

# THE VISITOR



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

Volume 63

DECEMBER 2021

Number 12

*"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. Dr. Timothy Hubert, Interim 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>open</i>            |
| Vice President <i>Chad McFadden</i>      | Property <i>Mike Anderson</i>    |
| Secretary <i>Christopher Kaschube</i>    | Social Ministry <i>Gary Lane</i> |
| Early Learning Center <i>Tom Sarbach</i> | Stewardship <i>Sandra Volz</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:

mitment to focus on

## 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 Brothers and Sisters at FELC,

## **Congregational Survey #2:**

### **First English Lutheran Church, 2021**

During the month of October, 2021, the members of FELC were asked to complete a questionnaire indicating their hopes and dreams when looking for a new pastor.

On a scale of 1 (low) to 10 (high), we looked at six different areas of pastoral ministry. We considered what approaches to Worship, Witness, Learning, Service and Support we wanted the new pastor to follow. Finally we looked at the pastor, him or herself.

The following is a summary of the top and bottom three responses.

**The top three responses are actually four.** The highest expectation was actually tied between two questions:

9.1 Worship: Leadership: Plan and preside confidently at worship

9.1 Pastor: Able to confidently point to Christ amid all the competing voices in the congregation and beyond.

The Second response was also tied!

8.9 Witness: In Daily Life: Able to see the presence of Christ in the pastor's daily life.

8.9 Learning Teaching: Able to teach Catechism/Confirmation classes, Sunday School and other organizations and groups in the church.

Worship Leadership and teaching are traditional expectations of every pastor. Seeing Christ in the pastor's daily life amid all the competing voices in a congregation, while, of course, an expectation of every pastor, to see this so highly rated is a sign of conflict in the past.

**The lowest three expectations are again four.**

5.6 Worship: Chanting: Able to sing the liturgy well

6.4 Worship: Use of Audio Visuals: Able to effectively incorporate pictures, videos, music as part of the worship experience.

7.2 Worship: Innovation: Willing to try new and different worship language, music, forms.

7.2 Worship: Short Clear Sermons: Able to present the clear gospel lesson in fifteen minutes or less.

Note that the lowest four expectations are all in the Worship category. Chanting is the usual lowest expectation of most every congregation. At 5.6, we are saying that we take it or leave it. While audio visuals are appreciated, these worship aids should call attention to themselves. There is a genuine interest in trying different worship forms and a preference for shorter sermons.

Looking at the six areas of pastoral leadership, averaging the individual questions for each area, we said our highest expectation is for our new pastor (Pastor: 8.7). Service came in second (8.5), tied with Learning (8.5). Witness was close behind (8.4). Worship was a distant last (7.3).

Placing our expectations for the Pastor first can be a reflection of having had good pastors in the past, or it can also reflect the opposite.

Service coming in second is saying we want the new pastor to be involved in the daily ministry of the congregation.

It may seem odd for Worship to be rated as our last concern. I suspect that what this is saying, however, is that we are pretty well satisfied with our worship and other needs are more pressing.

Interestingly, the congregation rated Support: Administration: at only 7.9, saying that some administrative work is okay, but it shouldn't be a major focus. This was the lowest rated question in the Support group. The irony is, and I can say this now after nearly a year with you, that administration is a needed and major function of the FELC pastor.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out the two surveys as we prepare for the work of the Call Committee. That committee will be elected in January at our annual meeting, and will need the results of our two surveys as they prayerfully begin the pastoral search process.

Blessings to all at FELC!

Pr Tim+

**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, November 16 2021- 7:00PM

***DRAFT COPY- Updated November 17, 9:26 AM***

Present: Gary Lane, Pastor Tim Hubert, Lowell Weeks, Christopher Kaschube, Cindy Russell, Jan Fisher, Chris Chichanowicz, Lu Blankenship, Chad McFadden, Sandie Volz, Mike Anderson

Absent: Ted Ellis, Tom Sarbach

The meeting was called to order by Lowell Weeks at 7:00.

Devotion and prayer by Gary Lane.

***Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:***

Presented the FELC Church Council minutes for October 2021. The minutes were **APPROVED.**

We received correspondence from MOCP:

I just want to thank our members of FELC for their steadfast support of donations for MOCP. I just received the third quarter distribution which almost all went to the feeding program. We are very grateful for this ongoing support. Thank You! Jan Fisher, Treasurer-MOCP

***Executive/Personnel Committee:***

Accepted \$25,000 bequest towards the Antiphonal Organ Project. The monies will be placed in the Organ Maintenance Fund.

The Nominating Committee is in session developing a slate of candidates for the Pastoral Call Committee.

Discussion regarding the potential of adding a Treasurer position to the FELC Church Council. No action was taken, and the discussion was tabled.

**RECOMMEND** to Council four (4) items for a Congregational Meeting to be held January 16, 2022.

- RECOMMEND approval of the 2022 FELC Budget
- RECOMMEND approval of the NALC amendments to its Constitution
- RECOMMEND and vote on a slate of candidates for the Pastoral Call Committee
- RECOMMEND withdrawal of First English Lutheran Church, Mansfield, Ohio from Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, effective January 16, 2022.

