

THE VISITOR



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

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Number 2

"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>Rob Skropits</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:

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

Pastor Tim's message to our congregation:

January, 2022

Grace and peace to one and all! Happy New Year!

Looking back over this last year, I'm impressed with all that the Lord has shepherd us through! Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

We have greatly improved our building, our sound system, and our Safety Team! We have improved our worship attendance. Our offerings could use some improvement, but then we hear all over this land, that members of all denominations are holding back a little, or at least not increasing their giving. But most impressive of all is the joy we share when we are together. At the end of our Sunday services, we gather in small groups to talk and talk and talk!

All this is a sign of our spiritual healing! Again, without our Lord none of this would be possible! To Him be the glory! It is time now for the Call Committee to begin their work. We have an excellent Call Committee. I even hear, by the grape vine, of a couple of pastors interested in FELC! Again, we're not looking for someone to fill a slot, but for the best pastor for FELC. That takes patience and prayer! We want the pastor our Lord wants for us!!

We have a lot of work ahead of us. Our Congregational Meeting in January has only four items on the agenda, to which nothing, by our constitution, can be added. We may need to meet again to get some of these projects underway.

I thank you again that you allowed me to walk with you through this healing and growing process. It is a privilege to serve FELC!

Blessings all!

Pastor Tim Hubert

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 20, 2022- 7:00PM

DRAFT COPY- Updated January 20, 9:30 PM

Present: Tom Sarbach, Pastor Tim Hubert, Ted Ellis, Jan Fisher, Cindy Russell, Chris Cichanowicz, Lu Blankenship, Christopher Kaschube, Chad McFadden

Absent: Sandie Volz, Gary Lane, Mike Anderson

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Chad McFadden at 7:10.

Prayer by Pastor Tim.

Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:

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

Read a thank you note from MOCP to FELC for fourth quarter donations in 2021.
[MOCP Thank you Jan2022](#)

Vice President, Chad McFadden: No Report

Interim Pastor, Tim Hubert:

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someone to fill a slot, but for the best pastor for FELC. That takes patience and prayer! We want the pastor our Lord wants for us!!

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Pastor Tim recommends that the Call Committee contact the members not elected from the Call Committee slate to be potential alternates if needed. **MOTION** by Lu(Chris C.) to do as Pastor Tim recommends and have potential alternates contacted. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Early Learning Center, Tom Sarbach (& Becky Pittman)

- Current enrolled: 49 kids and 17 school agers
- We have formed an ELC committee consisting of staff, parents and church members (Ila Kershaw, Angie Murphy, Jan Fisher, Lu Blankenship, Michelle Couch, Becky Pittman, Ashley Risner, Ashleigh Robinson, Chelsie Thompson, Chris C., and Megan Collins). As a group we will decide what the end of the year party will consist of.
- The ELC Committee **RECOMMENDS** approval to use Stoller Fundraising to fund an end of year celebration as in past years. We would like to sell pastries and cookie dough. Potential sale date of March 10-25 with delivery the week before Easter. It is our intent to make the sale items available to church members also. **RECOMMENDATION CARRIED.**
- The ELC is currently looking to hire (especially summer help). Anyone 18 years old or older that may be interested, please see Angie. Without finding adequate help, we do not know what the summer will look like.
- We are receiving a technology grant! With these funds, we would like to purchase smartboards. If anyone has a contact or business that they know of, please let us know.

(From Becky P.) The ELC kids are having a great time exploring all the many instruments we have in our music room! I meet with all of the classes individually once a week to sing songs about Jesus. It is definitely a "joyful noise!" Have you seen the music room yet?? Come check out the transformation. It is located on the third floor where the church library was previously set up.

Several church members and ELC parents have now joined the ELC committee. I am excited to see that our church and daycare are beginning to work together and building intentional relationships with one another.

Because we now offer Children's Church once a month, our daycare families are given invitations the week before to encourage them to join us in worship.

They were also invited to our church-wide movie night on January 23rd.

Property Committee, Mike Anderson:

The property committee met on January 3, 2022.

