Christ the King  
Advent I  
Nov 1 Chris Kaschube  
Nov 8 Stan Cichanowicz  
Nov 15 Bob McCready  
Nov 22 Chris Kaschube  
Nov 29 *2 pastors on 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday-10:00 a.m. worship*

## LAY READERS

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

Nov 7	Kay McNaul	Nov 21	Kay McNaul
Nov 14	Jean Ridenour	Nov 28	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday-10:00 am Sunday worship</i>

### 8:30 A.M.

### 11:00 A.M.

All Saints	Nov 1	Jerry Gallagher	Shirley Lane
	Nov 8	Mary Hujus	Carol Pierce
	Nov 15	Liz Prather	Helen Anderson
Christ the King	Nov 22	Pat Reed	Dan Shupp
Advent I	Nov 29	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday-10:00 a.m. worship: Sandie Volz</i>	

**Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 25, 7:00 pm: Jo Wirstrom**

### ACOLYTES, CRUCIFER, TORCHBEARERS

#### 8:30 A.M.

#### 11:00 A.M.

All Saints	Nov 1	A Casey Kelley	A Rachel Shupp
	Nov 8	A Kate Hogsette	A Katilyn Stransky
	Nov 15	A Sarah Ward	A Emily Blankenship
Christ the King	Nov 22	A Trayce Prather	A Rachel Shupp C Bryan Eyerly T Alissa Ruth T Lindsey Brenkus
Advent I	Nov 29	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday-One 10:00 Weekend Service: A Michael Ward</i>	

**Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, Nov 25, 7:00 pm:** A TBA  
C Bryan Eyerly

## COMMUNION PREPARERS

All Saints	Nov 1	8:30 a.m.	Bill & Pearl West
All Saints	Nov 1	11:00 a.m.	Bill & Mary Schwartz
	Nov 8	8:30 a.m.	Jerry Gallagher & Mary Hujus
Christ the King	Nov 22	8:30 a.m.	Bill & Mary Hayes
Christ the King	Nov 22	11:00 a.m.	Marilyn Dinges & Shirley Shupp

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

### All Saints Sunday & Consecration Sunday

(continuous communion)

#### November 1 - 8:30 a.m.

Bread Servers	2 Pastors
Wine West	Tom Pasheilich
Cups West	Nancy Pasheilich
Wine East	Renee Ward
Cups East	Margaret Runyon
Intinction	Paul Theaker

#### November 1 - 11:00 a.m.

2 Pastors
Wes Volz
Sandie Volz
Jodi Mumaw
Bob McCready
Pat Wells

#### November 8 - 8:30 am

(regular communion)

Bread Servers	2 Pastors
Wine West	Jackie Moxley
Cups West	Dawn Butterman
Wine East	Carol Fry
Cups East	Dolores Esler
Intinction	Paul Theaker

### Christ the King Sunday

(continuous communion)

#### November 22 - 8:30 am

Bread Servers	2 Pastors
Wine West	Ken Frayer
Cups West	Karen Frayer
Wine East	Dawn Butterman
Cups East	Jackie Moxley
Intinction	Pearl West

#### November 22 - 11:00 am

Pastor & Assisting Minister
Donna Rettig
Don Harruff
Carol Pierce
Cheryl Lantz
Greg Hughes

**LUTHER HALL SUNDAY DOOR DUTY**

	<u>8-9:45 am</u>	<u>9:45-11:05 am</u>
Nov 1	Stan Cichanowicz	Ron Rehm
Nov 8	Betty Guenther	Shelley Shupp
Nov 15	Cindy Russell	Jodi Mumaw
Nov 22	Henry Keultjes	Pat Reed
Nov 29	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - one 10:00 am Sunday worship:</i>	
	9:00-10:05 am: Wes Volz	

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS**

Becky Pittman, coordinator

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

**BLOOD PRESSURE NURSE**

November 1: Jane Anderson

**NOVEMBER ALTAR WORKERS**

Nave: Devera Ritz

Chapel: Cheryl Lantz

Proclaim!: Jan Fisher

+ + + +

**11:00 PROCLAIM! CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

**Greeters/Ushers**

Nov 1	<i>Combined 11:00 in the Nave</i>	Nov 22	Ted and Karen Ellis
Nov 8	Cindy and Robyn Russell	Nov 29	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday - one 10:00 service</i>
Nov 15	Ronda and Ashley Rehm		