## **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED**

**RECOMMEND** approval of a request from Scott Berry to carry two weeks of vacation from 2021 to 2022. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

Lowell Weeks has requested to be relieved of his role as President of the FELC Church Council, effective immediately. **REQUEST APPROVED.**

### ***Interim Pastor, Rev. Dr. Tim Hubert:***

I have asked our staff to work on a 5 year plan for needed improvements. The goal is to look at our resources and our needs and do some planning of what needs to be done first, second, etc. What do we need to do to prepare for emergencies? One concern I've heard here and many other congregations is that good ideas are brought up, money isn't found, and the idea, no matter how good or needed, is dropped for another 5, 10, 20 years. A 5 year plan can communicate to everyone what our goals and plans are so everyone is aware. As the staff begins to flesh this out, I will bring it to Council for review and advice.

Rev Dr Eric Reisen and his wife, Terry, were recently in worship with us and highly complimented us on the quality and sanctity of our worship. Well done, FELC!!

I've reported this before, but it bears repeating. On 'Produce Tuesdays', I stand outside for 3 or 4 hours and pray with just about every car/truck/walk up that comes to us. In our November distribution that meant I prayed with about 170 people! What a privilege!

I recently offered a New Member Class and nobody came except for 1 current member. That isn't a problem. I will offer another class during Lent next year. New member classes should be offered once or twice each year to help our long term visitors to think about joining. Blessings to all!

**PLEASE SEE PASTOR TIM HUBERT'S LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION LISTED ABOVE THE COUNCIL MINUTES TO REFER TO THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY.**

Pastor Tim will be attending the NALC Pastors Conference in Orlando, Florida in February 2022. He will find a supply Pastor for two Sunday's in February he will be away for this conference. FELC will cover the cost of this professional development according to the budget. **MOTION** to approve by (Gary/Jan). **MOTION APPROVED.**

Rev. El Akuchie has requested to use FELC for a date at the end of December for his swearing-in ceremony as a member of Mansfield City Council. They anticipate about 20 people will be in attendance. **MOTION** to approve (Gary/Jan). **MOTION APPROVED.**

Ashland and Mansfield have a significant Hispanic population. Stone Lutheran has voted to reach out to this community in mission. They will start by introducing themselves to the Hispanic businesses, and then homes. They will also provide occasional Spanish-speaking services.

**Vice President, Chad McFadden:** No Report

**Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:**

| <i>YTD Oct 2021</i>                                  | <i>Actual</i>    | <i>Budget</i>    | <i>Difference</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                                                      |                  |                  |                   |
| <b>General Operating Fund (GOF) (including ELC):</b> |                  |                  |                   |
| <b>Income</b>                                        | <b>\$522,999</b> | <b>\$530,278</b> | <b>-\$7,279</b>   |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                      | <b>\$715,513</b> | <b>\$714,063</b> | <b>\$1,450</b>    |

|                                                      |                   |                   |                  |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                                                      | <b>-\$192,514</b> | <b>-\$183,785</b> |                  |
|                                                      |                   |                   |                  |
| <b>Early Learning Center (ELC):</b>                  |                   |                   |                  |
| <b>Income</b>                                        | <b>\$298,635</b>  | <b>\$318,668</b>  | <b>-\$20,033</b> |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                      | <b>\$287,364</b>  | <b>\$319,770</b>  | <b>-\$32,406</b> |
|                                                      | <b>\$11,271</b>   | <b>-\$1,102</b>   |                  |
|                                                      |                   |                   |                  |
| <b>General Operating Fund (GOF) (excluding ELC):</b> |                   |                   |                  |
| <b>Income</b>                                        | <b>\$224,365</b>  | <b>\$211,610</b>  | <b>\$12,755</b>  |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                      | <b>\$428,149</b>  | <b>\$394,293</b>  | <b>\$33,856</b>  |
|                                                      | <b>-\$203,785</b> | <b>-\$182,683</b> |                  |
|                                                      |                   |                   |                  |

|                                                        |                  |                  |                 |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>General Operating Fund Recap (Includes ELC):</b>    |                  |                  |                 |                  |
| <b>2020 Carryover</b>                                  | <b>\$127,594</b> |                  | <b>Still</b>    | <b>Available</b> |
| <b>Gen Endow Fund to GOF (\$136,045)</b>               | <b>\$120,000</b> | <b>remaining</b> | <b>\$16,045</b> |                  |
| <b>Maj Cap Imp Endowment Fund to GOF (\$9,037)</b>     | <b>\$0</b>       | <b>remaining</b> | <b>\$9,037</b>  | <b>\$41,140</b>  |
| <b>New Min &amp; Miss Endow Fund to GOF (\$16,058)</b> | <b>\$0</b>       | <b>remaining</b> | <b>\$16,058</b> |                  |
| <b>RGH II Campaign Funds to GOF for loan payment</b>   | <b>\$8,934</b>   |                  |                 |                  |

|                          |                  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>2021 YTD Income</b>   | <b>\$522,999</b> |  |  |  |
| <b>2021 YTD Expenses</b> | <b>\$715,513</b> |  |  |  |
| <b>GOF Balance</b>       | <b>\$64,014</b>  |  |  |  |
|                          | <b>\$41,140</b>  |  |  |  |
|                          | <b>\$105,154</b> |  |  |  |

Finance approved a budget for 2022 to present to Council at the November meeting. Nicole will send it to all council members on Monday, November 15.

