

THE VISITOR



The First English Lutheran Church

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

Volume 53

FEBRUARY 2011

Number 2

Table of Contents

Pastor's message	1
Egypt and Nile Cruise	2
February Worship	3
Altar Flower open dates	3
Snow Birds and anyone moving	4
FELC Camperships	4
Stewardship Corner	5
Thrivent Goal Met for Matching Funds	6
Christian Day School News	6
Kroger Community Rewards Program	7
Requests for Prayer Chain	8
Pastoral Acts	8
With Deepest Sympathy	8
Volunteer Scheduling Contacts	9
February Volunteers	10-11
Proclaim! Volunteers	12
Within the Fold	13
Women of First English Calendar	14
Warm Up America	14
Gordon Foods Reminder of Credit Rewards	15
Work Day Ladies	15
Global Mission News	16
Malawi Orphan Care Ministries	16
Communion Services at Nursing Homes	17
Communion for the Homebound Members	17
Visitor Deadline for March	17
Regularly Scheduled Activities	18
Souper Bowl of Caring	19
Choir Members Needed	19
January Council Notes	20-21
Dare to Share	22
Bibles for Malawi	22
FELC e-mail and website information	22
Mission Statement	23
Church Staff/Congregation Officers	23

“Our God Has a Big Eraser!”

“One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. Glancing this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. . . . When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well.”
Exodus 2:11-15

Dear Friends In Christ,

The man by the desert well was lost in his thoughts. Dejection showing on every line of his face, he felt much older than his forty years. Moses was miserable --- and with good reason!

He had been the one man in all of Egypt who might have had a chance to bring relief to his suffering people. Raised in the courts of Pharaoh, he had connections, a position, training, natural abilities, and the desire to help. BUT, in one foolish act, he killed a man and forfeited all the advantages he had hoped to use. Now he flees to hide in the Midian desert, where he will live in exile for the next forty years of his life.

Satan delights in convincing believers that they are of no use to God. The “father of lies” points at our sins and then speaks only his words of despair and hopeless failure: ‘See, now God can never use you! You will always fail! You will always be a disappointment.’ BUT, God delights in building cathedrals out of our rubble. Yes, Moses’ life needed reconstruction, to be sure! Nevertheless, when that rebuilding process was complete, Moses was a monument to God’s Grace!

So it would be that Moses would spend the first forty years of his life, raised and trained in the royal courts of Pharaoh --- being equipped by God to learn all that he would need to know about the governance of a great people. Moses would spend the next forty years of his life living in exile in the Midian desert --- learning from God all he would need to know about surviving in the wilderness and shepherding livestock. Then at the age of eighty, God would speak to Moses through a burning bush. Moses was now finally ready. Called by God, Moses would now live the next forty years of his life, leading God’s People from their bondage in Egypt to the Promised Land.

Where in your life have you nearly given up hope that God could ever salvage the situation: your Job? Schooling? Marriage? Friendship? Ministry? Before you throw in the towel and simply give up, walk a mile in Moses’ sandals. Learn about God’s never-failing love and patience with him. Study his failures and see God’s Grace at work. Our God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, is The GOD who delights in building cathedrals out of our rubble.

Then find your own “desert well” to sit by, and meditate on God’s encouraging words for His discouraged disciples (Exodus 4:11-12). Yes, we can bring the pieces of our broken lives to Jesus! May the power of Christ’s Forgiveness and Healing Love be revealed in our weakness.

Together In Christ’s Love and Service,

Pastor Paul L. Larson

Egypt And The Great Nile Cruise

The Land of Joseph & Moses

The Land of the Pharaohs

November 4-14, 2011

\$2979 per Person from New York

Visiting:

*Cairo * The Great Pyramids * Luxor * Thebes * Edfu
Kom Ombo * Aswan * Lake Nassar * Memphis * Sakkara
With Optional Tours to Abu Simbel & Alexandria*

Hosted By

Pastor Paul & Kristi Larson

INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

Have you ever wanted to visit the Land of Joseph and Moses – The Land of the Pharaohs? Egypt is the setting for so many well-known Biblical events and persons – Abraham & Sarah, Joseph, Jacob, the Twelve Tribes of Israel, the Exodus & Moses, Jesus and the Holy Family’s escape from Herod and flight into Egypt – these are all part of Egypt’s ancient history and God’s Great Salvation History! Egypt is one of the most frequently mentioned places in the Bible. Come and learn more about this exciting travel opportunity.