**Communion Preparers**

	Nov 15	Karen Ellis
Christ the King	Nov 22	Ronda Rehm

**Communion Assistants**

	Nov 15	Renee and Emily Blankenship
Christ the King	Nov 22	Ted and Karen Ellis
Christ the King	Nov 22	Ronda and Ashley Rehm
		Tricia and Elizabeth Volz

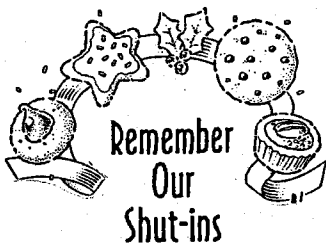
**2009 ADVENT EVENT**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2**  
**7:00 P.M. IN THE UNDERCROFT!**



Design a wall hanging! Or maybe a Christmas Card! Mix up some fragrant bath salts! Rather than have a speaker at the Advent Event this year, we have decided to **be creative and craft something!** You may make any of the above for yourself or as a gift to someone else for a nominal fee. By Wednesday, December 2, we may even have some other suggestions!

There will be lots of nut breads, cookies, holiday related crafts and many gift items to bid on in the **Silent Auction**. (By the way - What are *you* contributing for the auction?)

A selection of **Fair Trade items** will be available AND some **great refreshments**. Come and enjoy a time together and kick off your holiday season. - Pat Wells, 419-756-6863



**COOKIES FOR SHUT-INS**  
**NEEDED BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11 . . .**

Your donation of Christmas cookies helps brighten the Christmas season for the home-bound members of our congregation who so enjoy being remembered in this way. We'll be packing Christmas cookies to deliver to our shut-in members on Saturday, December 12. A pew pad question asking for cookie bakers will be in the bulletin the weekends of November 22 and 29.

**Please bring your favorite Christmas cookies (2 to 4 dozen or whatever amount you wish) to the undercroft kitchen by Friday, December 11.** Clearly mark your package "Cookies for shut-ins." We ask that they be nut-free, as nuts can be problematic for some folks. The more cookies we have, the nicer the packages we can deliver.

- Karen Ellis, coordinator, 419-884-1882

## First English Lutheran Church

### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009

President Ken Frayer called the Tuesday, October 6, 2009 special meeting of the First English Lutheran Church Congregation Council to order at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Jones.

Ken Frayer outlined the items for discussion at this special meeting of the FELC Congregation Council as follows:

1. The decisions made by the national ELCA at the Churchwide Assembly on August 21, 2009 to endorse gay marriage and to change ELCA standards to allow pastors and other rostered leaders to be in committed same-sex relationships.
2. How this decision by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly impacts individuals and individual congregations in the ELCA.
3. How this decision by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly impacts the decisions of individuals and local congregations on Benevolence Giving to the ELCA.

Pastor Larson referred to CORE Connection publications dated August 19, 2009, copies of presentations given Lutheran CORE Convocation held in Fishers, Indiana, September 25 and 26, 2009. Pastor Larson, Pastor Jones, Ken Frayer, Roscoe Thompson, Ken and Penny Ekegren, Clancy and Carol Lauthers from our congregation attended the CORE Convocation which was attended by

over 1200 persons. Pastor Larson also presented a CORE Connection publication dated September 26, 2009 and a "What Do We Do Now?" resource packet from the convocation.

Following much discussion about the convocation and the decisions made by the national ELCA at the August 2009 Churchwide Assembly, and also what it means for members of First English Lutheran Church and our pastors who remain faithful to the teaching of the Word of God as found in Scriptures and what plans should be made for the future, **the following were approved by the Congregation Council:**

First English Lutheran Church will host a meeting for all Ohio Evangelical Lutheran Church in America congregations to explore organizational options for the future. Pastor Larson will contact speakers for this meeting and determine a date pending availability of speakers.

For 2010, the First English Lutheran Church Congregation Council directed the Finance Committee to create a non-unified budget with an offering envelope providing choices for giving to 1) General Fund, 2) ELCA benevolences, 3) Non-ELCA benevolences. The Congregation Council will appoint special task forces to choose the ELCA and Non-ELCA benevolences.