Recently, Nicole and the Finance Committee became aware that the ELC has, for some time, had a checking account that they use primarily to move cash in and out. They referred to it as a Petty Cash Fund. The cash is primarily parents' payments for field trips, pizza days, etc. (Cash is needed for some field trips/activities.) As time went on, there was grant money deposited in that account as well, and the total amount became substantial at times. The activity in it has not been included in the church finances. Now, Nicole has been added to the account so she can include the activity in this account in the church financial reports.

Finance has determined that an audit is necessary because it has been so long since one was done. This will be done as early in the new year as possible; however, because of the workload on the accountants through tax season, the audit will most likely not be possible before summer.

**RECOMMEND** the 2022 budget as presented. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

***Stewardship Committee, Sandie Volz:***

The Stewardship campaign went as scheduled. On October 24th, we had a very inspiring Temple Talk given by Shirley Lane challenging all of us to be "Little Red Hens" when it comes to our commitment to God's work here at First English Church.

We held our Commitment Sunday on November 7. We received 49 pledge cards with 47 committing a dollar amount totaling \$160,450.00. The average pledge was \$3,274.49. On November 9th a 'Thank You' letter was sent to the congregation and a reminder to submit pledge cards when completed to help Church Council with the final Budget planning for 2022. A reminder note was put in the bulletin to submit pledge cards to the office or basket by the offering plate.

Stewardship is working on the upcoming events for Advent and Christmas planning for December.

***Property Committee, Mike Anderson:***

Andy Kershaw told us in his report that the drain for the new playground has been filling up with mud and debris from the unseeded portion of the playground. The problem should be resolved when the area has grass growing on it.

The front parking lot will lose its tax exemption status when we receive the token rent from the City. Andy spoke with Amy Huff, The County Auditor and she told him that real estate taxes would be very minimal.

The Property Committee voted on and passed a motion to sign an agreement with the city for their improvements and their use of the front parking lot even though we will use our exemption and will have to bear some liability for that lot.

Willet Hauser will complete removing the stained glass windows on both sides of the sanctuary. It will take 8-10 months to repair the windows.

Security cameras have been ordered and will be installed when they arrive.

The new Threat Extinguishers have been installed.

A motion was made and carried to have Chad McFadden remove the flooring in the balcony in several areas in order to see if there is a possibility to run air ducts in the balcony floor for air conditioning of the sanctuary. This could be the most cost effective way of air conditioning the church.

***Early Learning Center Committee, Tom Sarbach via Becky Pittman (added 11/17/21):***

The kids have been learning many songs of Thanksgiving over the last several weeks. They will be singing for their families during their feast on Friday, November 19th @ 11am. Thank you to Pat Smith, Erna Clark and Becky Faith for helping serve the meal!

We are beginning to practice Christmas songs for our ELC program on Tuesday, December 6th. Thank you to Ed Farner for his willingness to run sound that evening.

Angie and I are brainstorming ways to have our ELC and FELC families partner in ministry together as we continue to build intentional relationships.

We are now offering Children's Church once a month. (Thank you, April Ross!) Each ELC child will receive an invitation a few days before the scheduled Sunday.

***Youth Committee, Ted Ellis:***

16 youth and 4 chaperones attended the lock-in at church on 11/13.

The youth group will go Christmas caroling on Sunday December 5th. We will meet at the church at 3PM and take the bus to the caroling locations. Will have dinner at Cici's Pizza after we are done. Bring a friend!!!

***Evangelism Committee, Jan Fisher:***

Our final Produce Distribution for 2021 (November 9, 2021):

What a gorgeous warm and sunny day we had on Nov. 9, 2021 to give out our final produce distribution for this year! We had several kinds of salad and greens, red and white seedless grapes, fresh pineapples, green peppers, huge heads of cabbage, bags of onions, and three different kinds of apples. We served 174 guests which is truly one of our highest numbers. Of that number 25 were seniors with children, 152 seniors with no children, 115 were adults with minor children, 103 adults with no minor children, and 123 were children within those households. All numbers added together gave us a total of 518 people served in those families. In many cases we encouraged folks to take some products that we felt were surplus. Of course they gladly accept. We are blessed to be continuing this outreach, and I am so thankful for the 20 or more volunteers who so willingly come to work each month! Angie Murphy does all the computer registrations and Lu Blankenship keeps the guests organized in the parking lot as she takes every opportunity to invite them to worship with us. Pastor Tim Hubert warmly greets every car and offers prayer with each one.

We've been told it's like a well oiled machine, and it IS! And to top things off, this produce distribution happens at NO COST TO FELC! We will see all of our guests again in April of 2022.

