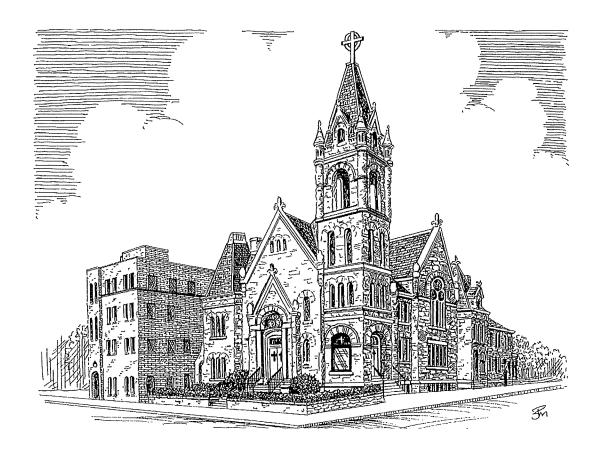
THE VISITOR



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

Volume 64 APRIL 2022

Number 4

"Pointing People to Desus 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 Rob Skropits
Vice President Chad McFadden
Secretary Christopher Kaschube
Early Learning Center Tom Sarbach
Christian Education open
Worship Cindy Russell
Congregational Life open
Evangelism Jan Fisher

SCS Superintendent Amy Skropits

Finance Lu Blankenship

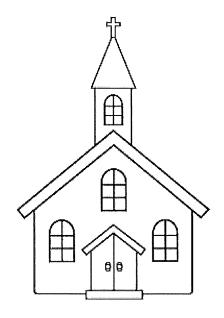
Women of FELC Jan Fisher

Global Mission Chris Cichanowicz

Personnel open

Property *Mike Anderson*Social Ministry *Gary Lane*Stewardship *Sandra Volz*

Youth Ministry Ted Ellis



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

A Message from Pastor Tim......

Grace and peace, dear sisters and brothers!

I was just reading an article based on research by the National Study of Youth and Religion. According to this study, a minority of parents feel that churches are serving their children well. 36% of parents thought churches served their sons well. 41% thought churches served their daughters well.

Even worse, 42% of parents felt that sports and clubs did a better job than the church in preparing their children for adult life!

On the positive side, children of working class parents, active in church with a professed belief in our God did better in Middle and High School. 21% of church raised children received A's, while only 9% of less religious students equaled that high grade.

Religious children were twice as likely to earn grades needed to enter college, compared to non-religious children.

All of this research reminds us to pay particular attention to our youth ministry, to support and encourage our youth leaders, to offer our prayers and any other support that we can. It reminds our youth teachers and leaders of the centrality of faith-formation in our young people.

This research also supports our conversations with family members who have only a loose relationship with our church or no relationship with any church. Non-religious children are at a disadvantage in school and in life compared to the children we see every Sunday.

This is important because, as I remind our Catechism class, they are the next link of the chain of faith across the generations. They have a crucial role to play if there is to be a church in the future. I also tell our students that our God is faithful and will always provide a faithful remnant, a faithful church. The real question is if they will be a part of that church, faithful in their adulthood?

Remember to pray for our youth and for their leaders and helpers!

Blessings, Pr Tim+

The Great Triduum The Three Holy Days Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday Easter Vigil

Our celebration of the **Three Holy Days** begins with the **Maundy Thursday** evening communion service held at **7:00 P.M.** on **April 14, 2022** in the Nave. The service begins with an expanded rite of confession and absolution, which is followed by the usual lessons and sermon. Scripture readings focus on the institution of the sacrament of Holy Communion at the Last Supper of Christ and his disciples. Confession and forgiveness are an especially important part of this service, as we finally receive the absolution which was intentionally left out of the Ash Wednesday services. The service concludes with the dramatic stripping of the Altar in preparation for the Good Friday observance. There is no benediction at the close of the service, since this is only the first part of the Triduum observance.

The second segment of the Three Holy Days continues with the Good Friday Tenebrae service at 7:00 P.M. on April 15, 2022. The service is based on the biblical account of Christ's Passion According to St. John. The reading is interspersed with hymn singing and the extinguishing of seven candles. The Christ candle is extinguished and removed from the sanctuary. A rough wooden cross is carried in procession. There is a time of reflection and adoration of the crucified Christ when any may come forward to pray at the kneeling rail. Once again there is no benediction; the service continues on Saturday evening.

The Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. is both the conclusion of our observance of the Three Holy Days, and the first service in celebration of the Resurrection. This service reverses the events of Good Friday, and moves us from darkness into light. We will begin the service by gathering in our West parking lot on Mulberry St. where we kindle the fire, light our Paschal Candle and process to our sanctuary. Hand candles are lit as we enter the church, and are held for the singing of the Easter Proclamation. They are extinguished, and we hear a series of readings tracing the biblical history of our salvation from Creation, through the Exodus, promises of our salvation, and the three young men in the fiery furnace. We celebrate the renewal of our baptismal vows as a final cleansing in preparation for the celebration of Easter. The lights are raised, and the full Easter celebration begins with a service of Holy Communion, breaking the Lenten fast by receiving Christ's body and blood.

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Thursday, March 17, 2022- 7:00PM DRAFT COPY- Updated March 18, 8:06 AM

Present: Rob Skropits, Jan Fisher, Pastor Tim Hubert, Chris Cichanowicz, Tom Sarbach, Chris Kaschube, Lu Blankenship, Chad McFadden, Cindy Russell, Mike Anderson

Absent: Ted Ellis, Sandie Volz, Gary Lane

The meeting was called to order by Rob Skropits at 7:01 PM.

Devotions and prayer by Jan Fisher

MOTION by Jan/Cindy to allow congregational support of the NALC efforts in Ukraine, specifically S.O.N. (Spiritual Orphans Network), that has strong ties to the Ukrainian people through the month of April. MOTION CARRIED.

Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:

Presented the FELC Church Council minutes for February 2022, as amended with the e-vote from February 26.. MOTION to approve Chris K./Lu. MOTION CARRIED.

Executive/Personnel: MOTION Chris K./Clndy to set the May Congregational Meeting date for May 22. MOTION CARRIED.

Vice President, Chad McFadden:

We have several areas in the constitution and the by-laws that need our action and or discussion.

Chapter 12 Congregation Council

12.03 Should a member's place on the Congregation Council become vacant, the Congregation Council shall elect a replacement as soon as practicable to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. The time served under this Section 12.03 shall not count for purposes of term limits.

I believe we have three vacancies currently. (Personnel, Congregational Life, Christian Education). One of these Committees was elected and vacant. (Personnel). We clearly need to elect a replacement, but I think there should be some discussion on how many and what committees are needed. Sections of note for assistance in discussion. 12.06, 12.08, 13.05, BL9.01, BL9.02, BL10.03

The President will seek a member of the congregation to serve the remainder of the term as Personnel chair.

Chapter 13 Committees of The Congregation

13.03 There shall be an Audit Committee of three voting members of this congregation. Its members shall be elected by the Congregation Council. Audit Committee members shall not be members of the Congregation Council. Term of office shall be for one year. Members shall be eligible for reelection.

I understand that this committee has been hard to fill. Maybe we should discuss alternative methods for audit and amend the constitution.

The Finance Committee will seek three voting members of the congregation to serve on the Audit Committee.

Bylaws

Chapter 4 Officers

BL4.02 Should a vacancy occur in the office of president; the vice president shall serve the remainder of the term.

This by-law conflicts with the constitution, section 11.03. The constitution states in section 16.01 that the by-laws may not conflict with the constitution.

MOTION (Chad/Tom) for Proposed change

Should a vacancy occur in the office of the president; the vice president shall perform the duties of the president until the Congregation Council has elected a replacement. MOTION CARRIES.

BL4.03 The Congregation Council shall appoint a statutory agent in January of each year in accordance with the provisions of the Charter from the State of Ohio.

Mary Schwartz is currently our statutory agent.

MOTION (Tom/Cindy) to approve Mary Schwartz as our statutory agent for 2022, pending her acceptance to continue in this position. MOTION CARRIES.

Interim Pastor, Tim Hubert:

Pray to our Lord to raise new pastors for the NALC. We will need 300 new pastors in the next 10 years!

I would like the Council to think about our Holy Communion practice. We currently receive the body and blood of our Lord on the first Sunday of each month and on festivals. The temptation is to wait until the new pastor comes to see what he/she would recommend. But I would remind the council that we are responsible for the spiritual as well as the financial health of this congregation.

As Covid declines we are seeing an increase in our Sunday attendance! Thanks be to God!

Please pray with our Call Committee as they discern our Lord's will for our ministry. It will be a remarkable pastor who comes to us, able to reach out to members from birth to death, able to reach out to our Staff, able to work with all of our committees. This is more than a full time calling!