*(continued)*

*(Special Meeting continued)*

Our church will hold Congregational Forums, in response to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly actions, on Sunday, October 18, 2009 at 12:15 p.m., Monday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, October 20 at 10:00 a.m.

Council members were asked to pray about, and ask God for his timing, for determining a

target date for our congregation to decide whether or not to remain in the ELCA. This will be discussed at the October 13, 2009 regular meeting of FELC Congregation Council.

ADJOURNMENT: This meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m. with prayer by Pastor Larson.

– Mary M. Schwartz,  
Congregation Council Secretary

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## STEWARDSHIP CORNER . . .

*Thoughts about minimizing our possessions:*

In the June 5, 2008 edition of Time magazine, Lisa McLaughlin wrote an article entitled How to Live With Just 100 Things. In her article McLaughlin interviews three individuals attempting to do as the article title advises: live with just 100 things.



"Excess consumption is practically an American religion," McLaughlin writes. "But as anyone with a filled-to-the-gills closet knows, the things we accumulate can become oppressive. With all this stuff piling up and never quite getting put away, we're no longer huddled masses yearning to breathe free; we're huddled masses yearning to free up space on a counter-top."

But that free space is not easily attained. "[Minimizing one's possessions] is a very emotional process," says professional organizer Julie Morgenstern. "Often these are things that represent who you once were," she says. "But once their purpose is over, they just keep you stagnant."

"It comes down to the products versus the promise," says organizational consultant Peter Walsh, who characterizes himself as part contractor, part therapist. "It's not necessarily about the new pots and pans but the idea of the cozy family meals that they will provide. People are finding that their homes are full of stuff, but their lives are littered with unfulfilled promises."

– Taken from Stewardship for the 21st Century,  
a webpage provided by Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN.



## OCTOBER COUNCIL NOTES . . .

President Ken Frayer called the Tuesday, October 13, 2009 meeting of the First English Lutheran Church Congregation Council to order at 7:05 p.m. Pastor Larson opened the meeting with prayer.

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Pastor Larson stated the Lutheran CORE event he attended September 25 and 26 was very helpful to him. Pastor Larson mentioned upcoming Congregational Forums in response to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly actions are scheduled for Sunday, October 18, at 12:15 p.m.; Monday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, October 20 at 10:00 a.m. with all meetings in the church undercroft.

First English Lutheran Church will host an informational conference for all Ohio ELCA Lutheran congregations on Saturday, December 5 with speakers: Retired Bishop Kenneth Sauer, Senior Pastor Paul Urling of Upper Arlington Lutheran Church and Pastor Bill Sullivan, Service Coordinator of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC).

Council approved scheduling a special Council meeting with Pastor Sullivan on Sunday, December 6, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

Pastor Larson distributed information about LCMC and copies of First English Lutheran Church's constitution pertaining to terminating its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Pastor Larson and Pastor Jones will attend a Word Alone Network Theological Conference November 15 to 17, 2009 in Roseville, Minnesota.

**FINANCE:** Rob Skropits led discussion about the 2010 non-unified budget. Members

of the congregation will be asked to pledge to the church's General Fund. A letter will accompany pledge cards explaining envelopes for 2010 will include lines for giving to the General Fund, ELCA benevolences and Non-ELCA benevolences. A Task Force will be formed to determine what ELCA benevolences will benefit from the offerings and another Task Force will be formed to determine what Non-ELCA benevolences will benefit. Council will approve members of the task forces during the November 10, 2009 Council meeting.

**CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL:** Linda Elgin stated CDS enrollment was 85 in August and 82 at the end of September, mainly caused by the current economic situation. CDS no longer employs a custodian and the employees are cleaning their own rooms.

**GLOBAL MISSION:** Jeanne Hillman mentioned \$4,971 was wired to the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries, specifically for repair of the mini bus and for food for the orphans. Shadreck Chikoti expressed his appreciation to everyone who contributed on their behalf.

**PROPERTY:** Shawn Volz reported work is finished on the Luther Hall roof replacement project.

*(continued)*

**WORSHIP:** Roscoe Thompson said the Congregation will be asked their input, through a pew pad question, on continuing the practice of one combined worship service in months there is a fifth Sunday.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Jan Fisher reported on activities for Consecration Weekend: cookie receptions will follow the Saturday, October 31, 5:00 p.m. chapel service and the Sunday, November 1, 8:30 a.m. worship service. Following the November 1, 11:00 a.m. combined worship service, a congregational potluck lunch will be held.

