

THE VISITOR



The First English Lutheran Church
53 Park Avenue West (at Mulberry Street)
Mansfield, Ohio

Volume 62

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Number 8

"Pointing People to Jesus Through Intentional Relationships"

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, Early Learning Center phone: 419/522-7500.

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Paul L. Larson, Senior Pastor
Mr. Scott Berry, Organist and Senior Choir Director
Mrs. Becky Pittman, Coordinator of Music and The Arts
Mrs. Angela Murphy, Director Early Learning Center
Nicole Goddard, Bookkeeper Jan Fisher, The Visitor Editor
Angie Cockrell, Parish Secretary/Printer
Dave Carew, Custodial/Maintenance
Andy Kershaw, Property Manager
Michelle Couch, Early Learning Center Secretary

First Lutheran sponsored missionaries

Go Missions International missionaries to Peru & Bolivia, South America:
Nick and Shannon Kraft, and children Madison, Tanyon, Moises and Tucker
World Mission Prayer League Missionaries Brian and Barbara
Shadreck and Yamikani Chikoti, Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries

CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President <i>Lowell Weeks</i>	Personnel <i>Todd Heichel</i>
Vice President <i>Dan Obrynba</i>	Property <i>Mike Anderson</i>
Secretary <i>Alicia Schulz Keultjes</i>	Social Ministry <i>Gary Lane</i>
Early Learning Center <i>Tom Sarbach</i>	Stewardship <i>Mary Schwartz</i>
Christian Education <i>open</i>	
Worship <i>Cindy Russell</i>	
Congregational Life <i>open</i>	Youth Ministry <i>Ted Ellis</i>
Evangelism <i>Jan Fisher</i>	
SCS Superintendent <i>Amy Skropits</i>	
Finance <i>Lu Blankenship</i>	
Women of FELC <i>Jan Fisher</i>	
Global Mission <i>Chris Cichanowicz</i>	



We have made a commitment to focus on the following values and objectives:

CORE VALUES

- 1 Relationships**
- 2 Standing on the Word of God**
- 3 Sacrifice**
- 4 Giving our Best to God**
- 5 Worship Space**
- 6 Worship Experience**

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- 1 Early Learning Center (ELC)**
- 2 Align Ministries to Strategic Focus**
- 3 Engaging Youth**
- 4 Repurpose Staff Including Accountabilities**
- 5 Create Culture of Engagement**

Dear Friends in Christ:

“Has your life made a Difference?” It is the question of Significance. If you are younger, you probably ask this question a little differently: “Is my life making a Difference - a Positive Difference?” It is a good question to ask.

We can learn a lot about our “Purpose in Life” by reflecting on what God’s Word says and the examples that we find there. One would think that **King Solomon** would be an excellent example; after all, he was the wisest man who ever lived! The Bible says that he asked God for wisdom, and God gave it to him. But there is a big difference between having a gift from God and actually using it.

The Old Testament books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon (Song of Songs) are three books that, according to tradition, are all attributed to King Solomon. But these three books parallel the downward spiral of Solomon’s life: Song of Solomon (when Solomon early in life was full of youthful passion and energy); Proverbs (when Solomon in midlife had learned much about the importance of choices - good and bad); and finally; Ecclesiastes (when Solomon in later life had discovered the bitterness of empty pursuits, and the high price of chasing after the wind and reaping the whirlwind). Solomon’s story is a tragic story. Rarely has one ever been so blessed - yet so foolishly squandered those God-given gifts. His sins ultimately lead the whole nation into idolatry and its destruction!

Immediately following these books in the Bible is Isaiah. The life of the **Prophet Isaiah** is a sharp contrast to the life of King Solomon. Isaiah sets his focus on achieving the commission he receives from the Lord and then follows it with all the intensity of a laser beam. For more than 50 years, spanning the administrations of four kings of Judah, Isaiah is true to his calling from God - delivering a ringing indictment upon God’s disobedient people, and calling them back to the Lord. Isaiah is faithful to God, no matter what the cost. In so doing, God speaks through him some of the most powerful and beautiful prophecies of our Savior Jesus Christ (Isaiah 53).

It is easy to “lose one’s way in life” --- to lose your God-Given Purpose. Solomon, in many ways started out so very well, but then lost himself in pursuing his meaning and fulfillment - in all the wrong places. One of Satan’s most effective tools to distract, disable, and ultimately destroy God’s people is the seemingly innocent phrase: “If Only ...”

“If only I could get a college or high school degree, then I’d be on my way.”

“If only I could find a good job, then I’d have status and worth.”

“If only I could save a couple thousand dollars, then I would have peace of mind.”

“If only I could get married and have a family, then I would be truly happy.”

“If only I could win the lottery, then I would be set for life.”