Andy Kershaw told us in his report that the estimate for running the water line to the new faucet on the playground from Standard Plumbing was \$10,680.00, which included running a 2" line 120 feet. The price might be somewhat less if a smaller line would pass code. The Property Committee will be seeking further quotes. The committee voted passed a motion for Andy to get this job done, as it is absolutely necessary and CDS has funding to pay \$4900.00 of this expense

Andy and Chad McFadden have compiled costs for Air Conditioning the Sanctuary. They have come up with a total of \$150,000 or less. They are going to bring it up at the Congregational Meeting, to see if the congregation wants to proceed with the project. The City of Mansfield has sent us the latest lease agreement for the improvement of the North Parking Lot. We definitely wanted to get this back to Mansfield for their approval to avoid giving them a reason to put the project on hold.

MOTION by Chris C.(Cindy) to approve the lease agreement with the City of Mansfield for the parking lot. **MOTION CARRIED.** This will be voted on at the next Congregational meeting.

The Property Committee is discussing what to do with the Antiphonal Organ. We will be going back to Scott Berry for his input.

Stewardship Committee, Sandie Volz: No Report

Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:

At year-end, income was less than budget by \$10,345 and expenses were more than budget by \$15,000. YTD income was less than expenses by \$245,318. As you know, we do not support ourselves with our giving. Without the Endowment Fund, we couldn't pay our bills. We are doing okay; but, with the number of projects looming, we need to be careful about expenditures. We have spent a lot on technology and security over the past two years; so, hopefully we won't have to spend much there this year. The Property Budget last year was about \$60,000, but we ended up spending over \$126,000. These are expenses we couldn't avoid. The Property Budget this year is about \$92,000; but, depending on how many building issues surface, we could go over that amount. Hopefully, we won't need the full \$16,000 in the budget for Technology this year.

Again, I would remind you to go to Nicole or me when you need funds for something your committee considers worthwhile. Sometimes, we can find money in one of the

special funds that can be used. Knowing we want to build our Youth Programs, bear in mind that there is nearly \$12,000 in the Gamber Trust Fund that can be used for "the furtherance and encouragement of education in the field of Christian Theological Philosophy".

Music & Worship Committee, Cindy Russell:

The Worship Committee did not meet in December.

Attendance and Facebook views for December:

12/5 - Attendance 104, Views 101

12/12 - Attendance 114, Views 163

12/19 - Attendance 134, Views 96

12/24 - Attendance 237, Views 384

12/26 - Attendance 66, Views 131

Evangelism Committee, Jan Fisher:

On January 7, 2022 Angie Cockrell and I went through all of the membership data and moved 156 member names to "inactive status" because this is a long overdue requirement. Our by-laws state that a member in good standing must have a record of contribution and a record of communion at least once per year. According to our by-laws we are to check our records for lapse of membership annually, but with Covid 19 restrictions it wasn't necessarily possible and did not happen since 2018. No one is ever removed from our database, they are just put in inactive status. There were seven households that were sent a lapse of membership letter. I am attaching that file so that you can see its content. At present one family has responded to Angie Cockrell.

Attached is a sample of the letter sent to inactive members: [Letter to Inactive Members](#)

Attached is from our Bylaws about Membership: ["Explanation of Membership"-Bylaws](#)

Women's Ministry, Jan Fisher:

We continue to have a great response to our Women's Bible Study group meetings, generally with 11 or 12 women attending! Our present focus is on the Epiphany invitation to help Shruti with financial contributions to help sustain her until she receives a call to a parish following her graduation from seminary. There will be a special envelope inserted into January 23rd bulletins. I am praying that hearts are open to this initiative.

We will no longer have our own separate checking account, but will be turning our funds over to Nicole to establish a better business practice in unifying checking. This is a request via the Finance Committee.

Social Ministry Committee, Gary Lane (via Jan Fisher)

The committee has been enlarged by several members and there have been two meetings held during January in an attempt to have a good plan for the entire year.

Gary Lane has been ill with Covid but we have held planning meetings in his absence. Cindy Russell, Becky Pittman, Angie Murphy, Jan Fisher, and Anita Nehrkorn have been at the meetings. Our primary focus in being more missional is to plan ahead with impacting projects.

- So far we have plans for getting random groups to take a meal once a month on the first Tuesday of the month to the men that live at Elijah's House on Park Ave. West. Sign ups will be available.
- Sock collection for adult size socks, going on up into February.
- Adding "Senior Boxes" to our food outreach to the community via a program through Greater Cleveland Food Bank at no cost to FELC.
- Big pre-planning of VBS, possibly partnering with several other churches.
- Big pre-planning of the Fall Festival (bringing back what we did several years ago.)
- Continuing to offer support to Zoe's Learning Center at Kingdom Grace Fellowship via after school snacks (Thrivent Action Team cards), craft projects, and a possible "December Santa's Express" using Teddy as Santa as we make use of the bus.