Sunday, February 27th at 3:00pm in the Emmaus Room

First English Lutheran, 53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, OH

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

Sunday Feb. 6
10:00 AM Traditional Worship in Nave
10:00 AM Proclaim! Contemporary Worship – Undercroft
Communion celebrated at both services on Feb. 6
Souper Bowl of Caring, donations taken after worship
11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship, weekly

Sunday Feb. 13
10:00 AM Traditional Worship in Nave
10:00 AM Proclaim! Contemporary Worship - Undercroft

Sunday Feb. 20
10:00 AM Traditional Worship in Nave
10:00 AM Proclaim! Contemporary Worship – Undercroft
Youth Encounter, Huron, OH. (Feb 19 & Feb 20)

Sunday Feb. 27
10:00 AM Traditional Worship in Nave
10:00 AM Proclaim! Contemporary Worship – Undercroft
Food Collection

Coffee Fellowship Host Committee: Stewardship

Worship held in the Chapel each Wednesday at 12:10 PM, lunch at 12:30 PM in the undercroft. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Sunday School is now held from 9:00 AM to 9:45 AM. Classes for ALL ages. Come join us!

ALPHA continues to meet at 11:30 AM in the Emmaus Room.

ALTAR FLOWER OPENINGS IN 2011

As of this printing, there are still openings on the following dates to sponsor altar flowers:

Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, Mar.6, May 1, 15, 22, June 5, 12, 19, July 10, 17, 31, Aug.7, 21, 28, Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 23, 27, Dec. 4, 11, 18

Please call the church office at 419.522.0662 to reserve a date. The cost continues to be \$35.00.

SNOW-BIRDS AND ANYONE MOVING: Please let the church office know of the dates that you are going/coming or making your move so that we can keep our mailing data base up to date. The church pays a minimum of 75 cents per piece of returned mail due to incorrect address.

First English Lutheran Church Campership Program

The First English Lutheran Campership to one of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio (LOMO) camps is available to any First English Lutheran Church youth member, up to grade 12 in the fall of the year in which the campership is received. The amount of the First English Lutheran Church Campership will be determined by:

- The monies available in the fund,
- The number of requests received, and
- The specified amount recommended by Church Council.

Anyone interested in a FELC Campership must submit the request in writing to the church office on or before March 1st, in order to be considered. Please be sure to include: name and address of camper, the week and the camp the child will attend and the cost of the early registration fee for that week. Once the registration deposit has been paid by the parent and Council secretary Mary Schwartz is notified, a check will be sent to LOMO for assistance for your camper.

All requests will be reviewed at the March Council meeting. Council will recommend the number and amount of the FELC Campership based on monies available and the number of requests received.

Council Secretary will notify those members receiving FELC Camperships.



**SPONSOR A CHILD
FOR CHURCH CAMP**

Stewardship Corner

A Preview of Coming Attractions

Imagine this scenario: your daughter or son is heading home from school and they receive the following text from their favorite retailer:

"Hey Suzie, we see you're in the neighborhood. Stop in today cuz we r having a HUGE sale. The first 50 kids that stop in, show this text and use their cell to pay will get 20% off their entire purchase!! Oh and here's a map to help you find the store from your present location. Hope to c u soon!"

Last week a friend forwarded the article *A New Way to Pay* from the Minneapolis *Star Tribune* that highlighted new ways we will be able to pay for goods and services using our cell phones. If you have attended one of my presentations in the past couple of years, you may recall that I too have been highlighting this newest form of currency.

As hard as it may seem, plastic (debit and credit) will soon be yesterday's news.

As the article points out there are certainly some benefits to this new way we will pay-the increased speed of moving through a checkout line, instant coupons based on our spending habits and preferences, and lighter load to carry in our wallet or purse (think plastic, cash and coins).

All good, right? Well, not so fast. There are a few things you will want on your radar before signing on the bottom line-especially for your kids.

First, studies out of Asia (where this technology has been in use for some time) suggests that when you use a phone to buy stuff, you spend 10 to 20 percent more than when you use plastic.

To put this in perspective, when you use plastic to buy stuff you spend 10 to 20 percent more than when you use cash. Get the trend?

If you haven't mastered the art of living within your means, this new technology could be a rather unpleasant wake-up call. When you add finder-technology into the mix (that is the ability for a company to know your exact location using GPS-like technology) spending habits may quickly turn ugly.

Which demographic was the number one acquirer of cell phones last year in the U.S.? Tweens or kids ages 8 to 12. Get the trend?

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THRIVENT Matching GOAL for Kitchen Has Been MET!

THANK YOU! The **SPECIAL THRIVENT \$10,000 MATCHING GRANT Goal has been met.** As of January 16, 2011 we have now received \$11,318.29 earmarked for “Renewing God’s House – Kitchen Renovation.” First English Lutheran has been awarded a special Lutheran Community Economic Bridge Challenge Grant of \$10,000 from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation. This will be used to support our Wednesday Noon Lunch Program for much needed kitchen equipment upgrades. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation offered to match up to \$10,000. **We have now reached the \$10,000 GOAL.** Though initial estimates indicate that the whole Kitchen Renovation Project may very well cost in excess of \$80,000, we are thankful for this Matching Grant of \$10,000 from THRIVENT and the many gifts from our members that have helped us reach the \$10,000 Matching Goal.