IF ONLY ... [How would you complete this sentence?] We can learn from King Solomon, the wisest ... the richest ... most accomplished ... most published ... most married ... most earthly-powerful ... most you-name-it-individual in the Bible. If you are looking for your meaning in life, and satisfaction in the pursuits of life, you are in for a rude disappointment. Purpose and meaning can never be found there; they are found only in the Giver of Life, Himself. That’s why, at the end of his twelve-chapter odyssey, Ecclesiastes, --- King Solomon concludes with these words: “Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” (Eccles. 12:13). The hymn writer put it well:

***“Trust and obey, for there is no other way,
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.”***

So What Next?

Why not take a few moments to complete this personal “Significance Survey.” It might change the way you look at your “net worth” your accomplishments in life.

- 1) I have \$ _____ in the bank right now, but my real riches are what I have because I am in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).
- 2) I have earned a _____ degree, but I realize that all I can boast about is my relationship with God (Jeremiah 9:23-24).
- 3) I am respected in my community because of _____, but whatever has been to my profit or fame I consider it worth absolutely nothing compared to the surpassing worth of the grace and forgiveness I have in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:7).
- 4) I have studied and read _____ books, but in the final analysis, all that matters is what I have done with THE BOOK, God’s Word --- The Bible.

Our society today is marked by an obsession with meaning and significance. It is a pursuit as old as the days of Solomon --- and just as fruitless unless God is at the center and the circumference of the search. This pursuit for meaning, therefore, is not a bad thing. It is God who has made us for His Purposes. Therefore, He is the One who places this longing for significance in our hearts --- so that we might come to know Him and find our fulfillment in Him.

Yes, we were made for a Purpose. You were made for a vibrant, living relationship with your Creator God. Let your search for true Joy and Meaning in life begin with Him and end in Him.

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

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday June 9, 2020

PRESENT (virtually) : *Mike Anderson; Chris Cichanowicz; Lana Conry; Ted Ellis; Jan Fisher; Dan Obrynba; Cindy Russell; Tom Sarbach; Alicia Schulz; Mary Schwartz; Lowell Weeks; Pastor Paul Larson.* Excused: ?????? *Kathy Hoecker (unable to join) Todd Heichel.*

Internet (via Zoom) Meeting called to order by Lowell Weeks at 7:07 p.m. Lana led in a devotions and prayer.

Roll was taken. Motion (Tom/Dan) to approve the minutes of the May 12 Council meeting. **Motion carried.**

Reports:

V.P. Dan asked who is the “go to” person when Pastor Paul is gone for 5 weeks this summer. Pastor said he has made appropriate arrangements for Angie Murphy to go to Todd, Tom or Andy Kershaw. He will confirm with Andy that this is his expectation.

Senior Pastor: It is so wonderful to be able to be back together, worshipping in our beautiful sanctuary. Our first Sunday back together, was on June 7th, 2020. As anticipated, our numbers in the pews are lower as we come back. Understandably, there are many who still do not feel comfortable coming out (given all of our present COVID-19 restrictions) and may find it preferable to still worship from home. - Again this month a very ***BIG THANK YOU*** to our FELC Worship Recording Team: Tom Sarbach, Todd Heichel, Ed Farner, Becky Pittman, and Scott Berry. Because of their great commitment and wonderful skills, we never missed producing a single Sunday Service for our congregation during this Covid-19 pandemic. Admittedly, we are all still learning a lot, and working on ways to improve the recording of our Sunday Worship Service that is now being provided on both our FELC website and also our FELC Facebook page. Our Worship Committee desires to continue to provide this additional opportunity for outreach. A Worship Tech Team has been working hard to put together a proposal for how we can continue to live-stream our worship services on Sunday mornings. - Our church offices re-opened on June 1. Office Staff will use the side entrance to Luther Hall to access the building. The outside vestibule door will be unlocked. The inside vestibule door will remain on the magnetic lock. Michelle (ELC Secretary will buzz you in.) There will be NO Public Restrooms for outsiders to use. UPS and the mail carrier will be buzzed into the building. I have asked Andy Kershaw to make arrangements to add the capability for the Parish Secretary's Office and the Bookkeeper's Office to be able to also “BUZZ” people into the building using the same magnetic door lock. Long-term this will create a safer work environment for our FELC Staff. ALL Staff MUST be wearing facemasks upon entering the building. ALL outsiders are asked to wear a facemask. ALL staff and ALL outsiders are REQUIRED to use the hand cleanser upon entering the building. Both our Parish Secretary (Angie Cockrell) and our FELC Bookkeeper (Nicole Goddard) are still able to do most of their jobs from home. We will therefore continue to seek to minimize their risk of infection. Nicole and Angie will develop a schedule between the two of them so that one of them will be available at the church from Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 - 4:00. If parishioners need to speak to either of them face-to-face, they can contact them to make an appointment. If you are walking into either Angie Cockrell's office or Nicole Goddard's office you MUST be wearing a face