We are looking forward to the Rite of Confirmation on May 8. This year we will have three young men being confirmed, sharing their faith with our members! We are just beginning to work on their Confessions of Faith. I will bring their names to the council next month.

Youth Committee, Ted Ellis: No report

Evangelism Committee, Jan Fisher;

The first Sunday of Lent Pastor Tim began a new members class being held during adult Sunday School. There are several families included in that five Sunday class. After that time it will be determined the date to welcome them into our loving congregation. A welcoming reception will be held.

We continue to have visitors EVERY WEEK! What an awesome thing to behold. Please everyone welcome them in the name of Christ Jesus! The Holy Spirit continues to stir our hearts in love and growth at FELC.

As was done last year, we will be sending out a Holy Week and Easter postcard to any members who have not been at worship in the last year. It is just a loving reminder of the dates and times of Holy Week and Easter worship, inviting all who receive it to join us at church for "the real thing," worship in person!

Women's Ministry, Jan Fisher:

I am so happy to report the outcome of our Epiphany request for support of Shruti Kulkarni: \$1370.00 from FELC and \$1,000.00 donation from the grant fund that Rev. Lisa Peterson and Dan Peterson have established. The checks will be sent later this week.

The Women's Ministry continues to hold our monthly Bible Study on the second Monday of each month. Ten to twelve women have been attending as we hold our study in various members' homes.

Luther Fellowship continues to be a very welcome and positive monthly event. This month we are just enjoying fellowship as we all gather for lunch at O'Charleys out in Ontario on Monday, March 21, 11:30 AM.

We continue to reach out to our "Homebound" members with monthly notes of blessings and well wishes. It's very important to keep those folks "in the fold"

Several of us are knitting/crocheting prayer squares and making little quilt pillows to share with our guests at March of Prayer on Thursday evening March 31.

Global Missions Committee, Chris Cichanowicz:

Malawi: All the programs are doing well. An added blessing is a \$10,000 donation from the NALC will be used to purchase a maize mill. The maize will be used at the orphan project to mill local maize for the orphans and also as an income producer for the orphan project. Hopefully, Pastor Andy's scheduled trip to Malawi next week will happen this time. He hopes to meet with the leaders and get more details about their audit and the status of all the projects.

Peru: Only two weeks left for the CORE group to finish. It hasn't been easy, but the good news is our Lord touched the hearts of 4 of the students. They asked to be baptized last week! Caring for this group (an extra 17 people) with food and housing is always a financial challenge, but the Krafts never give up. After the CORE group leaves, 16 more people are arriving for their missions' camp! Please be generous with your Lenten Offerings which will be sent to these loving, giving, faith-filled missionaries.

The Far Side: Brian and Barb are back to their Far Side home after spending several weeks with Bruce, one of their co-workers. No update yet on what's happening.

Early Learning Center Committee, Tom Sarbach:

(From Becky Pittman) We had a great ELC turnout at Fastnacht! Over 50 attended from the daycare. Several kids provided special music and dancing during the dinner.

The classes are busy learning many songs about Jesus during large and small group music each week. They can't wait to sing them for all of you on Sunday, April 3rd! We will also be recognizing and thanking our ELC staff during the 10:00 worship service.

The ELC families are now participating in our "Bare Necessities" monthly donation program along with the church. They are also donating candy with us for the Easter egg drive thru event at the Mansfield City Park on Saturday, April 2nd.

Our church website has been completely updated with new information and pictures for both our congregation and daycare.

STK Grant Award correspondence (from Angie Murphy):

Thank you for submitting an application in consideration for the 2022 Summertime Kids grant cycle. Yesterday the committee met to discuss the submitted applications and to make award recommendations.

On behalf of the committee, I am pleased to share that the First English Lutheran Learning Center application for Kidz Cropz was awarded for \$1,364.49 to support the costs of the program as requested from RCF in the grant application. The director of your organization will be receiving an award letter, a copy of the application, and two copies of the grant contract detailing the conditions of the award. One copy of the contract needs to be signed and returned to the Richland County Foundation. Please note, we do require a physical signature and contract to be returned.

Once the signed contract is received, we will complete processing the grant and send the award to your organization. As a reminder, a final report is required upon completion of your STK program, but no later than September 1, 2022.

Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:

General Operating Fund (GOF): includes ELC

February 2022 Income was \$41,196.28 February 2022 Expenses were \$63,426.11 February Income is less than expenses by \$22,229.83

YTD Income is \$106,890.68 which is less than budget by \$1,831.32

YTD Expenses are \$120,335.23 which is less than budget by \$32,424.77

YTD Income is less than YTD Expenses by \$13,444.55

Finance has decided to transfer the Undesignated Memorial Fund Balance of \$7,000 to an Expense Line Item for the Call Committee. We neglected to fund this committee when the budget was developed.

Property and Finance Committees jointly RECOMMEND to Council that we proceed with boiler pump replacement, running water line to playground, and space repurposing. No action was taken, because no new money is being spent outside of the approved budget.

Music & Worship Committee, Cindy Russell:

We will be hosting the March of Prayer Service on Thursday, March 31st at 6:00pm.

The ELC children and families will be joining us April 3rd for the ELC Spring Sing!!

We will be having services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Saturday Easter Vigil. All services will begin at 7:00pm. Saturday's service will begin in the north parking lot along PAW.

Image Choir from Mansfield Christian will be with us for our Sunday morning service on April 24th.

Order forms are available for Easter Lilies and daffodils.

Becky continues to work on finding the cause of the screens blinking and turning off.

Attendance for February:

6th - 72

13th - 93

20th - 108

27th - 108

Facebook Views for February:

6th - 105

13th - 108

20th - 100

27th - 120

The number of Facebook views has been added to the bulletin starting in March. These numbers will be different from what is turned in with the monthly council report as they are pulled weekly and council report numbers are pulled monthly.

Stewardship Committee, Sandie Volz: No Report

Property Committee, Mike Anderson:

The Property Committee met on March 7, 2022. Andy Kershaw reported the following: The leased agreement with the City of Mansfield has been signed by FELC and must be signed and returned to us by the City. The expected start date is May 1st., 2022. The Custodial Service to replace Dave Carew's Service while he is recovering is Richland Newhope and they are currently cleaning the church.

The Stained Glass Windows are still on schedule with the 2nd payment due in May or June.

An estimate will be obtained to repair the air conditioning for the 3rd floor.

The Property Committee has 10 projects that they are currently looking at to complete. After much discussion, the Property Committee voted on the priority of all 10 projects. The projects are listed as # 1 being the most needed to be completed ASAP and # 10 the least important. The 10 Projects are:

- # 1 Replacing the works on the Elevator #2 New boiler pump #3 Water for the Playground Rearrange the 3rd floor (changing different offices) # 4 #5 Seal Sandstone on Luther Hall to protect the Penthouse. #6 Complete the remodel of Undercroft Ladies Rest Room #7 Air Condition the Pastor's Office # 8 Parking lot retaining wall
- # 9 Antiphonal Organ
- #10 Air Condition the Sanctuary

If there are questions on the priority list, I will be happy to try to answer them.

The Property Committee voted on and passed a motion to get estimates to fix the Elevator as soon as possible. This is critical to operating ELC and moving supplies to all 3 floors.

Social Ministry Committee, Gary Lane:

The Social Ministry Committee consists of Gary Lane, Chairman; Becky Pittman, Angie Murphy, Jan Fisher, Anita Nehrkorn, Cindy Russell.

The committee has been holding monthly meetings and has established a year-long schedule for monthly projects. We plan to have monthly collections, many to accent the needs of the Bare Necessities room off the Undercroft.

The first and third Wednesdays we provide Wednesday Noon Lunch to the community. Those who care to come early participate in a brief worship service held in the Undercroft prior to having lunch served.

The first Tuesday of each month we are asking group teams to provide a hot dinner delivered to Elijah's House at 309 Park Avenue West, across Park Avenue West from Mosaic Church, . Elijah's House is housing for men under various circumstances who need a place to live. Currently there are 7 to 8 men living there, experiencing Bible Study, Worship, and daily life. Angie Murphy (ELC) provided the meal in March. The Safety Team will provide the meal in April. We request that other groups get on board with providing these once-a-month meals. (Small groups, Sunday School classes, and other groups within the church.)

Beginning the fourth Tuesday in March we will be receiving and distributing Senior Boxes, provided by the Greater Cleveland Food Bank and at no cost to FELC. Senior Boxes contain canned goods and various non-perishable foods, plus each recipient will receive a 2# block of cheese. Recipients must be 60+ years old to qualify and have low income status. They must be registered in the Pantry Trak System of GCFB. If we have extras we will distribute them to qualified guests at WNL.