Earlier this week Shirley Lane began sending "missing you" notes to 31 people that we have not seen return to worship. These folks are over and above the shut-ins, etc. that we monthly stay in contact with. We plan to have this mailing sent out by the end of this week.

Elijah's House Information Link:

[Elijah's House Information](#)

**MOTION** by (Cindy/Chris C.) to purchase showers and other needs for the Elijah's House ministry in Mansfield, not to exceed \$1000.00 from the New Ministries and Missions Fund. **MOTION APPROVED.**

***Worship Committee, Cindy Russell:***

The Children's Service will be Sunday December 12th. They will be leading Worship that day.

Poinsettia orders are due Sunday, November 28th.

The Christmas Eve Service will begin with Music for the Holy Night at 7:00 and the Worship beginning at 7:30.

We are hoping to have a candlelight service and are currently pricing battery operated candles.

We are currently looking into a new technology called a "Hearing Loop". It would enhance the sound during Worship for those who currently have a hearing device.

*Image Choir* from Mansfield Christian School will be leading Worship on Sunday, April 24th.

Just a reminder of the Community Thanksgiving Services running from Wednesday, November 17th through Wednesday, November 24th. NALC congregations are coming together at Holy Trinity on Tuesday, November 23rd. There will also be a praise concert on Sunday November 28th at 1:00 at the Church Requel.

Attendance for October:

3rd - 84  
10th - 78  
17th - 79  
24th - 78  
31st - 78

Views for October:

3rd - 99  
10th - 98  
17th - 127  
24th - 113  
31st - 107

***Global Mission Committee, Chris Chichanowicz:***

**Malawi:** Ken Ekegren just sent a 2 page update on the status of Malawi. I will place it on a table in the narthex with all the details. Here are a few new ones: 1) There was no mention of Covid so that is a good thing. 2) All the projects seem to be doing well except their sewing machines. To fix this problem, Rajab (a young man with special skills in this area has been hired). 3) The farm workers planted banana plants this year and the plants are doing so well that no new seedlings will need to be purchased for next year 4) Clothes, shoes, toys, balls and other equipment are always needed. 5) Blankets are their priority at the moment! Donation envelopes are in the narthex. 6) Received a heartwarming thank you from Shadreck and Harold Chiudza for our generous support of MOCP. Pastor Andy also sent a message inviting us to pray about any interested persons possibly joining in a mission trip to Malawi in 2022 and beyond. Please let him know by December 5 if you are interested. A commitment to join a team is not needed until early 2022.

**The Far Side:** No update yet. As far as I know, Brian and Barb are still in Sri Lanka. They are keeping busy there.

**Peru:** No update yet. I have a Zoom meeting with them on November 20.

***Social Ministry Committee, Gary Lane:***

The Social Ministry Committee is collecting personal hygiene items in November for the Crossroads City Center for distribution to those in need in our area. Cindy Russell and Angie Murphy will be joining the Social Ministry Committee.

***Women of the FELC, Jan Fisher:***

The college and military gift card support for Christmas is now in action. We have fourteen young people to encourage with a Christian Christmas message and a gift of a Chick-fil-A gift card.

Luther Fellowship continues to meet on the third Monday each month at 2:00 PM. Our October bus trip was quite enjoyable, and the November group meets on Monday, Nov. 15th for a short worship service, Holy Communion, an activity with a "blessing tree" and then to top it off three different choices of pie for dessert! Becky and Jan create the "events" and are always open to suggestions.

***Safety Team Report, Myra Cordrey:***

Seven members of the Safety Team went to firearms training and passed by Bob Ball. We have records of each person's qualification on file in the Safety room. We need to have the council approve of the Safety Team and approve of the people that are qualified to carry and continue training each year for concealed firearms. We are getting a sign to post that only people that have qualified for the Safety Team. Only these people will be covered under our insurance. We are looking into getting tasers to use in place of or instead of firearms.

***New Business: MOTION*** (Jan/Cindy) to have a Christmas Party along with the Church Council meeting on December 14 for the Church Council and our staff.

**MOTION APPROVED.**

***Old Business:*** None

***Closing/Adjournment:*** The Lord's Prayer was led by Pastor Tim Hubert at 8:45 PM.

*Next Meeting- Tuesday, December 14, 2021*

Respectfully submitted,  
**Christopher J. Kaschube**  
**Church Council Secretary**

## **ONLINE GIVING IS NOW LIVE!**

**Online giving is finally here, thanks to Nicole Goddard's hard work. The donation button has been added to our awesome website. It is right up at the top of the home page above the home page graphics. It simply says "make a donation" and you click on that button which will take you immediately to the form that you will submit, once you've filled it out. How easy is that? Twenty first century technology right here for us to use!**

**Here is the link in case you need to refer to it:**

**<https://app.easytithe.com/app/giving/first6539351>**

### **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

During the month of November and a bit into December we will be collecting personal care items such as: soaps, cleansers, razors, shampoos, deodorants, etc. There will be plastic containers in the Narthex for you to put any of these items that you are willing to donate. We will then be giving these items to the Crossroads City Center in Mansfield for their distribution to the poor and homeless.