On Wednesday, January 19, 2022 four of us took a great pizza casserole meal to the men at Elijah's House as we began that monthly meal program.

Global Missions Committee, Chris Cichanowicz

The Far Side: Brian and Barb got the news that Brian's mother died on January 5. They were not with her for they had already gone back to the Far Side. Her funeral was set for January 9. This did not give them time to make arrangements to get back to the States. They are honoring Edwina by extending the prayers she always offered for Islanders and sharing with them the hope God gave her. Please pray that our Lord will wrap his loving arms around Brian and Barb and their family in this time of grief.

Peru: The Krafts sent us a video showing their mission adventures in Rio Santiago. We showed it to the congregation on January 16. In their words, "If you ever had a desire to

live like Tarzan...Rio Santiago is a great place to do it!". They visited 9 villages and would really love to have a team that can go into the villages and stay for a month at a time. Food of all kinds awaited them in each village. They were served armadillo soup, boiled plantains, yucca, eggs, fish, wild pig and sometimes rice. Nick and Shannon have new Visas good for 10 years and are praying to be able to go back annually to Bolivia to strengthen and encourage the Christian leaders there. They are asking for prayers for their family members,too. For Maddie as she finishes her Thesis in February; safety and good people around TJ; for travel plans to see Moi graduate in May from George Fox; and a successful first year of college for Tucker.

Malawi: Disappointing news from Pastor Jones -- his trip to Malawi did not work out. He said the "demands of COVID testing are almost impossible to meet." He has rescheduled his trip to March 21 through April 1. This new date may actually be a blessing. According to Shadreck, the copious amounts of rain that have fallen so far in Malawi will have lessened, making it safer and much easier to visit the farm and the Center sites. Amazing news about Shadreck's 13 year old daughter: She has published a book! Great news also about the contributions collected for blankets for the kids in Malawi. \$10,800 has been collected so far and that doesn't include our donation or the Immanuel Crosby donation. Thank all of you who are helping to keep these precious children warm when their winter season begins.

Youth Committee, Ted Ellis

The Quake gathering that was to be attended by the youth in January in Cincinnati was cancelled. We are planning to attend the February gathering in Pittsburgh. We are hopeful that it will not also be cancelled.

The Apple Tree was a successful fundraiser thanks to the generosity of members. In addition, one generous member made a large donation at year end. Therefore, the Youth fund is in good shape for the immediate future.

Old Business:

Call Committee Update (via Pastor Tim):

CALL COMMITTEE TASKS

1. Meet and elect Convener
 1. Pray together, for each other, for the congregation, for the pastors who want to be considered
 2. Remember we are a confidential committee
2. Share with each other your hopes and dreams for a new pastor
 1. Pray
3. Review the FELC Self Study results

1. Ask Angie C. for parish demographics/numbers
2. Prepare paragraph describing our mission and the kind of pastor we are looking for
3. Pray
4. Send paragraph to Pr David Wendel
 1. Pray again
5. Meet as needed
 1. FELC members will pump you for information. Share their concerns with us.
 2. We will have our own cares and concerns that we can share together.
6. How long will this take?
 1. Short or long. It's really the wrong question.
 2. Better question is how patient can we be to find the best pastor for FELC
 3. FELC is used to long pastorates. As you consider pastor candidates, think of working with them for the next 10 or 15 years.
7. When the Call Committee feels they have enough resumes, we will meet to see how many we want to interview. Most interviews, nowadays, are by Zoom. But if a candidate is nearby, an in person interview is best. Also, for nearby candidates, one or two of us at a time can visit their congregation on a Sunday without raising suspicions.
8. At some point, after much prayer and discussion, the committee will feel comfortable to recommend one candidate to the FELC Council. The Council will then

invite that pastor to visit FELC and preach. When the candidate comes to preach, he/she will meet again with the Call Committee and also with the Council.