**THERE WAS MUCH DISCUSSION ABOUT THE ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY** vote and plans by our church for the future. Ken Frayer stated there was opportunity to learn about Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC) while attending the CORE Event in September. It could be a “landing spot” until another more viable option may become available if the congregation votes to leave the ELCA. LCMC is easy to join, easy to leave - they don't dictate the structure to local congregations. Any congregation joining Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ must agree to their Statement of Faith. Members of our church are encouraged to

attend the December 5 informational conference for all Ohio ELCA Lutheran congregations which is being hosted by our congregation.

Members of the Congregation Council, as individuals, approved the statement that they oppose the actions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America taken on August 21, 2009 which we believe to be contrary to the authority of the Bible. This motion carried with one abstention.

Following discussion about the possible congregational vote to leave the ELCA, with mention made that there needs to be a 2/3 majority vote to leave, another church body needs to be selected, and following a 90 day period, another vote needs to be taken with a 2/3 majority vote required, **Council approved holding a special Congregational meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of voting on the future relationship of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** This meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. with prayer by Pastor Jones.

– Mary M. Schwartz  
Congregation Council Secretary





## GLOBAL MISSION NEWS . . .

**From Henrik and Patty Christopherson, Autumn 2009:** Dear Friends, "To Everything there is a Season." We are currently installed on the farm. We live with Patty's mom near Minooka, IL. One of the glorious things about being here is to witness the dramatic change of seasons. The beans are now shriveled and golden. The tall once-green corn is now nearing the glorious harvest.

Last month, Patty and I had just come from a meeting at the World Mission Prayer League home office. We had expected a bit more confirmation on our way to assume some "fit" with our current station in life. The two-hour session started in a lighter mood as Chuck Lindquist (WMPL Director) asked if we'd consider even yet another option. We do plan to meet with folks again in Minneapolis on November 11, and ask you to be in prayer for those conversations as well. It appears that for the next stretch we'll be doing mission mobilization and education. This will probably involve quite a bit of travel, involving both listening to and challenging congregations. It may also involve accompanying some short-term teams as they learn to engage their world.

When we are not watching the trees change, we manage to keep busy! I am in the midst of studying Romans and Minor Prophets (independent study) to finish my last two classes at Wheaton College. Studying in my 50's has been a good challenge for my memory! Patty has been able to spend some time with her mom and our daughter, Rebekah, two very special people. She continues to pursue her involvement with Achkiy crafts and will do some pre-Christmas sales. Rebekah is at Concordia University in

Chicago. She seems to have adapted well. Her address is Box 143, Concordia University, 7400 Augusta St., River Forest, IL. 60305. She'd love to hear from you!

And we've been visiting churches to plant a few seeds. It has been enjoyable to be able to share about global mission and even Peru. Our missionary God is alive and active!

Transition and change can be hard. The change of seasons remind of that. We are profoundly grateful for your concern and your prayers for us in our transition. We are also grateful for those who have been able to give to our missionary support, as our needs with the World Mission Prayer League remain the same when we are assigned to "Home Staff." It is likely that God has some other good "changes" in store for us! Ask that we might learn to more fully embrace these changes of seasons as He plants seeds in us for seasons yet to come. All this to bear fruit for His glory.

Seasoned Learners,  
Henrik and Patty Christopherson  
World Mission Prayer League  
15431 Brisbin Rd  
Minooka, IL 60447  
HenrikPatty@gmail.com  
1-815-475-7146

## MALAWI ORPHAN CARE MINISTRIES

This past summer, the board of the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries shared with us their vision for the Kanyenyeva area of Malawi. Their number one priority is to become self sustaining. This means that they want to be able to raise the money that is used for the orphan project instead of relying on the donations of others. They would like to raise the money by getting the bus operational again and, in the future, to build and operate a maize mill.

Other visions that they shared with us for the Kanyenyeva area include digging a well, organizing a local market, and raising chickens and goats. They would also like to have a proper kitchen for the feeding program, good toilets and a library. The board would also like to have more Bible lessons for the children and the adults of Kanyenyeva. Their overall goal is to improve the quality of life for the people of Kanyenyeva physically and spiritually.