Thank you for your donations,

**Gary Lane**  
**Social Ministry**

### **Elijah's House**

There is a new missional opportunity being presented in downtown Mansfield. Quite a number of our sister downtown churches have come together to support a new house located on Park Avenue West right across from Mosaic Church. This house offers respite to homeless or soon to be homeless men. We have begun exploring what we feel our involvement can be because this is our mission field. One of our small groups took a home cooked meal that served ten to twelve young men who were working there. Is this something we could schedule at least once a month? We are presently exploring meals and any other options. Another option would be to use your Thrivent Action Team card to purchase useful equipment or needed supplies. If you are interested in helping or if you have other suggestions please talk with Cindy Russell.

## Love Notes by Shirley



We all know that our church, First English Lutheran, is a beautiful building, but do you know the very best part? It is filled with so many beautiful people! We, as a congregation have so much to be thankful for.

The beautiful people I'm always so thankful for are Karen and Ted Ellis. Karen is one of the first persons that I turn to when my spirit has an "owie." She always has a sweet smile, understanding heart and gives the best hugs. Karen and her soul-mate husband, Ted, are a special couple.

Ted was born in Norwalk, OH at an early age, (Ted's sly humor.) They met during High School, working at Krogers. He was a romantic gentleman from the very start of their courtship. He asked Karen's father for his permission to marry his lovely daughter. It is obvious that his Dad said "yes", because they have been married for 55 years and are blessed with two children. Their son Christopher and his wife Melanie live in Maryland and have two daughters. Their daughter, Amy, lives in Lexington with her husband Mike and together they have four sons.

Karen has a BS Degree in elementary education from BGSU and a Masters Degree in early childhood development from OSU. She taught third grade for 25 years.

Karen's hobbies are travel, reading, sewing, grandchildren, and her favorite is "making To Do lists" for Ted.

Ted graduated from Norwalk St. Paul High School and played some sports, primarily football. He was slightly above average as a student (Ted's humor.) He graduated from Ohio Northern University with a BA in Business Administration. He attended BGSU and graduated with an MBA in Finance and Statistics. Ted worked for several companies during his career, one being Sprint, always dealing with finance and data processing, retiring in 2016. Ted's hobbies include travel, fitness and reading. He also enjoys doing various jobs around the house (Go, Karen!)

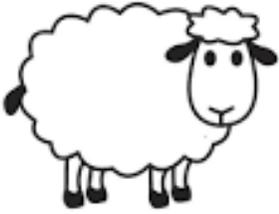
Karen and Ted have been members of FELC since 1982. Their dedication and commitments are endless. Karen: Worship Committee, Bible study, Prayer Shawl Ministry, prayer partners, greeter, small group ministry leader, Women's Ministry treasurer, former church council, altar group, etc. etc.

Ted: steadily involved with Finance Committee and former chairman, heavily involved in establishing our contemporary worship service, Council representative for Youth, etc.

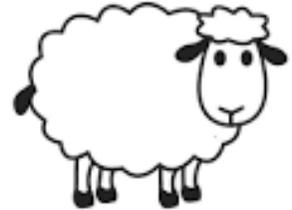
The next time you bow your head in prayer, thank God not only for our beautiful church, but also give thanks for all the beautiful people who worship here.

*Written by Shirley Lane*

## Within the Fold



### Wednesday Noon Lunch Ministry



In November, due to the continuing restrictions resulting from the Coronavirus, there was no Wednesday Chapel Service and therefore no Wednesday Noon Lunch Donations. However chapel has begun indoors once again so this may improve.

Dear Friends,

The Flower Ladies are so pleased to tell you that your donations covering our latest project of **adding lighted Christmas trees to our front lawn was a complete success!** Thank you one and all for your contributions! We can't wait to see the display. (If you wanted to participate and we reached our goal early, there is always an opportunity to help with our plants and planter pots in the spring!)

**Lu and Jan**

**Kroger Rewards Aug 1<sup>st</sup>-Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**

**48 Households \$205.76 This money goes for feeding of Malawi orphans. We are very grateful for this contribution.**

Two of our regular monthly Free Produce guests have given us yet another Thank You card. It reads "There are people in our lives who are so genuinely kindhearted...appreciating them just comes naturally. Thank You." Then in their handwriting: You all are such a wonderful blessing! Thank you so much for all your hard work. We really appreciate each and every one of the crew.

**The Radabaugh sisters**



## Worship Committee

We are hoping that many members gathered at Holy Trinity on W. Cook Rd. for the combined Thanksgiving worship service on Tues. November 23, 2021. This newsletter goes to press just prior to that worship date.

Christmas Eve worship, December 24th will be 7:00 PM, "music for a Holy Night" and worship at 7:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to come and bring your family!

**Cindy Russell**  
**Worship Committee Chairperson**



## *Women's Ministry*

Women's Bible Study will be meeting on the second Monday of each month, at 1:00 in members' homes. All women are welcome and encouraged to join us. We will be doing a study entitled "Rejoice in the Lord Always" based on Philippians. The study booklet, written by Rev. Dr. Amy Little, will cost \$10.00. **Our December 13th meeting** will be at the home of Jan Fisher, **1171 Crestwood Drive, Mansfield, OH 44905. We will be doing session #4.** It's not too late to join us! Let Jan know so that she can tell you how to order your book.