9. At a properly called Call Meeting of the Congregation, we will vote to extend a Call to the candidate. Pastors are looking for a near unanimous call vote. The Council President will convey the vote to the candidate. The candidate has 30 days to accept and 60 days to move, although it usually doesn't take that long. Following the Call Meeting, the work of the Call Committee is done. However, when the new pastor arrives, it is usual for Call Committee members to do as much as they can to help the new pastor in this new call.

Safety Committee:

Chad said further revisions are continuing to develop the final policy. The item is **TABLED**, pending revisions.

Council Vacancy of President:

MOTION (Chris K./Lu) that the Church Council appoint Robert Skropits as the Council President for the remainder of the current term (May 2023), effective immediately. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Six month review/renewal of the Pastor Tim's Contract:

This review is specified in the initial terms of Call from January 2021. **MOTION** (Cindy/Tom) to renew the 'Appointment of Interim Pastoral Ministry' with Pastor Tim. **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business:

Vice President (acting President) Chad McFadden has called a special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 30 following our worship service to discuss the potential of leasing a parking lot to the City of Mansfield, and the potential of air conditioning of our sanctuary.

Next Meeting: **MOTION** (Chris K./Cindy) to move the February meeting to the 17th at 7:00 PM. **MOTION CARRIED.**

February Council devotion and coffee fellowship: Stewardship Committee.
The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher J. Kaschube

Church Council Secretary

Newly Formed Call Committee

On Sunday, January 16, 2022 during the annual Budget Meeting of the congregation, the following people were elected to serve on the Call Committee to begin the process of seeking our next pastor:

Jane Anderson, Greg Hughes, Becky Pittman, Ted Ellis, Christopher Kaschube, Heather McFadden, Amy Skropits, Angie Murphy, Elizabeth Volz. These faithful members of FELC received the highest number of votes. Thank you to all twelve who so willingly offered to serve.

We are blessed to be at this point; please hold this newly formed Call Committee in your daily prayers as they begin their work. May our Lord and Savior lead us to the proper pastoral candidate!

Congo Life

Fastnacht will be observed on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 4:30 to 6:30? Please join us for pancakes, sausage, and applesauce for a great evening of fellowship. ELC families will be invited.

It's a great time to be like Jesus and interact with those families! Everyone welcome.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022. We will have soup suppers and Bible Study beginning on Wed. March 9, 2022. 6:00 PM for soup, 6:20 PM begin Bible Study, 7:00 PM, you are on your way home. Stay tuned for more details. We will be asking groups to host the soup suppers, making their favorite delicious soups.

ELC

Little People BIG News February

A Peek into February



This month we will be celebrating Valentine's Day by having small classroom parties. This is a fun way for kids to get creative and learn about giving to friends. The kids will also learn about our presidents as President's Day approaches.

We have formed an ELC committee consisting of staff, parents and church members (Ila Kershaw, Angie Murphy, Jan Fisher, Lu Blankenship, Michelle Couch, Becky Pittman, Ashley Risner, Ashleigh Robinson, Chelsie Thompson, Chris Cichanowicz., and Megan Collins). We are currently looking to hire (especially summer help). Anyone 18 years old or older that is interested, please see Angie. Without finding adequate help, we do not know what the summer will look like.

We are receiving a technology grant and would like to purchase smartboards. If anyone has a contact or business that they know of who might support this, please let us know.

We are looking forward to Easter and hope to be involved in the City of Mansfield Parks Department Easter program. (Last year it was a big drive through event at South Park.)

Angie Murphy
Director

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE
End of 2021 General Operating Fund (GOF) Recap:

2020 Carryover	\$127,594
General Endowment Fund to GOF	\$211,045
Maj Cap Imp End Fund to GOF	\$9,037
Funds closed out to GOF	\$242
RGH II Campaign Funds to Gen Op Fund for Loan Payment	\$10,721
2021 YTD Income	\$625,865
2021 YTD Expenses	\$871,183
General Operating Fund (GOF) Balance (Carry-over)	\$113,321

At year-end, we were under in total income by \$10,000 and expenses were more than budget by \$15,000.

Last year, we estimated weekly offerings at \$240,000. The actual year-end weekly offering total was \$248,500, so we estimated weekly offerings at \$250,000.

As you know, the Benevolence numbers are estimated; because, at the end of each quarter, 10% of total income (not including ELC income) was given to NALC, North Central Mission District, Kraft Family, Sorge Family, Awakening, Love Inc. Richland Pregnancy Services, Lutheran World Relief, NALC Disaster Response, and MOCP Food Ministry.