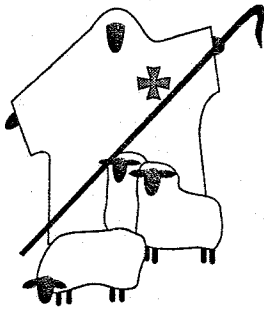
The board believes that God has great things in store for Kanyenyeva, and they

have faith that God will provide. They know that their vision for Kanyenyeva will not happen quickly. It will take time, money and work. They know that God is providing for the feeding program and that He has provided toys, sports equipment, solar cookers and the bus. Unfortunately, the bus has not been in operation for several months because it needed repairs that the orphan project could not afford.

Thanks to your generosity, the bus should be operational again soon. Recently, the Malawi Orphan Care Ministries was able to forward your donations to the Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries. Their priorities are to fix the bus and feed the children with the money that they just received. We will keep you updated on the progress of the bus. Once the bus is operational, the profits from the bus business will cover most of the costs of the feeding program. Thank you for your generous support of this ministry. Your donations give the people of Kanyenyeva hope for their future.

—Joy Jones





## WITHIN THE FOLD . . .

Congratulations to Jacob and Erin Larson Heilman on the birth of their second child, Calvin LeRoy Heilman, on September 24, 2009, 8 lbs 9 oz. and 20 ½ inches. Big brother is Clark Heilman, and grandparents are Pastor Paul and Kristi Larson.

From Dick Layer: “Thanks to Pastor Jones and Pastor Kress for your visits and telephone calls during my recent hospitalization. And many thanks for all the prayers, calls, and visits during the time of my illness. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated. Also, thanks for the “Thinking of you” poster signed by many of you. God bless.”

From Jacob and Elsie Klein: “To all who signed the cards and poster for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a big thanks. It was very appreciated.”

From Rosemary McKean: “I want to thank Pastor Paul and Kristi Larson and Pastor Kress for being at my side when I had my surgery last month. I am doing very well. Thanks for the poster and everyone that signed it, and all the prayers and cards. Thanks, Liz and Jane, you are special. All was very much appreciated. Blessings to everyone. Thanks.”

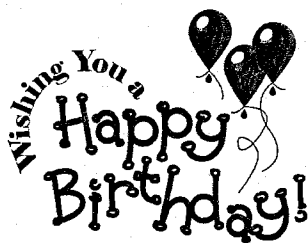
The Property Committee would like to thank the Richland County Steam Threshers and the Ward Family for the new gravel at the Blackfork Retreat Center. A job well done!

From Trayce Prather: “To Pastor Larson, Pastor Jones, Pastor Kress, and the congregation, Thank you all for your thoughts, prayers, and well wishes during and after my knee surgery. My rehab, although lengthy and sometimes painful, went well, I have now been cleared fully to work out and play sports. Again, my parents [Dave Prather and Liz Prather] and I thank you.”

From Mary Schwartz for the Wednesday lunch workers: “Many, many grateful thanks to the wonderfully generous gardeners who shared an abundance of produce with our Wednesday noon lunch program. Our guests were treated to delicious cucumbers, peppers, cabbage, tomatoes, green beans, zucchini, watermelon, cantaloupe, lettuce, sweet corn, red beets and broccoli. These donations not only treat our guests to fresh vegetables and fruit, but help defray the costs of buying groceries. May God richly bless each and every one of our gardeners who shared the fruits of their labors with us.”

From Catholic Charities: “Catholic Charities would like to thank you for your donation of food. We provide rental, utility, food, medical bill, and prescription assistance to eligible individuals. Your donation enables us to assist the growing needs in our community.” [Edited].

– Rebecca. A. Owens, Site Manager



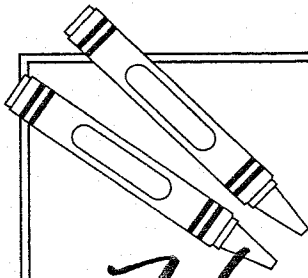
## NOVEMBER 80+ BIRTHDAYS . . .

We are happy to greet our members who are 80+ years of age this month! We want to honor them on their very special day. May God grant to each of them His rich blessings and fill their hearts with His joy and peace in Jesus Christ.