Beginning the second Tuesday of April we will once again hold free produce distributions in the west parking lot.

We are asking the church office to put out a reminder to renew Kroger Rewards registrations annually. It is no cost to the Kroger customer and the rewards benefit Malawi Orphan Care Project feeding program.

The March of Prayer is going on all month and FELC is scheduled to host a worship service on the evening of March 31. More information is forthcoming.

As part of our outreach we recently used a Thrivent Action Team card to provide after school snacks to Zoe's Learning Center, part of Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church on Reba Ave. Thank you, Shirley Lane, for providing that card. Future plans are developing to use Thrivent Action Team cards in various outreach projects.

Congregational Life, Cindy Hill:

Fastnacht Pancake Night served 81 from ELC and our congregation Tuesday, March 1 from 4:30-6:30. Plenty of pancakes, sausage links, applesauce and drinks were prepared and served by Chris and Kathy Hoecker, Lana Conry, Greg and Linda Hughes, Tim Ringler, Lu Blankenship, Beth Harruff (griddle), Jan Fisher and Anita Nehrkorn. Thanks to Dave for setting up tables and chairs for the event.

Old Business:

Call Committee Update, Christopher Kaschube:

The Call Committee continues to work through the Call Process Manual as specified by the NALC. We have completed the large task of submitting our Congregational Profile. This is a large seven page document that answers many questions that help describe our congregation to a potential new pastor, and also includes information about the compensation of our previous pastor. To complete this document we used information from the TAG process, the Congregational Surveys that were completed in Fall 2021, the Congregational Workshop we hosted in the Undercroft on March 13, along with data from the church office.

Safety Team Report: Received the latest version of the Safety/Security Policy at this meeting. The Vice President recommends that we invite the leaders of the safety team to the April Church Council meeting. Constitution Update from January Congregational Meeting: LCMC language is null & void from the Constitution, no further action is required:

6.06- If this congregation ceases to be a member of the NALC or LCMC, then all references in this constitution to the organization of which this congregation is no longer a member will be null and void.

New Business:

April Council devotion and coffee fellowship: Personnel Committee (but they do not exist, Rob will handle it.) Next meeting: Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00 PM MOTION (Mike/Chad) to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Kaschube

FELC Church Council Secretary

MEMO FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: MARCH 14, 2022

TO: COMMITTEES AND STAFF OF FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN

RE: **BUDGET - INVESTMENTS - EXPENDITURES**

As you know, each year when we prepare our budget, we factor in Endowment Fund withdrawals.

In the 2022 budget, we planned for a withdrawal of \$141,454 from the General Endowment Fund, plus another \$80,000 if needed. In the first two months of 2022, the General Endowment Fund balance is down by \$314,934. The base amount of the General Endowment (the principal or the actual amount that has been given over time) is \$2,626,440. This means that the balance is down to only \$68,464 above the base amount.

We have never withdrawn any of the principal, nor do we want to. Hopefully, the market will bounce back and the fund will recover. We don't want to withdraw any funds as long as the market is down because we would be suffering major losses.

Without any withdrawals, our budget reflects a deficit of \$250,000. As of February 28, our General Operating Fund (GOF) balance is \$105,263. When the Finance Committee met today, March 14, 2022, we decided that we must ask you all to limit spending to only what is necessary. Please understand that a budget is an estimate of expenditures. Listing them does not mean the funds are there.

We will keep you apprised of our financial situation as it evolves. Meanwhile, thank you for your cooperation in curtailing expenses for the coming days while we wait patiently for some uptick in the financial market.

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Notice of First English Lutheran Church annual congregational meeting.

The annual congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, May 22, 2022 following the worship service. Please note this on your calendar and make plans to attend. This is very important in the life of our congregation.

A note from Finance.....

At FELC, there are always lots of opportunities to give to special ministries – so many that it may seem overwhelming at times. Please understand that you are not expected to contribute to everything put in front of you. Choose those that *touch your heart*.

Then, if you respond to one of these requests, please <u>DO NOT HAND CASH OR A CHECK TO ANYONE</u>. Instead, please follow this procedure:

- · Put your contribution in an envelope marked plainly what it is for.
- · If you know it, write your Giving Envelope Number on the envelope.
- · Put the envelope in the offering plate.
- This way, your contribution is added to your giving record.
- It also is a good way for the church finances to reflect the exact costs and contributions attached to any project or ministry.

Thank you so much for your continued generosity and for following this procedure.