mask. Angie Cockrell is directed to keep the glass windows to her office shut. People can speak to her through the glass. **As much as possible, please stay out of staff offices.** The more surfaces you touch, the less safe it is for our Staff. - Our Early Learning Center also re-opened on June 1. The Ohio State guidelines for preschools to reopen are very strict but Angie Murphy and her team are making it happen. Everyone should be aware, that even parents of the ELC students will NOT be allowed in the building at this point. ALL Parents must drop off their children at the alley-way entrance. ALL employees MUST check their temperature at home before coming to work. NO employee should come to work if they are feeling at all ill and/or running any temperature. ONLY the Early Learning Center Staff are allowed to be on the ELC floors and in their classrooms and offices. They will be handling ALL of their cleaning and disinfecting. NO ONE [Accept ELC Staff] is allowed to walk through the second floor ELC areas or the third floor ELC areas. This includes the ELC hallways, ELC classrooms and ELC offices. - The very exciting news this month is that our Early Learning Center has just received a **5-STAR** rating from the State. This is the very highest rating! This is all thanks to our Director, Angie Murphy, our Assistant Director, Cindy Sprang and all of our teachers and aides. They have put tremendous work into making this happen. **Congratulations!** - During these days of COVID-19, I have had two graveside services in the last month for two dear sisters in Christ. Louetta Jean Rock, mother of Cindy Heidlebaugh, died at the age of 86 on November 28. Her graveside service was on Friday, May 29. Jaqueline "Jackie" Moxley died at the age of 73 on May 23. Jackie's graveside service was on May 30. Our dear brother in Christ, Don Harruff died at the age of 82 on May 10. We are hoping to have a Memorial Service for him later this summer. Jean Rock, Jackie Moxley and Don Harruff were all longtime faithful members of First English Lutheran Church. Our prayers and heartfelt sympathies go out to all three of these families. - I will be gone on vacation for the four Sundays of June 21st through July 12th. Pastor Mike Koch of Trinity Lutheran in Ashland will be preaching these Sundays at FELC. As always, I have made plans through our local clergy to provide for any needed pastoral care in emergencies and our FELC Office Staff have their names and contact information if they should be needed.

Finance: (Ted) Angie Murphy is requesting that the remaining funding needed for the bus (\$11,760) be borrowed from the endowment fund and paid back from the ELC budget. The Finance Committee recommends that council approve this loan – a 5 year loan from the General Endowment Fund at .5% (The current Tbill rate) interest. Repayment of the loan to begin in January 2021. The payments coming from the ELC budget, also, that the old bus be sold. The loan will be reduced with the proceeds from the sale of the old bus and any additional contributions to the bus fund. **Recommendation approved.** - The technology group is recommending that software and hardware be purchased that will enable the live streaming of the Sunday and other services. The new cost for this technology is approximately \$3,800 plus \$1,000 for expenses already incurred and unidentified installation/training costs. A new technology budget will be established. The ongoing \$400 per year cost will go into this line item. Finance Committee recommends approval of these purchases and that the funds be taken out of the New Ministries and Missions Fund. There is currently \$15,250 allowable to be taken from this fund. Some of those funds had been allocated for a mission trip and for the salary for the new Youth Leader neither of which are likely to happen this year. So we would be repurposing those funds. **Recommendation approved.**

Property: (Mike) The excavator has not shown up. Andy has given them a deadline of this Friday. Getting 2 other bids. Prefer to have the first guy finish the job.

ELC: (Tom) ELC opened June 1. Have achieved the 5 star rating. One of the teachers tested positive for Covid-19 but due to the strict distancing of other children and personnel, no others were affected. That teacher will have to be quarantined for 14 days after she tests clean. – Going to buy a bus.!!

Evangelism: (Jan) What a beautiful clear hot day for the produce distribution today! We served 132 guests today! We provided pre-boxed produce supplied by Sanson Produce in Cleveland. It was absolutely premium! We also provided dairy boxes provided by Micelis Dairy in Cleveland. Those boxes contained white milk, chocolate milk, string cheese, cottage cheese. Of the 132 households 87 were seniors with or without children, and 183 were adults with or without children. The total number of children served in these households was 91. This all equates to 361 people receiving wonderful fresh produce and dairy products. We are blessed to be able to continue this missional endeavor, and I am thankful for thirteen volunteers who so faithfully helped today. Due to pre packaging we didn't need nearly the number of volunteers that we usually have. Drive thru distribution and pre packaging is great for this project!

WORSHIP: (Cindy) The committee came up with the guidelines we have put in place for in-house worship.

Global Missions: (Chris) Discussion of a mission to try to get the Jesus film into every country. A contact of one of our members is seeking sponsors to support her in this mission.

WFELC: (Jan) Planning a summer project to seek donations of laundry detergent for the Crossroads City Center – where they do laundry twice weekly - and for the use of the ELC. Would pair this with a Thrivent action team card. Motion (Jan/Chris) that council approve a request for donations for this project. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:47. Next meeting: July 14, 2020, 7 p.m.