Funeral meals, when necessary, will be provided.

**DECEMBER: Squad B:** Jan Fisher, Myra Cordrey, and Beth Harruff

Women's Ministry had a very successful bake sale Nov. 21st following worship. We had pies, pumpkin rolls, pumpkin breads, cookies, etc. for Thanksgiving and beyond. All homemade by the people that you love! And we say a big THANK YOU for your support of our bake sale because we made \$364.00 which will help us finance things for Luther Fellowship, Christmas goodies for our shut-ins, funeral meals, and more. And the best part was the fellowship in the Narthex!



## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

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.

*January 2, 2022*

*January 9, 2022*

*January 16, 2022*

*January 23, 2022*

*January 30, 2022*



## **Global Mission**

Please continue to pray for our missionaries. It is the greatest gift we can give them. More details can be found in my Council Report above.

**Chris Cichanowicz**

**Global Mission Chairperson**

## **LUTHER FELLOWSHIP**

**(next Luther Fellowship, third Monday of month,  
December 20 , 2021 at 2:00 PM)**

We had a very enjoyable gathering on November 15th for our Luther Fellowship meeting. Ten lovely and precious people enjoyed singing with Becky Pittman, counting their blessings on a hand painted tree provided by Rachelle Zehe, and experiencing a brief communion service provided by Pastor Tim. It is a joy to share our love of Jesus and support for one another in fellowship. Thank you to Jane Sprang for making those reminder calls each month!

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE THIRD MONDAY EACH MONTH,  
“LUTHER FELLOWSHIP”!**

## **PUB THEOLOGY**

### **WE HAVE CANCELLED PUB THEOLOGY FOR DECEMBER! PLEASE WATCH FOR THE JANUARY DATE AND PLAN TO JOIN US!**

After a long pause, due to COVID, we will begin Pub Theology again. We will meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. **We are moving to the Black Dog Tavern outside of Bellville on Rt. 97.** Starting time will be approximately 6:30 PM. This will enable us to order and possibly get our food or drinks prior to starting the discussion about 7PM. It is not necessary to order anything, however please leave a tip as they are supplying a waiter/waitress for us.

There will be a topic presented and each table will discuss that topic among themselves. Their thoughts, questions, etc. will then be shared with the group for further discussion. No we don't always stay on topic but that is OK. However, we try not to get too far from the subject of the evening.

Generally we should be done by 9PM or before. Please bring friends. If you have suggestions for topics please let Andy Kershaw, Ted Ellis or Pastor Tim know.

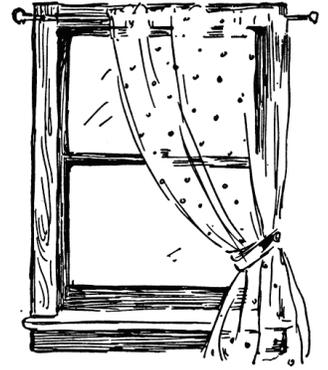
It will be a fun evening so please come. You will meet and talk to people outside of the church setting and get to know them better. No you don't have to be a great Theologian to attend but may be enlightened by other's perspective on the topic. Give it a try!

## **SAFETY TEAM UPDATE TO CONGREGATION**

*The Safety Team is progressing a little each Sunday. We have three teams to be in charge each week. One person monitors the cameras, and one person roams with a radio to monitor activity. Four more cameras have been ordered. Two for the sanctuary, one for the narthex, and one for the Mulberry Street door. Radios are being given to the Sunday school classes in case of someone getting hurt or sick, etc. It is taking time getting used to monitoring and using radios. Seven people went to the firearms training and passed. There will be an on going training each year. We will be getting first aid training with the day care staff.*

*Anyone interested in monitoring or using radios please let us know. We need more people to help with the safety of our congregation.*

**Charles and Myra Cordrey, Jodi and Scott Mumaw Team Leaders**



## **Becky's Views.....**

Our new church bus has been BUSY!! The Luther Fellowship group enjoyed a fall drive through Malabar Farm and Mohican and our youth group traveled together to Honey Haven Farm for an afternoon of corn mazes, pumpkin chunking and corn shooting!

Our bell choir is BACK! Please join us for worship on Sunday, November 14th to be blessed by their beautiful melodies.

The ELC kids will be putting on a short musical program before their family Thanksgiving Feast on Friday, November 19th at 11am. It is GOOD to give THANKS to the LORD!

Would you like to join us for a brief Communion worship at Wedgewood Estates on the third Wednesday of each month at 2pm? The residents love to have the companionship of our congregation members.

The first Sunday of Advent is on November 28th. We will be decorating the sanctuary and church for the season on Monday, November 22nd. Many hands make for light work! More info forthcoming.