Total Expenses Last Year were \$871,183. For 2022, we have estimated expenses at \$941,397 (an 8% increase). This seems reasonable when considering that inflation is averaging 7% and we have several building projects that need to be done. The staff will receive a 4.1% increase in wages.

As you know, we could not fund all we do without our endowment funds. General Endowment Fund was funded by contributions from individuals totaling \$2,626,400. Value of the fund at 2021 Year-End is \$3,009,838, a gain of \$383,438 over the life of the fund.

Yearly expenditures from this Endowment Fund are limited to 5% of the total value of the fund based on a 4-year average of the year-end market values) so the fund will continue to grow. The increase in value for 2021 was \$82,609 (including gains and withdrawals).

Note: It has been a long time since there were any contributions made to the General Endowment Fund. I think, for some time, we corporately agreed that we needed contributions given in a way that they could be spent on the many building projects we encounter with our aged facility. However, we need to keep in mind that we could not meet our budgets year-to-year were it not for the contributions to this fund by the generations that came before us. Generally, these contributions came from members' estates – something for us to consider.

Lu Blankenship, 419-564-1469, finance@felc-mansfield.org

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Please see the report section in the Council Minutes. Some of our 2022 plans are listed.

Gary Lane
Social Ministry

Elijah's House and what is happening there!

On Wednesday, January 19, 2022 four of us on the Social Ministry team took a great hot meal to the men who live at Elijah's House at 309 Park Avenue West. There are now eight (and soon to be 10) men living there as they begin supporting themselves, joining the Bible Study offered there, attending church, and helping out with various chores.

We shared the expenses of preparing the meal and did the preparation in the Undercroft kitchen. Here is the menu we supplied in case you wonder about preparing a meal in the future: Pizza casserole to serve 10 to 12, fresh garden salad and dressings, Texas garlic toast, and chocolate cake. It smelled fantastic!

As we mentioned in January, we are challenging other groups to take a meal once a month. The designated day we have chosen is **THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH** at 5:00 PM. Check with Cindy Russell or Becky Pittman for particulars on making the delivery.



Within the Fold



Wednesday Noon Lunch donations for January were \$22.00

Thank you beyond words for the fourth quarter donations our church provided to extend the mission of Malawi Orphan Care Project. We gratefully accept the check for \$4146.76 of which \$2216.76 went to FEEDING, and \$1930.00 went to GENERAL FUND. Giving God the Glory that we have such generous members supporting MOCP.

Jan Fisher, Treasurer

Dear Jan and Women of FELC,

Thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness. It is most appreciated, and I am especially thankful for the fleece prayer blanket. And thank you also to the two handsome men who bring me communion (Gary Lane and Larry Lantz). They are each a "10". In Christian love, **Jo Wirstrom**

Dear FELC Staff,

Enclosed is a donation in gratitude and in memory: Gratitude for the kind assistance of Pastor Tim in responding to a request from a total stranger and referring me to Becky Pittman. Much gratitude to Becky for also stepping up for people she didn't know to arrange and provide beautiful guitar and vocal music for a burial service in July at Mansfield Memorial Park for my uncles, Frederick F. Fisher and James D. Fisher (both having been baptized and confirmed at FELC).

(This note was received by Nicole Goddard with an enclosed donation.)

If you know of a member who would like to have a communion deacon bring communion to him or her at home, please contact Larry Lantz @ 419-756-5506.



Worship Committee

We are very consistent in our worship numbers, both in person and online via Facebook. For that we are grateful to God and to all of you. We also say “Thank You” for your steadfast stewardship of your financial offerings. Plans are being made for Lent which begins on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 and ends at the end of Holy Week. Easter is Sunday, April 17, 2022. March of Prayer is being scheduled and FELC will host an evening worship on Thursday, March 31st. IMAGE Choir from Mansfield Christian School will be with us the Sunday following Easter, April 24, 2022. You won’t want to miss that service. They are wonderful!

Cindy Russell
Worship Committee Chairperson

Women’s Ministry



We have been enjoying some wonderful fellowship at Women’s Bible Study. 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 February 14, 2022 meeting** will be at the home of **Linda Hughes, 500 Acker Drive, Mansfield, OH 44905. We will be doing session #6.** It’s not too late to join us! Bring a friend along! Let Jan know so that she can tell you how to order your book.