Alicia Schulz, Council Secretary



Prayers Requested for Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky

Earlier this month, Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky had an unfortunate accident in which he fell approximately 18 feet off an area overlooking a lake. Falling backwards, he injured his upper back, shoulders and neck. He was diagnosed with a sprained ligament that supports the neck, along with a herniated disc at C6-C7 and hematoma near the spinal cord. He is currently at his home in Florida, placed in a cervical neck brace, and under the care of a neurosurgeon.

Thankfully, by the grace of God, the injury was not more serious. He will be recovering over the next several months and has requested our prayers. Please keep Bishop John and his wife, Kristi, in your prayers. Feel free to share this request with your congregation and include it in your prayer time during worship.

God hears and answers prayer. Let's all be praying for a full and complete recovery for this brother in Christ who has served our Lord and His Church so well.

Blessings to all of you.

In Christ Jesus,

Bishop Dan Selbo
North American Lutheran Church

ELC

Little People BIG News

AUGUST

Our summer has been running smoothly. Olympics Week was well planned and a ton of fun for the kids. We did things like outdoor races, water fun, and hula hoop. Our family engagement project for our Olympic week went fantastic. We had a good turn out in our parking lot. The kids sang a few songs with Mrs. Becky and each class was called up to receive recognition. As the children left with their families they were given a Brown Bag take home supper of hot dogs, chips, and a Hugs fruit drink. Thank you for all the hard work each of you put in to support this.

Some great news: our bus has arrived! We look forward to using it in the future. Thank you, Tom Sarbach, Angie Murphy, Nicole Goddard and all of the congregational supporters, for all your hard work in getting this fantastic bus for us!

As things are so unknown right now, we are not sure how our Fall will look. Our teachers have been adapting well to all the changes. The state of Ohio has many mandates to keep the children and the teachers safe during all of the COVID 19 lockdown. It has created quite a cut in the number of children we can accommodate in our daycare. We continue to be very aware of social distancing, extreme cleaning, wearing masks throughout the day, and keeping the daycare in a sequestered space.



Angie Murphy
Early Learning Center Director

This from our Congregation Council President.....

On Sunday, July 26, 2020 we held our re-scheduled Annual Congregational Meeting following worship. Our annual election was held with many thanks to the Nominating Committee for their hard work. Elected to three year terms were: Lowell Weeks, President of Council; Todd Heichel, Personnel; Jan Fisher, Evangelism, Lu Blankenship, Finance. Greg Hughes will be the delegate to the 2020 NALC convocation and Larry Lantz will be the delegate to the Ohio Mission District Annual Meeting in May 2021. The 2021 Nominating Committee: Chris Cichanowicz, Beth Harruff, Greg Hughes, and Angie Kaschube. Chris will be the chairperson in 2022. Following the election a power point presentation was made giving updates on the life of the congregation happenings during recent months. Things that were presented pertained to ELC Star 5 rating news and announcement about the new bus that was just delivered, Youth Zoom interactions, dispensation of funds from the James Dickson Endowment, Interim Pastor Team update, and mention of new mobile friendly website as well as the securing of much needed digital equipment as we proceed with very important online streaming.

Interim Pastor Team Established

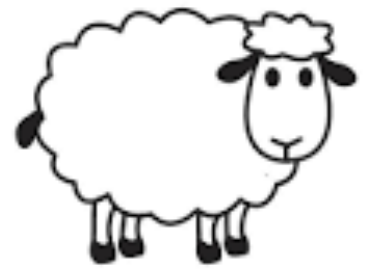
Our Interim Team met during July and made some good headway by sharing a number of ideas to cover our future needs for an Interim Pastor at the time of Pastor Paul's retirement. As we continue to meet and get some of our questions answered by NALC administration we will be reporting back to the congregation. We want to make it clear that our team is not to be considered the "call committee" as that will all come at a much later date.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Our 2019 Annual Reports are still available displayed in the Narthex. Please help yourself to a copy and thus be a good steward of cutting the postage for mailing.

In Christ's love,

Mary Schwartz, Stewardship Chairperson



WITHIN THE FOLD

Wednesday Noon Lunch Ministry

We held WNL one time outside the East doors during July. As we get more publicity out we anticipate serving a higher number of guests. It's all done "Brown Bag" style with social distancing.

Note to Women's Ministry from Brianna McFadden

Dear Women of First English Lutheran, Thank you so so much for the beautiful quilt and for the gift card! Thank you for all of your love and support! I feel so special, knowing so many lovely ladies have prayed for me. God has blessed me so much!! I will definitely be taking the quilt with me as I go on to Baldwin Wallace. It is a treasure. I am looking forward to the times when I can come and play for you all again. Many thanks, **Brianna**

Note to Women's Ministry from Zach Rippel

Thank you so much for the quilt and the gift card. Thank you for thinking of me and praying for me. Love, **Zach**

Note to Women's Ministry from Malawi Orphan Care Project

Once again, thank you for continuing to support High School education for our precious orphans in Malawi. It is so important in our quest to save them from further poverty. We are blessed to have your continuing contributions.