**BE INTENTIONAL! BE LIKE JESUS!**

**Becky Pittman, Coordinator of Music and the Arts**

*1 Corinthians 12:27 "Now YOU are the body of CHRIST, and each one of YOU is a PART of it!"*



## COMMUNION AT WEDGEWOOD ESTATES

This important offering of worship and communion will continue on the third Wednesday of each month and YOU are invited to join in with your support and attendance. If you have questions see Pastor Tim. The residents are always anxious to see their fellow FELC members.

### MEMORIALS

#### **Memorial Fund**

*In memory of Eugene Calver  
Given by: Sandra Volz*

#### **Wednesday Noon Lunch Fund**

*In memory of Dolores Esler  
Given by: Mary Schwartz*



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.

**Eugene Calver**

**November 9, 2021**

**Aldean Pruett**  
(Friend of Dave Carew)

**November 1, 2021**

### **Pastoral Acts**

None



## **Evangelism for Today's World**

### **NOVEMBER 9, 2021 Produce Distribution**

We served 174 guests which is truly one of our highest numbers. Of that number 25 were seniors with children, 152 seniors with no children, 115 were adults with minor children, 103 adults with no minor children, and 123 were children within those households. All numbers added together gave us a total of 518 people served in those families. In many cases we encouraged folks to take some products that we felt were surplus. Of course they gladly accept. We are blessed to be continuing this outreach, and I am so thankful for the 20 or more volunteers who so willingly come to work each month! Angie Murphy does all the computer registrations and Lu Blankenship keeps the guests organized in the parking lot as she takes every opportunity to invite them to worship with us. Pastor Tim Hubert warmly greets every car and offers prayer with each one.

What a blessing that we can continue this ministry! And we actually do build relationships as many are monthly repeats and they “ask for prayers” from Pastor Tim, who greets every guest! This month we gave away Bibles once again to our guests! I really feel that we are making a difference! We might be the only Christians that they meet. How wonderful is that? And this distribution was one of our top ones in numbers served.

This month we also have had some visitors join us for worship. Happily we send them out a “Psalm card” welcoming them to worship. It’s also time to review our active members list so that is being worked on. It is important to commune once a year and record it on a pew pad, plus you need to make a recorded financial donation at least once a year to keep your membership active. (See notation below.)

A friendly reminder from Evangelism Committee: If you are a new member or a recently confirmed (this year) member, or a member who just turned 18 you will need to be certain that you have made at least one contribution of record during 2021 and also taken communion at least one time in 2021 so that you are eligible to vote at the January 2022 congregational meeting.

Be intentional any time you see a face that you don’t know — just introduce yourself! We are all part of the same family of God!

*Jan Fisher, Evangelism Chairperson*

|                                                                                                                       |                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Volunteer Scheduling Contacts</b></p>                                                                           | <p><b>The monthly volunteers are published in Visitor and posted on bulletin boards.</b></p> |
| <p><b>Worship Committee</b><br/> <b>Heather McFadden 419.295.6467</b><br/> Acolytes</p> <hr/>                         | <p><b>Pew Pad Gleaners</b><br/> <b>Jane Sprang 419.610.9776</b></p> <hr/>                    |
| <p><b>Worship Committee Chmn.</b><br/> <b>Cindy Russell 419.544.0878</b><br/> Assisting Ministers and Lay Readers</p> | <p><b>Ushers</b><br/> <b>Charles and Myra Cordrey</b><br/> <b>419.632.4121</b></p>           |
| <p><b>Evangelism Committee</b><br/> <b>Jan Fisher 419.589.2820</b><br/> Greeters</p>                                  | <p><b>Becky Pittman</b><br/> <b>419.989.8585</b><br/> Power Point, Nave</p>                  |
| <p><b>Property Committee</b><br/> <b>Mike Anderson 419.295.4598</b><br/> Property Chairman</p>                        | <p><b>Finance Committee</b><br/> <b>Lu Blankenship</b><br/> <b>419.564.1469</b></p>          |
| <p><b>Becky Pittman</b><br/> <b>419.989.8585</b><br/> Sound Board/Audio</p>                                           | <p><b>Amy Skropits 419.747.3076</b><br/> Sunday School Superintendent</p>                    |

*December 2021 Volunteers*

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

**ACOLYTES**

December 5: TBA  
December 12: TBA  
December 19: TBA  
December 24: TBA  
December 26: TBA

**ALTAR WORKERS**

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

**ASSISTING MINISTERS**

Greg Hughes

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

Parish Ushers

**COMMUNION PREPARERS**

December 5: Charles & Myra Cordrey

December 24: Ted & Karen Ellis

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

December 5:  
Wine West: Gregg Thatcher  
Wine East: Chris Cichanowicz

December 24:

Wine West: Sandie Volz  
Wine East: Jodi Mumaw

**GREETERS**

Karen and Ted Ellis

**LAY READERS**

December 5: Amy Skropits  
December 12: Todd Heichel  
December 19: Kathy Hoecker  
December 24:  
December 26: Sandie Volz