The Kitchen Renovation Project is one of many major renovation projects that are all part of our “**RENEWING GOD’S HOUSE APPEAL**” Your generous gifts towards our “**Renewing God’s House Appeal**” are still greatly appreciated for our many needed church repairs and renovations. If you have any questions – please contact Mary Schwartz.

February Christian Day School News

“...love one another as I have loved you.” John 13:34 will be our Bible theme for February. We will also be reading stories about Jesus’ life and teachings. The children will be learning about presidents past and present as well as writing letters and decorating cards for Valentines Day. Hopefully we will enjoy some spring-like weather this month. It has been a cold and snowy January. Everyone at the Day School is anxious to get outside and enjoy some warmer weather.



Terry Bianchi Director

KROGER COMMUNITY AWARDS
How To Sign Up for First English Lutheran Church
Organization #82052

1. Go to register online at krogercommunityrewards.com
2. Be sure to have your Kroger Plus Card handy and register your card. After you have registered your KROGER PLUS CARD – then you can register with the Kroger Community Awards Program so that each of your purchases at Kroger will earn dollars for the Ministries of FELC. [NOTE: The Kroger Plus Card is NOT a Charge Card.]
3. If you do not yet have a Kroger Plus Card, please pick one up at the customer service desk at any Kroger store.
4. You have now gone to krogercommunityrewards.com Click on **Sign In/Register**
5. Most participants are new online customers, so you must first click on **SIGN UP TODAY** in the ‘**New Customer?**’ box.
6. **Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by:**
 - a. entering your zip code,
 - b. clicking on your favorite Kroger store,
 - c. entering your email address and
 - d. creating a password, and agreeing to the terms and conditions
 - e. NOTE: this will also allow you to download free coupons directly to your Kroger Plus Card.
7. You will next get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email. You must have e-mail access to sign-up.
8. Go to your designated email account.
9. Open the E-Mail --- Click on the LINK in that E-Mail from Kroger to activate your Kroger Account. If you do not do this your Kroger Account will NOT be activated.
10. This will bring you back to the Kroger website.
11. Click on **My Account** and use your email address and the password that you just created to proceed to the next step.
12. **Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.**
13. Update or confirm your information.
14. Enter the Organization Number for FELC: **#82052**; or Enter the name of our organization, select the organization name [First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, OH] from the list and click on confirm.
15. **To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see our organization’s name on the right side of your information page.**
16. REMEMBER, purchases will not count for our Congregation until after you have registered your card and completed this step.
17. Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 877-576-7587 to get your Kroger Plus card number.
18. Members of FELC must swipe their registered Kroger Plus Card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus Card when shopping for each purchase to count.
19. Once you have completed this registration process, you will see this message on the bottom of each of your Kroger receipts slips: “You requested Kroger to donate to FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.”
20. NOTE: This process must be renewed annually, so keep an eye on your receipt slips. When the message in #19 no longer appears – its time to renew.

Thank You!

By Registering You Are Supporting the FELC Ministry to the Orphans of AIDS

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.

PASTORAL ACTS

Funerals: January 4, 2011 Edna Marshall Pastor Jones

Baptisms: January 30, 2011 Ethan and Brailey Slone,
children of Kristin and Joseph Martin Slone



With Deepest Sympathy

Our deepest and sincerest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Edna Marshall who passed to life eternal on January 4, 2011, and the family and friends of Patti Mowery, who passed to life eternal on January 12, 2011. Patti is the cousin of Amy Elgin. Eugene Marshall is the husband of Edna Marshall. May Christ's blessings of healing be with all of you.

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:

Worship Committee

Acolytes
Assisting Ministers
Lay Readers

Ruth Sweval, 419.526.5090

8:30 AM Sunday Prayer Partners

Beth Harruff, 419.589.2762

Communion Preparers
Communion Assistants

Becky Pittman, 419.529.3876

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

Gene Harsch, 419.774.0247

Ushers

Evangelism Committee

Greeters

Property Committee

Luther Hall Sunday Door Duty

Gary Simmons, 419.529.3396, and

Dan Shupp, 419.589.7631

Sound Board/Audio

Paul Ward, 419.884.3324

Power Point, Nave

Becky Pittman, 419.529.3876

Children's Church Leaders

Chris Cichanowicz, 419.529.6593

Sunday School Superintendent

Gene Luedy, 419.526.4304

Pew Pad Gleaners

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

Greeters

Ken/Penny Eckegren
Mary Hujus

10:00 AM

Narthex
East Entrance

Ushers

Paul Theaker
Steve Ritz
Mike Anderson
Rob Hogsette

10:00 AM

8:30 AM PASTORS PRAYER PARTNERS TEAMS

Feb 6 Mary Schwartz, Jim Scheiber
Feb 13 Ken & Karen Frayer
Feb 20 Lowell Weeks, Chris Cichanowicz
Feb 27 Rob Hogsette, Steve Ritz