In Christ's service, **Jan Fisher, MOCP Treasurer**

FORTHCOMING IN AUGUST: WEDNESDAY NOON LUNCH WILL PROVIDE A MEAL ON AUGUST 5TH AND AUGUST 19, 2020. IT WILL BE SERVED OUTDOORS BESIDE THE LUTHER HALL ENTRANCE @ 12:30.



July 23, 2020

James Dickson Fund Committee
% First English Lutheran Church
53 Park Avenue West
Mansfield, OH 44902

RE: Check # 24630

Dear Endowment Fund Board:

We are extremely grateful for the check for \$6,517.79 written on June 24, 2020 in response to our proposal for electric lift chairs. Some of our residents have mobility issues and their lives will be significantly enhanced by having a lift chair in their bedrooms.

We intend to purchase the lift chairs from local vendors, with the hope that our purchases might help our community's economy during this challenging pandemic.

Thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Swank".

Michelle Swank
Executive Director

3220 Olivesburg Road • Mansfield, OH 44903 • 419.774.5894 • Fax 419.774.5896

Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities
314 Cleveland Avenue
Mansfield, Ohio 44902
(419) 774-4200 • Fax (419) 774-4207
rnewhope.org



July 6, 2020

Lowell Weeks, President
First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
53 Park Avenue West
Mansfield, Ohio 44902

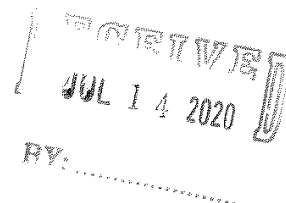
Dear Mr. Weeks,

My name is Melissa Cole and I am the Gift Fund Chairperson with the Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities. I received the donation you sent from the James Dickson Endowment Fund. On behalf of the individuals and families served by Richland Newhope, I would like to thank you for the donation to the Richland Newhope Gift Fund. Donations, such as yours, help the Gift Fund provide medical equipment, recreational opportunities, home modifications, and therapy equipment to people who otherwise could not afford those items or opportunities. The role of the Gift Fund is to fill in and meet the need when there are no other options. I have placed your donation into a restricted fund to be used by those who are "Indigent, Aged, or Incurable sick." Although I will not be able to give you specific information on who those funds go to, I will ensure the funds carry out the intended purpose of Mr. James Dickson. I will do my best to inform your congregation when those funds are used and how they have benefited those supported by the Richland County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity and for your support of Richland Newhope.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Cole".

Melissa Cole,
Gift Fund Chairperson



"Supporting children and adults with disabilities throughout their lifetime"

calendar here

calendar here



Summer Project sponsored by Women's Ministry.....

Please help us with a collection of any size liquid laundry detergent bottles. These will be given to Crossroads City Center (on the square in downtown) where they offer free laundry facilities twice a week, and also to our Early Learning Center staff as they do extra laundry due to COVID 19 requirements.

ANY SIZE AND ANY BRAND THAT YOU PREFER, BUT WE ARE SUGGESTING LIQUID DETERGENT.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY doesn't meet during June, July, August so calendar is not posted.

Funeral Squad for AUGUST, Squad D: Mary Schwartz and Pat Heichel

Love Notes from Shirley



This month I'm writing about my husband, Gary Lane. Easy topic because I don't have to wear a mask or practice social distancing.

Gary and I have been married 20 years and members of First Lutheran Church for nineteen years. We moved here from Iowa and Gary worked at AK Steel as shift manager before retiring. In his early years Gary served in the United States Navy.

Gary's hobbies are many: reading, puzzles, beautiful flower gardens, and every sport imaginable. He shows true talent when football season comes around. Not only does he tell the managers *who* to pick, he also *shares his vast knowledge with coaches and players alike telling them how to play and what they are doing wrong*. All this advice is shared in a calm, sweet manner of course! He knows all the player's stats, records, who they played for, etc., and if pressed, probably their Mother's middle name. This is all quite perplexing and maddening to me because he has to make a list when asked to pick up a loaf of bread and a quart of milk!

Several years ago there was a huge turning point in our lives. Gary suffered a massive heart attack and spent months in the hospital. The doctors told me his life was in the balance. It wasn't hour by hour, or minute by minute. It was second by second. Thank God Gary has deep faith and has walked with the Lord all his life. We never cease to give Him praise.

Editor's note: Shirley, did Gary sign a disclaimer on this?

Shirley's note: Life is precious. Handle with Prayer!