### NOVEMBER

1	Mrs. Mary LaBrie	655 Clifton Blvd.	44907-2209
2	Mrs. Garnet Stafford	230 Valley Hi Dr., Lexington, OH	44904-9792
2	Mrs. Rosemary McKean	1973 Rosewood Dr.	44906-1722
4	Mrs. Mary Ellen Hedges	553 Beechwood Dr.	44907-2305
7	Mrs. Beverly Graham	540 Sunset Blvd.	44907-2706
8	Mrs. Patricia Goode	317 Ruth Ave.	44907-1125
11	Mrs. Edna Stevens	Elmcroft of Ontario, Room 219 2010 Walker Lake Road	44906
17	Miss Lois Addlesperger	Winchester Terrace, Room 11 70 Winchester Road	44907
20	Rev. Cloyd Kress	598 Barnard Ave.	44903
22	Mrs. Evelyn Boughton	406 Saint Thomas Drive Westerville, OH	43081-3529
26	Mrs. Rosi Buckmaster	37 W. Prospect St.	44907-1227
28	Mrs. Imogene Kiamy	1173 Lexington Ave.	44907-2252
29	Mr. Donald White	2124 Park Avenue West, Room 205	44906
30	Mrs. Margueritte Ginnever	61 Chestnut St. E.	44902-7866

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



# Just for **KIDS**

## He gave thanks

This Thanksgiving, you may share a special meal with family and friends. Do you remember the time when Jesus shared a meal with thousands of people and gave thanks?

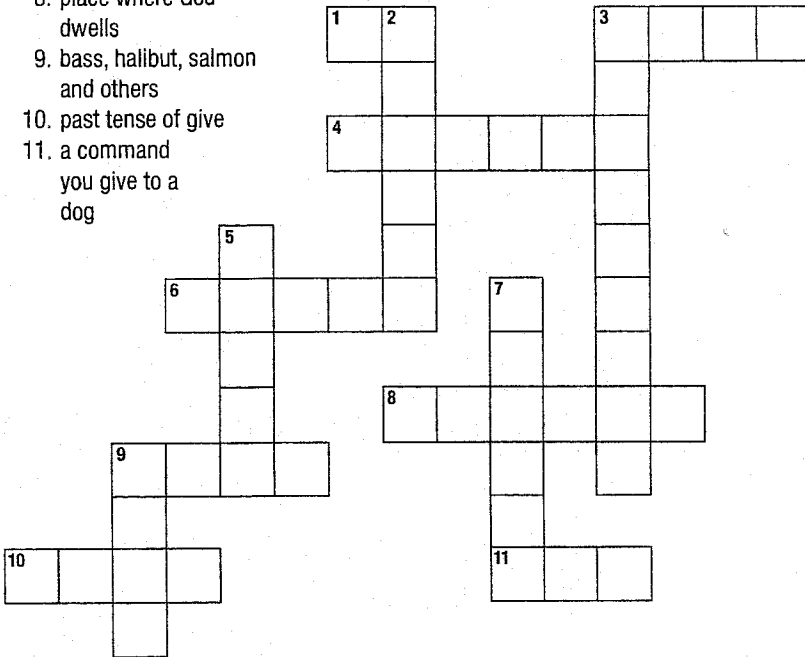
Use the clues to find important words from Matthew 14:19 (NIV).

### Across

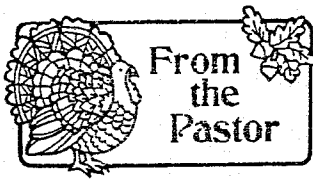
1. opposite of down
3. opposite of up
4. more than one loaf
6. penniless
8. place where God dwells
9. bass, halibut, salmon and others
10. past tense of give
11. a command you give to a dog

### Down

2. another name for humans
3. twelve of Jesus' closest friends
5. what a lawnmower cuts
7. \_\_\_\_\_ giving
9. odd number after 4



Across: 1. up, 3. down, 4. loaves, 6. broke, 8. heaven, 9. fish, 10. gave, 11. sit  
Down: 2. people, 3. disciples, 5. grass, 7. thanks, 9. five



## FROM OUR VISITATION PASTOR ...

Thanksgiving will soon

be here. Yet, Thanksgiving is not reserved for the fourth Thursday of November alone. It is the basic attitude of those who believe in God. The Apostle Paul tells us to "be joyful always, pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thess 5:18).