COMMUNION PREPARERS

Feb.6 10:00 AM

Steve and Devera Ritz

COMMUNION SERVERS

Feb 6 10:00 AM

Wine West – C. Cichanowicz
Cups West – Dolores Esler
Wine East-- Lana Conry
Cups East -- Carol Fry
Intinction – Greg Hughes

LUTHER HALL SUNDAY DOOR MONITORS

8:40 TO 10:05 AM

Feb 6 Jodi Mumaw

Feb 13 Shirley Shupp

Feb 20 Ron Rehm

Feb 27 Henry Keultjes

10:00 AM ASSISTING MINISTER

Feb 6 Annette Doklovic

Feb 13 Chris Kaschube

Feb 20 Stan Cichanowicz

Feb 27 Greg Hughes

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS

Feb 6 Kristlyn Brock

Feb 13 Amy Skropits

Feb 20 Ronda Rehm

Feb 27 Heather Kraft

ACOLYTES

Feb 6 Steven Ward

Feb 13 Jake Caseman

Feb 20 Taylor Grossenbacher

Feb 27 Paul Hogsette

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Feb 6th - Heather Kraft (Sunday School) and Trudy Watts (church)

Feb 13th - Annette Doklovic (Sunday School) and Kristlyn Brock (church)

Feb 20th - Stacey Crall (Sunday School) and Toni and Kevin Zehe (church)

Feb 27th - Amy Elgin (Sunday School) and Wendy Large (church)

PEW PAD GLEANERS

Feb 6 Liz Sprang

Feb 13 Brenda Eyerly

Feb 20 Lolita Scheiber

Feb 27 Jodi Mumaw

FEBRUARY ALTAR WORKERS

Nave: Devera Ritz

Proclaim! Jan Fisher

LAY READERS

Feb 6 Devera Ritz

Feb 13 Amy Skropits

Feb 20 Sherry Winbigler

Feb 27 Jo Wirstrom

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Stewardship

POWER POINT (NAVE)

Feb 6 Gordon Moxley

Feb 13 Jim Scheiber

Feb 20 Jeff Kilgore

Feb 27 Paul Ward



10:00 PROCLAIM! CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Greeters/Ushers

Feb. 6th - Haley Pittman and Lindsey Brenkus
Feb. 13th - Trudy and Brad Watts
Feb. 20th - Elizabeth Volz and Sarah Jones
Feb. 27th - Ronda and Ron Rehm

Communion Preparer:

Feb. 6th - Ted and Karen Ellis

Communion Servers:

Feb. 6th - Debby and Kayla Brock; Cindy and Robyn Russell

Powerpoint Assistants:

Feb. 6th - Jessika Volz
Feb. 13th - Haley Pittman
Feb. 20th - Mike Brenkus
Feb. 27th - Ed Farner

Drink prep/clean-up:

Feb. 6th - Jan Fisher
Feb. 13th - Ronda and Ron Rehm
Feb. 20th - Ted and Karen Ellis
Feb. 27th - Debby and Kayla Brock



WITHIN THE FOLD.....

Dear Church Family. Thank you and blessings for all the kindnesses I received during my recent surgery: Visits and calls from the pastors, cards, letters, well wishes, cookies, flowers from the choir and the beautiful prayer shawl from the ladies that warmed my body as well as my Spirit. Your thoughtfulness and caring were such a comfort. Love, Hugs, Prayers,

Shirley Lane

Dear First English Lutheran,

We wanted to take this time to send our many thanks to all of you who made the Baptism of our daughter Julia Olson so very special. It could not have been a more beautiful day. Thank you again,

Steve, Elizabeth and Julie Olson (Elizabeth Davis Olson, daughter of Barb and Jeff Davis)

We want to thank all and send God's Blessings to everyone who signed the poster and sent cards for our 94th birthdays. Also thanks for the yummy cookies at Christmas and to the Volz's for their lovely visit. Everything was so appreciated, so thanks a million times!

Tom and Evelyn Woodard

A synopsis of the letter sent to FELC from Catholic Charities.....

Thank you for your generous gift of food given to Catholic Charities for our pantry. On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, and most of all, our clients, we are very grateful for your generosity toward our agency. Your friendship is greatly appreciated. The requests for services have increased steadily in the past few years, due to the condition of the economy. Your gift will be used so that we can continue to offer these services to the community.