**PASTORS' PRAYER PARTNERS**

Chris Cichanowicz  
Mary Schwartz  
Lowell Weeks  
Jan Fisher

**PEW PAD GLEANERS**

December 5: Liz Sprang  
December 12: Stacey Crall  
December 19: Rhonda Rehm  
December 24: Jane Sprang  
December 26: Jodi Mumaw

**PROPRESENTER**

December 5: Allison Weeks  
December 12: Cindy Russell  
December 19: Teri Brenkus  
December 24: Isaac McFadden  
December 26: Peyton McFadden

**SLING STUDIO**

December 5: Suzanne Rippel  
December 12: Todd Heichel  
December 19: Todd Heichel  
December 24: Ashley Berry  
December 26: Tom Sarbach

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST**

December 5: Kathy Hoecker  
December 12: Jan Fisher  
December 19: Annette Doklovic  
December 26: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

**SOUND BOARD OPERATORS**

December 5: Ed Farner  
December 12: Ed Farner  
December 19: Ed Farner  
December 24: Ed Farner  
December 26: Ed Farner

**USHERS NAVE**

Ken & Debbi Suzuki  
Jan Fisher & Lowell Weeks

## 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.

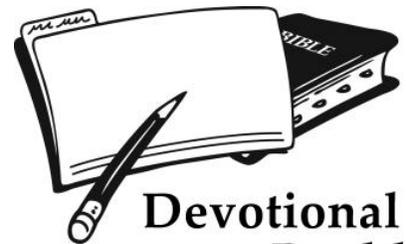
We also invite you to use our two prayer chains. Your request will be shared with a small group of prayer warriors via phone call chain.

**Mary Schwartz is now heading up the prayer chain. Please call Mary to activate the prayer chain.**

**Her home # is: 419.747.2600 or cell # is: 419.566.3113.  
Prayer is very powerful!**

## DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

Devotional booklets for DECEMBER 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!



**Devotional  
Booklet**

[NALC.org](http://NALC.org) offers a great devotional option. Check it out!

**Find us on Facebook:** First English Lutheran Church Podcasts of weekly sermons are no longer on the website: [felc-mansfield.org](http://felc-mansfield.org).



Please refer to **Facebook** or **YouTube** to view past sermons.

And please check out our new FELC mobile friendly website!

[felc-mansfield.org](http://felc-mansfield.org) where you can be directed to online worship via Facebook and YouTube



|                     |                                                  |             |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sarbach, Becky      | 527 Forest St<br>Mansfield OH 44903              | December 2  |
| Skropits, Amy       | 3399 Oakstone Dr<br>Ontario OH 44903             | December 2  |
| Russell, Cynthia    | 630 Oak St Lot 174<br>Mansfield OH 44907-1478    | December 4  |
| Sprang, Jane        | 1817 Partridge Court<br>Mansfield OH 44907       | December 4  |
| Shade, Gary         | 12 W Crest<br>Shelby OH 44875-8633               | December 4  |
| McFadden, Heather   | 1190 Timbercliff Dr<br>Mansfield OH 44907        | December 5  |
| Wansitler, Julianne | 355 Richards Rd<br>Columbus OH 43214             | December 7  |
| Reeder, Justin      | 145 Clare Road<br>Mansfield OH 44906             | December 7  |
| Mako, Jane R        | 2702 Country Meadows Drive<br>Shelby OH 44875    | December 10 |
| Sarbach, Tom        | 527 Forest St<br>Mansfield OH 44903              | December 14 |
| McFadden, Lydia     | 1190 Timbercliff Dr<br>Mansfield OH 44907        | December 20 |
| Fraifogl, John      | 1930 Banyon Ln<br>Mansfield OH 44907-3003        | December 21 |
| Watts, Bradley      | 114 Otterbein Dr<br>Mansfield OH 44904           | December 23 |
| Schulz, Alicia      | 228 Bowland Rd<br>Mansfield OH 44907-1157        | December 25 |
| Scheiber, Todd      | 32 Wellsley Dr<br>Lexington OH 44904-9565        | December 28 |
| Gall, Jean          | 306 James Ave Apt B16<br>Mansfield OH 44907-1981 | December 29 |

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:NGoddard@felc-mansfield.org)

**JANUARY Visitor Newsletter Deadline: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021.**

**Assembled and mailed: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021.**

PLEASE EMAIL ALL ARTICLES TO: [newslettereditor53@yahoo.com](mailto: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

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**Visit our web site at: [www.felc-mansfield.org](http://www.felc-mansfield.org)**

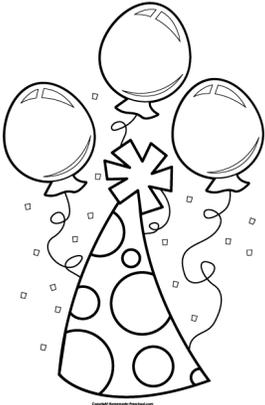
**Find us on Facebook at First English Lutheran Church.**

*Emergency cell phone number if the pastor cannot be*

*contacted at church:*

Pastor Timothy Hubert 217-778-8017

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:



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Mansfield, OH  
44902

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

DO NOT DELAY – DATED MATERIAL ENCLOSED

DECEMBER 2021 VISITOR