A couple came to Chaplain Merlin Carothers. Their daughter had been committed to a mental institution diagnosed as hopelessly mentally ill. Daily her parents pleaded with God that their daughter might be healed. The parents had surrendered their lives to God, but they were focusing all their energies on their daughter's illness rather than trusting that God could bring healing.

The parents attended one of Carothers' lectures on the power of praise. When they had returned home, the father suggested they try praising God. They knelt, and the husband prayed, "Dear God, we know You love us and You love our daughter. We trust that You are working in her life and know what is best for her. So we thank You for her sickness, we thank You she is in the hospital. We thank You for the doctors who haven't found the way to help her. We thank You, God, for Your wisdom and love toward us."

The longer the parents prayed, the more they began to believe God was doing what was best. The next morning, the hospital's Psychiatrist called: "Sir, there's been a re-

markable change in your daughter. I suggest you come and see her." Two weeks later, she was dismissed from the hospital. A year later, she was married and expecting a baby, and she was the happiest girl in the world.

Did the change in the parent's attitude make the difference? Who can prove it either way? Yet, it did happen. Every act of praise releases the power of God into the situation and enables God to change them if that is His design. We do not praise to manipulate God into giving us good gifts. Nor do we praise God because it makes us feel good. Rather, praise is an act of obedience and faith. The Bible says, "Thank God *in* all circumstances." When we persist, somehow the power of God is released into our situation.

I believe God does have a perfect plan for our lives, yet, that plan may not be working itself out in our lives because we have failed to praise and thank God in each situation we find ourselves. We can use any situation to His glory when we follow the three guidelines: 1) Surrender the situation to God. 2) We trust You, Lord, and wait upon Your action, for You are our Deliverer. 3) We praise and thank You, right now, in these circumstances, and we praise You for the solution that is coming.

I would encourage you, as I encourage myself each day, to give God praise and thanksgiving in the circumstances you find yourself facing right now.

— Cloyd E. Kress, Visitation Pastor



We remember the families and friends of those who died September 18 - October 23, 2009:

<b>Joe Perry</b>	<b>September 18</b>
<i>(friend of Norma Jean Cushing)</i>	
<b>SPC Damon Winkleman</b>	<b>September 20</b>
<i>(member of St. John, Lakeville)</i>	
<b>William Drescher</b>	<b>October 10</b>
<i>(uncle of John &amp; Pat Fraifogl)</i>	
<b>Shirley Hunt</b>	<b>October 11</b>
<i>(sister-in-law of Bev Harman)</i>	
<b>Mildred "Pat" Simmons</b>	<b>October 14</b>
<i>(wife of Harold Simmons; mother of Gary and Bill Simmons and Pat Smith)</i>	
<b>Don Simons</b>	<b>October 20</b>
<i>(husband of Rita Simons)</i>	

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

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## **PASTORAL ACTS**

Funerals:	October 23, 2009	Mildred "Pat" Simmons
	October 24, 2009	Don Simons

# MEMORIALS

## MEMORIAL FUND

**Marie Young:**

Louise Roller

Jane Kurdzel

## RENEWING GOD'S HOUSE APPEAL

**Pat Simmons:**

Ken & Vi Deems

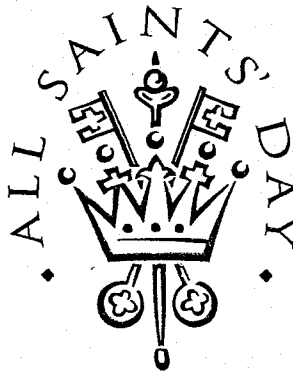
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## LET YOUR LIFE BE A LEGACY

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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Sunday, November 1, 2009

# SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL FOR EVERYONE!

## Children

3 & 4 Year Olds  
Kindergarten  
Grades 1 & 2  
Grades 3, 4, 5  
Grades 6, 7, 8  
Grades 9 - 12

## Location

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Luther Hall  
Jr. High School Room, west balcony  
High School Room, east balcony

## Adults:

Juftak Class  
Pastor's Class  
The Believers

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



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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.

## 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  
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	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		