Rebecca A. Owens, Site Manager/CES Program Coordinator

Jane Eggeman, proud great grandmother, would like to announce the arrival of her great grandson, Morgan Glen Eggeman born December 2, 2010 and weighing 6 lbs. 15 oz. His parents are Chad and Lorilee Eggeman and his grandparents are Roger and Lori Eggeman. Morgan Glen has an older brother named Drake who is nearly two years old. Congratulations and blessings to the entire family! 13

Women of First English Lutheran Church

FEBRUARY 2011 CALENDAR

CIRCLE/EVENT	DATE	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	MEETING PLACE TOPIC
EVE	1	TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room Prayer Shawl Ministry
LYDIA	3	THURSDAY	11:00 A.M.	The Grill in Lexington A reorganization meeting open to anyone interested
SARAH	7	MONDAY	1:00 P.M.	Emmaus Room Hostess: Margaret Battisti Program: Kay Jewett
MARY	NO MEETING			
WORKDAY LADIES	2 & 16	WEDNESDAY	8:30 A.M.	3 RD FLOOR
PLANNING TEAM	21	MONDAY	1:00 P.M.	Narthex Lounge

Funeral Dinners: Jackie Moxley & Shirley Shupp
 Altar Workers: Nave: Devera Ritz; Proclaim!: Jan Fisher
UPCOMING DATES: March 12 Women of FELC Lenten Breakfast

“WARM UP AMERICA!” PROJECT

An on-going ministry!



Knitting and crocheting patterns are in the box in the Narthex. Your 7 x 9 pieces are put together to make full size and baby afghans for those in our community and beyond. See completed afghans on display hanging over the railing in the Narthex! **Thank you to Jane Sprang for sewing the squares together into completed afghans.**

GORDON FOOD SERVICE (GFS) will credit your personal purchases to our First English Lutheran Church, *Mansfield*, rebate account. Just tell the checkout person this is what you wish to do. (Be sure to say FELC Mansfield, as there are other First English Lutheran churches in the area!) **GFS rebate money goes towards our Wednesday Noon Lunch program.**

WORKDAY LADIES NEED MACHINE SEWERS.....

Patchwork comforter production has gotten behind, and **we could use some help sewing the patches together to make the colorful tops.** We have been able to complete a few lap robes, but full-size comforters for Lutheran World Relief, area agencies in need, and our high school graduates are in short supply.

If someone could help us by doing some machine sewing at home, it would be appreciated! We have plenty of patches ready! Call **Pat Reed at 419-756-1372** if you would like to help.

Thanks you to those who have already done some sewing and completed quilt tops for us!

WORKDAY LADIES HAVE A REAL NEED for clean, used bed sheets or blankets of any size to use for linings in quilts. They don't have to be perfect, but should be without holes. Thank you for your support of this vital outreach project!



GLOBAL MISSION NEWS

"Reaching out beyond our church to help others."

You are invited! **Nick and Shannon Kraft** will be at First English Lutheran Church on **February 13th**. A reception will be held at 4 PM in the Emmaus Room. They will tell of their mission work in Bolivia and about their future plans. Come to the open house and talk with this energetic couple who God sends to spread His word about joy and salvation.

At no cost to you, search the web and support Lithuania Christian College! Each time that you search the internet or shop online at one of the participating stores, a donation will be made to Lithuania Christian College. Simply enter <http://www.goodsearch.com>. Choose the non-profit charity, LCC, as the place to receive donations when you research. The sky is the limit!

MALAWI ORPHAN CARE MINISTRIES

Thank you for your generous donations to the Malawi Orphan Care Ministries during Advent. As of December 31, the total of your donations was \$2,646.50. That money will go a long way in helping to feed and educate the children of Kanyenyeva. Please remember that they need your help all year. Please pray for them and if possible, continue to donate what you can to help them be able to have food to eat and an education throughout the year.

The money that was donated through the Advent offering is enough money to feed the orphans and pay for their secondary education for 3 months. In the next few months, lets raise enough money to help feed and educate the orphans for the following 3 months and more!! We can do this through our monetary donations as well as using your **Kroger Plus Card** if you have one that is linked to FELC. (See Visitor article for details about linking your card to FELC or contact Joy Jones at 419-884-1016.)

Zikomo Kwambiri (Thank you very much) from the children of Kanyenyeva for showing them that there are people in the world that care for them. Zikomo Kwambiri for giving them hope for their future.

Joy Jones, for Global Mission

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, February 15

9:00 A.M. Elmcroft of Ontario

10:15 A.M. The Waterford

2:00 P.M. Mifflin Care Center

Thursday, February 17

9:30 A.M. Brookdale Sterling House



**Communion
Services for the
Homebound.....**

If you (or someone you know) are unable to attend worship services regularly to receive Holy Communion, and would like to receive communion in your home with a Communion Deacon or pastor, please call the church office, 419-522-0662.