In February we continue our tradition of sending out Valentines to our college students and military young people. We will be including a Starbucks gift card for their enjoyment.

Funeral meals, when necessary, will be provided.

FEBRUARY: Squad A, Karen Ellis, Barb Cook, Ila Kershaw

Thrivent Action Team Missional Suggestions

If you have Thrivent products please consider using your Action Team cards for local missional support. You get two cards per year, valued at \$250.00 each. Please don't neglect to use them for God's Glory!

Toilet paper pre-wrapped that we give to our Wednesday Noon Lunch guests once a month. (They really appreciate this.)

Fleece for blankets that our Youth make to give to the needy.

Yarn for Prayer Shawl Ministry

Books for kids to take home.

After school snacks for Zoe's Learning Center, Kingdom Grace Fellowship on Reba Ave.

Personal care items to be put into "Buddy Bags" for needy.

Sugary and salty snack items to be given away at the City Easter Drive-Through event.

Socks, gloves, knit caps to be given to our needy guests.

Extra financial support for VBS (crafts, snacks, take-home items).

School supplies for start of school in August.

Non perishable food items for Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner giveaway bags.

School supplies, backpacks, and personal care items to be given away by Mansfield City Schools STOP program (kids that are considered homeless, living with aunts, uncles, friends).

Food and embellishments for a volunteer thank you party!

Miscellaneous supplies that would enhance the Early Learning Center programs.

Purchase groceries for several meals to be given to the men at Elijah's House on Park Avenue West.



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. We do not grace the altar with flowers during Lent.

February 6, 2022

February 20, 2022

February 27, 2022

Lent, no flowers

April 17, 2022 (EASTER SUNDAY)

April 24, 2022



Global Mission

The Far Side: Brian and Barb got the news that Brian's mother died on January 5. They were not with her for they had already gone back to the Far Side. Her funeral was set for January 9. This did not give them time to make arrangements to get back to the States. They are honoring Edwina by extending the prayers she always offered for Islanders and sharing with them the hope God gave her. Please pray that our Lord will wrap his loving arms around Brian and Barb and their family in this time of grief.

Peru: The Krafts sent us a video showing their mission adventures in Rio Santiago. We showed it to the congregation on January 16. In their words, "If you ever had a desire to live like Tarzan...Rio Santiago is a great place to do it!". They visited 9 villages and would really love to have a team that can go into the villages and stay for a month at a time. Food of all kinds awaited them in each village. They were served armadillo soup, boiled plantains, yucca, eggs, fish, wild pig and sometimes rice. Nick and Shannon have new Visas good for 10 years and are praying to be able to go back annually to Bolivia to strengthen and encourage the Christian leaders there. They are asking for prayers for their family members, too. For Maddie as she finishes her Thesis in February; safety and good people around TJ; for travel plans to see Moi graduate in May from George Fox; and a successful first year of college for Tucker.

Malawi: Disappointing news from Pastor Jones -- his trip to Malawi did not work out. He said the "demands of Covid testing are almost impossible to meet." He has rescheduled his trip to March 21 through April 1. This new date may actually be a blessing. According to Shadreck, the copious amounts of rain that have fallen so far in Malawi will have lessened, making it safer and much easier to visit the farm and the Center sites. Amazing news about Shadreck's 13 year old daughter. She has published a book! Great news also about the contributions collected for blankets for the kids in Malawi. \$10,800 has been collected so far and that doesn't include our donation or the Immanuel Crosby donation. Thank all of you who are helping to keep these precious children warm when their winter season begins.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Cichanowicz

Global Mission Chairperson

LUTHER FELLOWSHIP

Sadly, we decided for safety's sake to cancel Luther Fellowship for January. It was just too risky to be out and about in the snow that came down overnight. We had planned to make Buddy Bags to share with our WNL guests, so we gave that project over to the "school agers" who come to the ELC after school. They did it on Tuesday and we were still able to give them out on Wednesday, January 19th following lunch.

(next Luther Fellowship, third Monday of month, February 21, 2022 at 2:00 PM in Emmaus Room.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE THIRD MONDAY EACH MONTH, "LUTHER FELLOWSHIP"!