Global Missions

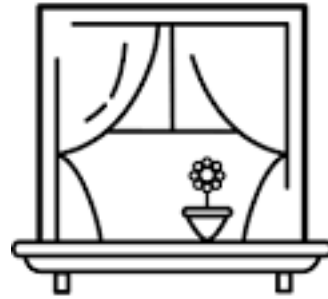
Christophersons: The devastation from the fire they had last month left them filled with tears of grief and healing. Praise God they had insurance to cover the loss of their home and they were not hurt. Their daughter and her husband will be coming down to help them fill a huge dumpster with all the charred items. They were fortunate to find a place to stay until the renovations are complete. They hope to move there on July 20. It could be from 6 to 9 months before they can move back into their own home. Please continue to pray for them!

Krafts: No update yet, but I believe they are still in lockdown. Unable to leave the house after 4 in the afternoons and Sundays complete lockdown. All 12 are still there as far as I know. The Krafts are asking for special prayers for their board member Kjirsten who was supposed to go home last January, but is still with them. Pray also that the borders will soon open so Anne Valerie, a young nurse, will be able to go to Bolivia as planned to help there.

Sorges: After the wedding of their son Joshua and Caroline, their next trip is to go to Hammond, Indiana on July 14 to celebrate Brian's Mom's 90th birthday. They are not sure what comes after their time in Hammond, but are asking God for clarity as they seek HIS guidance about the rest of their time in the U.S. The borders of the Far Side are not open yet, and their visas must be re-validated before they go back.

Malawi The orphans are still in great need of funding for food and education. We just heard that presently they are receiving a daily meal five times per week. That is simply wonderful news! Please consider a donation to send an orphan to High School or to Boarding School. You can send to the church or to MOCP, 53 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, OH 44902.

**Blessings to all,
Chris Cichanowicz, Global Mission Chairperson**



Becky's Views.....

It is a blessing to watch our congregation grow in numbers since we opened our doors 2 months ago! We had a full praise team on Sunday, July 19th - the first time since the beginning of March. (8 musicians!) FELC also has several new visitors worshipping with us regularly. God is good!

It has been SO FUN singing with our Early Learning Center kiddos on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings out in the parking lot! We are glorifying God through silly VBS and camp songs, and the kids are also memorizing Bible verses through song. (Proverbs 17:17, Psalm 28:7, and Joshua 1:9 to name a few) They had the opportunity to sing some of those songs to their parents at the start of the closing ceremonies for their Summer Olympic Week! Learning in the summer?!?!? Shhhh.....don't tell the kids. They are having too much fun singing.

Our journey continues as we put ourselves "out there" on social media. Tom Sarbach, Todd Heichel and Ed Farner continue to make great progress with some new technology that is gradually improving our livestream for those worshipping from home. Two steps forward, one step back! They are continuing to polish, refine, and "tweek" audio options and camera angles. A reminder that you can watch the services on our Facebook page or on our YouTube page - FELC Mansfield. Look for our logo, and please subscribe!

BE INTENTIONAL! BE LIKE JESUS!

Becky Pittman, Coordinator of Music and the Arts

Memorial Donations

**Editorial note of apology for error in posting,
please find this correction:**



ELC Memorial Fund

In memory of Don Harruff
Given by: John and Pat Fraifogl
In memory of Jackie Moxley
Given by: John and Pat Fraifogl

Memorial Fund

In memory of Jackie Moxley
Given by: Pattie & Fred Hostettler, Tom Wappner
In memory of Don Harruff
Given by: Jeff & Karen Young, Mary Lou Miller

With Sincerest Sympathy

We are pleased to report that there are no recently deceased members or friends in our FELC family.

We remember in our prayers the family and friends of those who have recently lost loved ones through death. We pray for Christ's gifts of healing and peace during this time of loss and sorrow that they may be comforted with the Promise of the Resurrection through faith in Christ Jesus our Risen Savior.

Pastoral Acts

none

There will be no Nursing Home Communion during the month of August.
Please hold our shut-ins close in your prayers.

Prayer Requests

To be put on the printed prayer listing: If you would like the church family to know of your joy or concern, please notify the pastors or call Angie Cockrell (419.522.0662) in the church office to be added to the list. Please call again when it is appropriate to have that prayer request deleted.

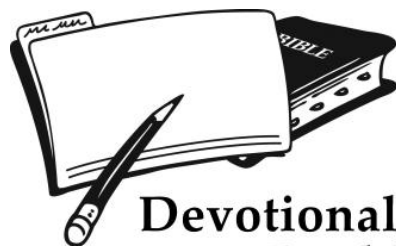
We also invite you to use our two prayer chains. Your request will be shared with a small group of prayer warriors via phone call chain.



Call **Pat Shenberger** to activate the prayer chains.

Her home # is: 419.589.2399 or cell# is: 419.632.4850.

Prayer is very powerful, and we encourage you to use these methods for many needs.