THE NEWS AND INFORMATION DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH VISITOR IS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2011. Assembled and mailed: Thursday February 24, 2011

PLEASE EMAIL ALL ARTICLES TO: newslettereditor53@yahoo.com or leave in the mailslot at upper left of the slots (marked Visitor Editor and/or Connie Stewart. Volunteer editor Jan Fisher can be reached at 419.589.2820.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES!



Wed. Feb 2, 16 **Workday Ladies Sew** patchwork quilts 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the third floor Luther Hall. Tracing and cutting, ironing, machine sewing, and tying. *If you can sew patches to make quilt tops at home, contact Pat Reed at 419.756.1372.*

Monday Feb 7 **Men's Group** meets at 9:30 AM the first Monday of the month for breakfast at Denny's, West Fourth Street in Ontario. Contact Hal Simmons, 419.529.6586.

Tuesday Feb 1 **Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets at 7:00 PM in Emmaus Room for knitting and crocheting of prayer shawls. Instructions, patterns, and yarn are provided. Contact Karen Ellis, 419.884.1882 or Jan Fisher, 419.589.2820.

Every Wednesday **Wednesday Noon Worship and Lunch**, 12:10 PM worship in the Chapel. Lunch follows in the undercroft. Everyone welcome!

Every Thursday **Proclaim! Praise Team Rehearsal**, 5:30 PM 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 PM in the choir room in the rear balcony. Please enter by the East door of Luther Hall. Scott Berry, Director.

Friday Feb 18 **Friendly Friday Group**, 10:30 AM program in the Emmaus Room. Lunch served at 11:30 AM. Rides available, Coordinator Margaret Battisti, 419.526.4381.

Sunday Feb 27 **Food Collection**. Monetary donations go to support our Wednesday Noon Lunch. Groceries collected go to Catholic Charities and Salvation Army. Thank you for your continued support!



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2010!

BANG! BANG! BANG! Remember the enthusiastic beating of the soup kettles last year? Better bring some ear plugs! The kids are excited once again to participate in this event along with thousands of other youth across the country. ALL of the money collected in the pots will be given to help feed the poor and homeless in Mansfield. Please remember to bring an extra dollar or more to the worship services on February 6.



The Senior Choir would like YOU to sing with us!

Hello everyone! The Senior Choir has had a great start to the year! We got things off the ground just in time to put together a wonderful Christmas Eve service. We have continued into the new year with a wonderful group, and wonderful music, but we would like for some more of **you** to join us! You don't have to be a music major or have a music degree to sing with us, just a love for singing God's praises! We welcome everyone of all ages and musical abilities. Our rehearsals are on Thursday evenings at 7:00 P.M. in the choir room. Please come join us! If you have concerns, or have a conflict with the Thursday evening commitment, please still consider joining us. While our rehearsals are critical to learning the music, we will do anything we can to accommodate your given situation. If you have questions or concerns, you may contact me directly at saberry31@yahoo.com, or by phone at (330) 201-1452.

Scott Berry, Director

JANUARY COUNCIL NOTES:

President Ken Frayer called the Tuesday, January 18, 2011 meeting of the First English Lutheran Church Congregation Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened the meeting with prayer.

SENIOR PASTOR: Pastor Paul Larson expressed appreciation to Becky Pittman and Chris Cichanowicz for the delightful Children's Christmas program; to Scott Berry, Becky Pittman, Senior Choir, Altar Guild and to the anonymous donor for providing the radio broadcast and the Woodwind Trio for the Christmas Eve Worship service; to Steve Ritz and many helpers for putting up the Christmas decorations; and to Shawn Volz and Bill Schwartz for parking lot and sidewalk snow removal. Pastor Larson also expressed appreciation from his family for the many prayers for safe travel for them while they were at their son, Erik's wedding in Ghana. Pastor Larson stated Nick and Shannon Kraft will visit our church February 11 to 15, 2011, staying in the penthouse apartment. There will be a time to meet and learn about their mission work on Sunday, February 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the Emmaus Room. Council approved a love offering be taken to assist with travel expenses for Nick and Shannon Kraft. Pastor Larson announced that as of Sunday, January 16, \$11,318.29 has been received for the Renewing God's House Kitchen Renovation appeal to enable our congregation to receive a \$10,000.00 Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Community Economic Outreach Bridge Challenge Grant.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Pastor Jones expressed his appreciation to Council members for their willingness to postpone the Council meeting from last week, on a snowy evening, to this evening. The current Alpha Course is going well with 20 or more participants, 12 of whom are non-members. There is a need for volunteers to prepare a meal for the group - see Pastor Jones if you can help. Pastor Jones mentioned the Malawi Mission team is planning their upcoming trip in June, 2011.