PUB THEOLOGY

Pub Theology is on the calendar again! In February we will meet on Tuesday evening, February 8, 2022. We plan to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday. **We will be at the Black Dog Tavern outside of Bellville on Rt. 97.** Starting time will be 6:00 PM. This will enable us to order and possibly get our food or drinks prior to starting the discussion about 6:30 PM. (They close at 8:00 PM during this season.) 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 8:00 PM 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!

Ted and Andy

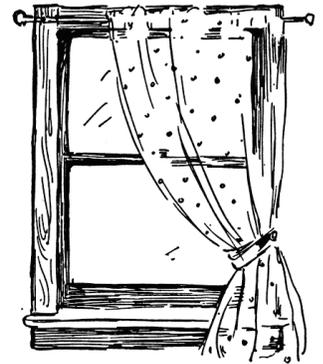
Women's Ministry Project for Epiphany

Epiphany began on January 6, 2022 and this year we have voted to support a young woman who is about to complete her seminary education. **Shruti Kulkarni** is a bright and very deserving Christian. She has been in an ELCA seminary as a very conservative Lutheran, not wanting to follow ELCA liberal guidelines so consequently she lost her scholarship. Because she chose Christianity her family has disowned her. How tragic. Women's Ministry feels that our Epiphany offering can certainly be a big help to her as she approaches ordination. Presently she needs assistance with living expenses, driver's education, and the purchase of a good used car. Several of our sister NALC congregations are forming financial support plans for Shruti. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to offer her support in this manner. *This is an opportunity to make a difference in a young woman's life. This project will be ongoing until Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022, when Epiphany ends.* Questions can be directed to Jan Fisher, Team Leader @ 419.589.2820 or email: janfisher2002@yahoo.com



Becky's Views.....

ELC kids are having a great time exploring all the many instruments we have in our music room! I meet with all of the classes individually once a week to sing songs about Jesus. It is definitely a "joyful noise!" Have you seen the music room yet?? Come check out the transformation. It is located on the third floor where the church library was previously set up.



The bell choir will be ringing again soon! (Date TBD) If you would like to join us, please let me know. The more hands the better! (And we have LOTS of fun!) I am forever thankful and grateful to our livestream crew: Suzanne Rippel, Todd Heichel, Ashley Berry and Tom Sarbach. Would you like to learn the tricks of the trade and become part of this rotation? Don't hesitate to ask!

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

Becky Pittman, Coordinator of Music and the Arts



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.

In February we will offer communion on Wednesday, February 16, 2022

MEMORIALS

A donation was made in loving memory of Frederick F. Fisher, Shirley M. (Fisher) Keller, and James D. Fisher, who attended FELC in the 30's and 40's. They are all now home to their eternal rest in Mansfield with parents Frederick "Fritz" Fisher and Mildred (McCune) Fisher.

The family would enjoy hearing from any extended family or friends who remember the Fishers and McCunes. Please contact Joy Keller at joykeller7@gmail.com or 847-630-4154

ELC Memorial Fund

*In memory of Fredrick F. Fisher, Shirley M. Fisher and James D. Fisher
Given by: The Fisher and McCune Families*

FELC Music Program

*In memory of Fredrick F. Fisher, Shirley M. Fisher and James D. Fisher
Given by: The Fisher and McCune Families*

Stained Glass Window Fund

*In memory of John Ness
Given by: John & Pat Fraifogl Family*



Jeff Wheaton
(Friend of James & Angie Murphy)

December 15, 2021

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

Evangelism for Today's World



Although we are not presently offering Free Produce to our community during these winter months, we are working on plans to begin distribution of “Senior Boxes” of non-perishable foods. Details are forthcoming. This is one of our evangelical outreach missions and it will be a year round commitment.

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! And have you noticed how we love to fellowship in the Narthex after worship? Wonderful!

Jan Fisher, Evangelism Chairperson

NALC DISASTER RESPONSE

In times of extreme weather changes which create tornadoes and hurricanes, please remember to support NALC Disaster Response a full ministry partner of our denomination.

Social Ministry

Please refer to the Council Minutes/Social Ministry report.