**Devotional
Booklet**

DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

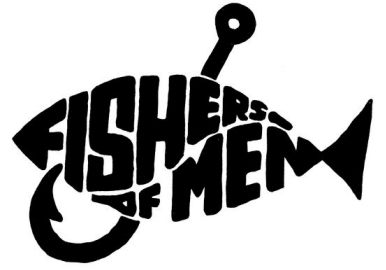
Devotional booklets for AUGUST, SEPTEMBER are in the tract racks, so please help yourselves to these booklets. Make daily devotions a necessary part of your “routine.” There are also many good apps available for your iPhone or Android. In today’s busy world, apps are a wonderful digital tool!

Volunteer Scheduling Contacts	The monthly volunteers are published in Visitor and posted on bulletin boards.
Worship Committee Heather McFadden 419.295.6467 Acolytes <hr/> Cindy Russell 419.544.0878 Assisting Ministers and Lay Readers	Pew Pad Gleaners Jane Sprang 419.610.9776 <hr/> Ushers Charles and Myra Cordrey 419.632.4121
Evangelism Committee Jan Fisher 419.589.2820 Greeters	Becky Pittman 419.989.8585 Power Point, Nave
Property Committee Mike Anderson 419.295.4598 Property Chairman	Finance Committee Lu Blankenship
Becky Pittman 419.989.8585 Sound Board/Audio	Amy Skropits 419.747.3076 Sunday School Superintendent

Evangelism for Today's World

Happy to report a very successful

*“DRIVE THROUGH” free produce distribution
on July 14th*



Free Produce was distributed on Tues. July 14, 2020. The option of Farmers to Families was used.: “Farmers to Families” is pre-boxed produce and pre-boxed dairy products. We ordered 170 units of each, and we ran out by 12:15 PM. This was even with the increased order. The produce was beautiful and premium in quality. The dairy was a huge benefit to folks because it included several kinds of cheese, chocolate milk, white milk, butter and cottage cheese. We served 167 households (a couple of our guests have very large household, so get two or more boxes.) 117 were seniors with or without children, and 215 were adults with or without children. The total number of children served in these households was 108. This all equates to 440 people receiving wonderful fresh produce and dairy products. That number tops the 361 people served from June! I’m always happy when we see increases in the number of people we serve.

We are blessed to be able to continue this missional endeavor, and I am thankful for thirteen volunteers who so faithfully helped in July.. Due to pre packaging we didn’t need nearly the number of volunteers that we usually have.

Note: Drive thru distribution and pre packaging is great for this project! We are blessed to be able to offer this to our community, and it is a NO FINANCIAL COST to us at FELC.

Our next Produce Distribution will be Tuesday, August 11, 2020 11:00 to 1:00.

Although we are still behind our masks, it is fun and welcoming to see a number of faithful guests joining us for worship since we re-opened. Some day I will be able to give them a warmer welcome and get their names. Until that time, “welcome, welcome” to these fine people who join us for wonderful worship in our sanctuary.

Jan Fisher, Evangelism Chairperson

August 2020 Volunteers

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship (Nave)

ACOLYTES

NONE

ALTAR WORKERS

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Chris Kaschube

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

NONE

COMMUNION PREPARERS

August 2: Chris & Kathy Hoecker

COMMUNION SERVERS

August 2:
Wine West Dawn Frayer
Cups West Jane Sprang
Wine East Linda Hughes
Cups East Jane Anderson
Intinction Alicia Schulz

GREETER

NONE

LAY READERS

August 2: Kathy Hoecker
August 9: Sandie Volz
August 16: Jan Fisher
August 23: Angie Kaschube
August 30: Kristi Larson

PASTORS' PRAYER PARTNERS

Chris Cichanowicz

Mary Schwartz

Lowell Weeks

Jan Fisher

PEW PAD GLEANERS

August 2: Liz Sprang
August 9: Rhonda Rehm
August 16: Jane Sprang
August 23: Jodi Mumaw
August 30: Brenda Eyerly

POWER POINT OPERATORS

August 2: Isaac McFadden
August 9: Taylor Grossenbacher
August 16: Cindy Russell
August 23: Suzanne Rippel
August 30: Cindy Russell

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST

NONE

SOUND BOARD OPERATORS

August 2: Ed Farner
August 9: Andy Kershaw
August 16: Ed Farner
August 23: Ed Farner
August 30: Ed Farner

USHERS NAVE

Greg Hughes & Pat Smith

Lana Conry & Brady Zehe



The following opportunities are available for the donation of Altar Flowers. Please consider purchasing flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please call Angie Cockrell at the Church Office (419-522-0662) to reserve one of the dates listed below or to check the availability of other upcoming dates. *OR* you can sign up to sponsor flowers by filling out the Altar flower Sign Up Form on the table in the Narthex. Flowers are \$40.

August 2, 2020

August 16, 2020

August 23, 2020

August 30, 2020

September 6, 2020

September 13, 2020

September 20, 2020

September 27, 2020

It is an awesome act of Worship to give God the Glory in beautifying the church on Sunday morning!



Something new! We are going to post birthdates in case you would like to celebrate with a birthday card or note! Feel free to share this information.