WOMEN OF FELC: Jan Fisher said plans are being made for the Lenten Breakfast on Saturday, March 12, 2011. Thankoffering Sunday will be Sunday, October 2, 2011.

PERSONNEL: Sherry Winbigler stated that Scott Berry is doing well, settling into his new position and that he hopes to build the Senior Choir. Sherry mentioned that she and Paul Theaker were approached by a panhandler in the Mulberry Street parking lot after a recent Sunday worship service. Following discussion, it was decided the pastors would mention this situation in their Sunday announcements.

FINANCE: Don Harruff mentioned it was not necessary to borrow any of the \$30,000 credit line authorized by the congregation from the General Endowment Fund in 2010. There was a \$46,000 loan taken from the General Endowment Fund during 2010, as authorized in the 2010 budget. Plans are to pay back that loan beginning in January, 2011, at the rate of \$392 per month over a ten year period.

GLOBAL MISSION: Jeanne Hillman mentioned the Sunday, February 13, 4:00 p.m. meeting with Nick and Shannon Kraft. She requested that if anyone has extra bibles to donate, to bring them to the church and they will be given to the Wednesday Lunch guests.

STEWARDSHIP: Jan Fisher suggested holding another Lenten Challenge to collect needed items to donate to The Salvation Army.

SERVICE: Becky Sarbach said she took 5 boxes of new clothing and undergarments to the Domestic Violence Shelter. The shelter was most appreciative of these donations.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Chris Cichanowicz said she has contacted volunteers to work in the nursery and has 17 people who will help, many of whom will need background checks. Chris thanked Karen Frayer and Connie Stewart for their additional work with the office duty changes; to Pastor Jones for all he did while Pastor Larson was away; and in addition to Becky Pittman, she expressed thanks to the Sunday School teachers, parents and children who presented the Christmas program. Council approved that the February 6, 2011 Super Bowl of Caring donations benefit The Salvation Army local food program. Council approved a Make a Difference (MAD) moment to benefit the military troops with collections of items by all Sunday School classes.

YOUTH: Teri Brenkus said \$602.38 was donated for the Youth Christmas cookie sale which involved 30 students and 8 adults. The Quake Event is the weekend of February 18 and the Zone Event is the weekend of February 25. A total of 30 students will attend the events and 3 adults will accompany each group. There is an apple tree in the Narthex for opportunity to assist with meal and transportation costs for the youth and chaperones. Storage space is needed for items to be donated for the Youth rummage sale in August. She expressed appreciation to Tony and Kevin Zehe, the Ellis's small group and Tyler Crall for their willingness to prepare a meal for the youth group Sunday evening meetings.

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL: Cindy Russell said in November, 2010, there were 61 students enrolled in CDS and there were no staff changes.

NEW BUSINESS: Council appointed Mary Schwartz as Statutory Agent for 2011. There was discussion about the FELC Campership assistance program with information to be printed in the Visitor and bulletins.

ADJOURNMENT: This meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. with prayer by Pastor Larson.
Mary M. Schwartz, Secretary

Dare to Share!

Did you *Dare to Share* the message of Jesus with friends and family in the past few months? Many of us did as we had eighty-one participants! We are happy to announce that **Lois Brown** is the first Dare to Share winner. She brought **nine**, (count 'em, **nine**) guests to church during our first Dare to Share competition. Congratulations, Lois! We love your Christ filled spirit!

BIBLES FOR MALAWI Take your recyclables to Milliron Industries, 2384 State Route 39. Request the proceeds to be paid to Account #480 (First English Lutheran Church, Mansfield). **The funds are used to buy Bibles for Malawi printed in their own language.**

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH E-MAIL AND WEB SITE

Pastor Larson	plarson@felc-mansfield.org
Pastor Jones	ajones@felc-mansfield.org
Becky Pittman	bpittman@felc-mansfield.org
Karen Frayer	kfrayer@felc-mansfield.org
Connie Stewart	cstewart@felc-mansfield.org
Church Office	office@felc-mansfield.org
Jan Fisher, Editor	newslettereditor53@yahoo.com

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

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.