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

February 2022 Volunteers

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

ACOLYTES

February 6: Lydia McFadden
February 13: Peyton McFadden
February 20: Lily Garn
February 27: Hayden Skropits

ALTAR WORKERS

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Todd Heichel

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Stewardship

COMMUNION PREPARERS

February 6: Chris & Kathy Hoecker

February 27: Ken & Debi Suzuki
(Transfiguration)

COMMUNION SERVERS

February 6:
Wine West: Ed Corley
Wine East: Anita Nehr Korn
Intinction: Alicia Schultz

February 27:
Wine West: Jodi Mumaw
Wine East: Lu Blankenship
Intinction: Jan Fisher

GREETER TBA

LAY READERS

February 6: Chris Kaschube
February 13: Alicia Schulz
February 20: Chris Cichanowicz
February 27: Stacey Crall

PASTORS' PRAYER PARTNERS

Chris Cichanowicz
Mary Schwartz
Lowell Weeks
Jan Fisher

PEW PAD GLEANERS

February 6: Liz Sprang
February 13: Jodi Mumaw
February 20: Lana Conry
February 27: Brenda Eyerly

PROPRESENTER

February 6: Teri Brenkus
February 13: Allison Weeks
February 20: Peyton McFadden
February 27: Isaac McFadden

SLING STUDIO

February 6: Todd Heichel
February 13: Suzanne Rippel
February 20: Todd Heichel
February 27: Tom Sarbach

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST

February 6: None (Quake/Pittsburgh)
February 13: Allison Weeks
February 20: Amy Skropits
February 27: Stacey Crall

SOUND BOARD OPERATORS

February 6: Ed Farner
February 13: Ed Farner
February 20: Ed Farner
February 27: Ed Farner

USHERS NAVE

Elizabeth Volz & Mike Anderson
Tyler Crall

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.

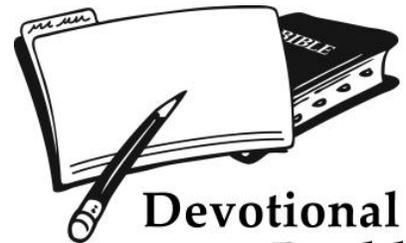


Mary Schwartz is now heading up the prayer chain. Please call Mary to activate the prayer chain.

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

DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

Devotional booklets for **February** 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 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.**



Please refer to Facebook or YouTube to view past sermons.

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

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

**MARCH Visitor Newsletter Deadline: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022
Assembled and mailed: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022.**

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

Rev. Timothy Hubert	thubert@felc-mansfield.org
Scott Berry	sberry@felc-mansfield.org
Becky Pittman	bpittman@felc-mansfield.org
Angela Murphy	cds@felc-mansfield.org
Nicole Goddard	ngoddard@felc-mansfield.org
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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.

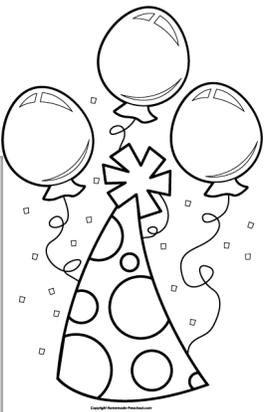
Emergency cell phone number if the pastor cannot be

contacted at church:

Pastor Timothy Hubert 217-778-8017

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Barbara Davis	3975 Hunter Rd Perrysville OH 44864-9629	February 1
Pat Smith	19 S Linden Rd Mansfield OH 44906	February 3
Larry Faith	2279 Fleming Falls Rd Mansfield OH 44903-8701	February 5
Joseph Rogers	1731 Lucia Lane Mansfield OH 44907	February 7
Janet Shenberger	1010 Reed Rd Mansfield OH 44903-6924	February 10
Stacey Crall	222 Marlow Rd Mansfield OH 44906	February 14
Ila Kershaw	1972 Chelsea Dr Mansfield OH 44904	February 14
Grace Sarbach	527 Forest St Mansfield OH 44903	February 16
Jodi Mumaw	88 Hickey St Greenwich OH 44837	February 21
Todd Heichel	4222 State Route 42 S Lexington OH 44904	February 22
Brianna McFadden	1190 Timbercliff Dr Mansfield OH 44907	February 22
Zachary Rippel	770 Woodhill Rd Mansfield OH 44907-1542	February 23
Shirley Stegall	250 Delaware Dr Lexington OH 44904-9341	February 23
Evelyn Smith	630 Henley Drive Naples FL 34104-6529	February 25
Quentin Skropits	3399 Oakstone Dr Ontario OH 44903	February 25
Doris Krueger	612 B S. Trimble Mansfield OH 44906	February 28



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