. Below find SEPTEMBER birthdays.

SEPTEMBER:

Lane, Gary	2274 Saratoga Ct Mansfield OH 44904	09/01/1943	76
Volz, Tricia	1550 Graham Rd Mansfield OH 44903-7764	09/05/1964	55
Krueger, Rev. Delmar O	612 B S. Trimble Mansfield OH 44906	09/05/1928	91
Ward, Renee	592 Fox Rd Lexington OH 44904-9336	09/05/1966	53
Shenberger, Pat	1597 Plum Place Mansfield OH 44905	09/06/1938	81

Brenkus, Stuart	273 Greenbriar Dr Bellville OH 44813-1159	09/06/1996	23
Crall, Tyler	222 Marlow Rd Mansfield OH 44906	09/09/2003	16
Kershaw, Andy	1972 Chelsea Dr Mansfield OH 44904	09/12/1945	74
Anderson, Jane	1110 Sheirer Rd Mansfield OH 44903-8644	09/15/1951	68
Butterman, David	47 Bridge St Lucas OH 44843	09/15/2009	10
Cordrey, Charles	7459 Renie Rd Bellville OH 44813	09/20/1948	71
Garn, Lily	85 Harding Heights Blvd Mansfield OH 44906	09/22/2008	11
Keener, April	7904 County Road 26 West Mansfield OH 43358	09/23/1976	43
Heichel, Patricia	4242 St Rte 42 S Lexington OH 44904	09/25/1950	69
Blankenship, Laura	1271 Walker Ave E Mansfield OH 44905-3026	09/25/1981	38
Skropits, Hayden	3399 Oakstone Dr Ontario OH 44903	09/27/2007	12
Hunt, Joy	422 Chapman Way Lexington OH 44904	09/29/1939	80
Russell, Robyn	630 Oak St Lot 174 Mansfield OH 44907-1478	09/29/1995	24

BULLETIN INFORMATION DEADLINE!

Need to get information in the bulletin for a meeting or an announcement?
Send details to Angie Cockrell at acockrell@felc-mansfield.org or phone the church office at 419.522.0662.

Weekly deadlines are noon on Wednesday for bulletins pertaining to that particular weekend. Bulletins assembled at 11:30 AM on Thursdays each week.

Nicole Goddard, our bookkeeper, may be reached by calling the church office at 419-522-0662 or email her at NGoddard@felc-mansfield.org

**SEPTEMBER Visitor Newsletter Deadline: TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020.
Assembled and mailed: THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020.**

PLEASE EMAIL ALL ARTICLES TO: newslettereditor53@yahoo.com or leave in the mail slot marked Visitor Editor. Volunteer editor Jan Fisher can be reached at 419.589.2820.

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH E-MAIL AND WEB SITE

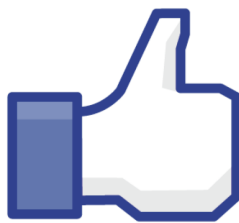
Pastor Larson	plarson@felc-mansfield.org
Scott Berry	saberry31@yahoo.com
Becky Pittman	beckypittman@yahoo.com
Angela Murphy	cds@felc-mansfield.org
Nicole Goddard	ngoddard@felc-mansfield.org
Angie Cockrell	acockrell@felc-mansfield.org
Church Office	office@felc-mansfield.org
Jan Fisher, Editor	newslettereditor53@yahoo.com
Andy Kershaw	propman@felc-mansfield.org

Visit our web site at: www.felc-mansfield.org

Find us on Facebook at First English Lutheran Church.

***Emergency cell phone number if the pastor cannot be
contacted at church or home:***

Pastor Paul Larson, 419-632-1875



Find us on Facebook: **First English Lutheran Church**

Podcasts of weekly sermons are on the website: felc-mansfield.org
And please check out our new FELC mobile friendly website!
felc-mansfield.org where you can be directed to online worship via Facebook and YouTube.

This from the Worship Committee.....

At the time of this newsletter we have just served our first “social distancing” communion. It all went very well with everyone picking up their pre-packaged communion cup containing the host on the top of the cup, followed by the fruit of the vine in the cup. This is a different approach but it at least gives us the opportunity to celebrate the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We have been averaging 75 to 78 people in worship during July. That is wonderful and amazing. What does that show us? It shows us that we all hunger for the sense of community and the comfort and blessing of seeing each other during worship. Some folks distance by sitting in the balcony, some folks find a comfortable location in the sanctuary. We are blessed that we can gather together in His name!

We on the Worship Committee want to give our thanks to Todd Heichel, Tom Sarbach, Ed Farner, Becky Pittman and the Praise Team, Pastor Paul Larson, and Scott Berry for all the work put into making us a “live” worshipping community on Facebook and YouTube. You have blessed us richly!

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DO NOT DELAY – DATED MATERIAL ENCLOSED

AUGUST 2020 VISITOR