February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30am CDS (Chapel) 12:00pm - 1pm Bible Study (ER) 7:00pm Eve Circle (ER)	2 8:30am Workday Ladies (3rd fl) 9:30am CDS Music (UC) 12:10pm Worship & Lunch (C/UC) 4:30pm Malawi Mission Trip Meeting (FR)	3 11:00am Lydia Circle @ The Grill in Lexington 11:30am Bulletin Assy (3rd fl) 2:00pm Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30pm Proclaim Reh (UC) 7:00pm Sr Choir Reh	4 7:00am Prayer Partners (NL)	5
6 **Souper Bowl of Caring** 8:30am Pastors Prayer Partners 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Holy Communion (Nave) 10:00am Proclaim! (UC) 11:00am Fellowship/Coffee 11:30am ALPHA	7 *CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED* 9:30am Men's Group @ Denny's 1:00pm Sarah Circle (ER) 1:00pm Finance Committee (FR) 7:00pm Property Committee (UC)	8 9:30am CDS (Chapel) 12:00pm - 1pm Bible Study (ER) 4:30pm Malawi Orphan Care Ministries Meeting (FR) 7:00pm Council (UC)	9 9:30am CDS Music (UC) 12:10pm Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	10 **Kraft's at FELC** 11:30am Bulletin Assy (3rd fl) 2:00pm Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30pm Proclaim Reh (UC) 7:00pm Sr Choir Reh	11 **Kraft's at FELC** 7:00am Prayer Partners (NL)	12 **Kraft's at FELC**
13 **Kraft's at FELC** 8:30am Pastors Prayer Partners 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Proclaim! (UC) 10:00am Worship (Nave) 11:00am Fellowship/Coffee 11:30am ALPHA 4:00pm Nick & Shannon Kraft reception (Emmaus Room) 5:30pm Confirm Class	14 **Kraft's at FELC** *CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED* 6:30pm Small Group (ER)	15 **Visitor deadline** 9:00am Holy Comm@Elmcroft 9:30am CDS (Chapel) 10:15am Holy Comm@Waterford 12:00pm - 1pm Bible Study (ER) 2:00pm Holy Comm @ Mifflin Care	16 8:30am Workday Ladies (3rd fl) 9:30am CDS Music (UC) 12:10pm Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	17 9:30am Holy Comm@Sterling 11:30am Bulletin Assy (3rd fl) 2:00pm Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30pm Proclaim Reh (UC) 7:00pm Sr Choir Reh	18 **Youth Encounter @ Huron Ohio** 7:00am Prayer Partners (NL) 10:30am - 2 PM Friendly Friday Srs (ER)	19 **Youth Encounter @ Huron**
20 **Youth Encounter @ Huron** 8:30am Pastors Prayer Partners 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship (Nave) 10:00am Proclaim! (UC) 11:00am Fellowship/Coffee 11:30am ALPHA 4:30pm Malawi Mission Trip Meeting (FR)	21 *CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED* 1:00pm Women of FELC Planning (NL)	22 9:30am CDS (Chapel) 12:00pm - 1pm Bible Study (ER) 7:00pm Worship Committee (ER)	23 9:30am CDS Music (UC) 12:10pm Worship & Lunch (C/UC)	24 11:30am Bulletin Assy (3rd fl) 12:30pm Visitor Assy (3rd fl) 2:00pm Staff Meeting (FR) 5:30pm Proclaim Reh (UC) 7:00pm Sr Choir Reh	25 **Sr High Zone Cincinnati Ohio** 7:00am Prayer Partners (NL)	26 **Sr High Zone Cincinnati Ohio** Alpha Retreat (BRC)
27 **Food Collection** **Sr High Zone Cincinnati Ohio** 8:30am Pastors Prayer Partners 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Proclaim! (UC) 10:00am Worship (Nave) 11:00am Fellowship/Coffee 11:30am ALPHA 3:00pm Egypt & Nile Cruise information meeting (ER) 5:30pm Confirm Class (ER)	28 *CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED* 6:30pm Small Group (ER)					

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

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 brother 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 Ave West, Mansfield, Ohio 44902-1698. Church office hours: 8:30-4:30 Tuesday-Friday; closed Monday. 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

Mr. Scott Berry, Organist and Senior Choir Director

Mrs. Becky Pittman, Coordinator of Music and The Arts

Mrs. Terry Bianchi, Christian Day School Director

Karen Frayer, Bookkeeper

John Meyer, Custodial/Maintenance

Connie Stewart, Parish Secretary/Printer

Dave Carew, Custodial/Maintenance

Jan Fisher, The Visitor Editor

Jim Scheiber, Property Manager

Michelle Myers, Christian Day School Secretary

First Lutheran sponsored missionaries

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

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
Vice President		Property	Gary Lane
Secretary	Mary Schwartz	Service Ministry	Becky Sarbach
Christian Day School	Cindy Russell	Stewardship	Jan Fisher
Christian Education	Chris Cichanowicz	Worship	Roscoe Thompson
Congregational Life		Youth Ministry	Teri Brenkus
Evangelism	Steve Ritz	SCS Superintendent	Chris Cichanowicz
Finance	Don Harruff	Women of FELC	Carolyn Weeks
Global Mission	Jeanne Hillman		