Thank you, FELC congregation and friends who generously supported this Thankoffering!

In March we were blessed to mail two checks to Shruti Kilkarni to assist her with her final semester of seminary, her living expenses, and school fees. Our congregation generously donated \$1370.00 in the Epiphany Thankoffering, and Rev. Lisa and Dan Peterson very generously donated a grant of \$1000.00 to Shruti. This young seminarian will one day become a gifted pastor in NALC, so it is our pleasure to assist her.

Call Committee Monthly Updates

Christopher Kaschube has taken the position of Chairperson for the Call Committee. During today's worship (March 27, 2022) Christopher shared that our church's profile has been posted on the NALC website, and thus far we have received two requests from pastors who are open to a new call. The interview process is the next step and will take place in the next two weeks. As a congregation, we all need to hold the entire team in our daily prayers. Once again the team is: Elizabeth Volz, Heather McFadden, Angie Murphy, Amy Skropits, Becky Pittman, Jane Anderson, Ted Ellis, Greg Hughes, and Christopher Kaschube.



Congo Life

EASTER BREAKFAST (No Sunday School on Easter)

Join your FELC Family between 9:00 and 10:00 AM on Easter Sunday for a continental breakfast.

We will be serving assorted pastries, breakfast bars, juice, fruit and coffee in the Narthex.



He is not here, for he has *risen*.

Matthew 28:6



ELC

Little People <u>BIG</u> News April

Things have been quite busy at the ELC. We are partnering with our families and with FELC members in providing assorted candy for the City of Mansfield Easter drive-through event on Saturday, April 2, 2022. The next day, Sunday, April 3 we will be celebrating ELC Sunday, inviting our ELC families to join us at worship. Then we will hold an egg hunt for all the ELC children over in the playground area.

There is also a fundraiser going on for Butter Braid products.

Angie Murphy Director

DONATION BUTTON THAT IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

Yes, we have a donation button available on our church's website: felc-mansfield,org!

In these days of advanced technology, we, too, have advanced here at FELC. Because we have a large number of viewers on our Facebook page and You Tube channel, a donation button has been added to our website. (felc-mansfield.org) On the home page of the website go to the black band across the center, then click on "make a donation" over to the right, which will take you to the set-up page where you can follow the instructions. It gives you the option to make a recurring donation or a one-time donation complete with specifics. Another option is the QR code which you can click on, taking you directly to making a donation.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

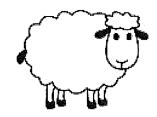
Please see Gary's report in the Council Minutes

Gary Lane Social Ministry

Elijah's House Update

In March Angie Murphy and ELC provided a meal of pizza for the men living at Elijah's House. In April several people from our Safety Team will be providing the meal. At present there are **eight men** living there and changing their lives. Do you have a group that would willingly prepare a nice home cooked meal for these men?

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

There was \$4.00 donated at Wednesday Noon Lunch for March.

This from **Mary Schwartz**: Thank you to my loving and caring friends at FELC for the many beautiful get well cards. Your care, concern and prayers have touched me deeply. Most of all, the blessings of healing from my Heavenly Father have enabled me to be pain free. I look forward to returning to worship services soon and have missed each of you.

This from **Dave Carew**: Thanks for all the prayers during my surgery and recovery, and for the many get well cards mailed to me!

Remember to link your Kroger Plus Card with the Community Rewards Program, **FELC #82052**. This allows First English Lutheran Church to receive donations from Kroger for MOCP as a benefit of you shopping there.

Here's a great little kudo: Recently Lu Blankenship had the opportunity to meet Mark Abrams, Superintendent Parks and Recreation. When she introduced herself and mentioned that she was from FELC his response was "Yes, we know Angie Murphy very well, and we just love the involvement that we have from First English Lutheran Church! Wow, isn't it great to be so appreciated? Lets all keep up the great work!

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 and Music Committee

Please refer to the Great Triduum full page in the front part of the Visitor. It refers to all of Holy Week, dates and times of worship. Everyone is welcome as we prepare for Our Lord's crucifixion and resurrection.

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 April 11, 2022 meeting will be at the home of Debbi Suzuki 1188 Charwood Rd.We will be doing session #8. 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.

Funeral meals, when necessary, will be provided.

APRIL: Squad D: Pat Heichel, Lana Conry, Linda Hughes, Mary Schwartz

LUTHER FELLOWSHIP

Our next Luther Fellowship, on the third Monday of the month, April 18, 2022 and tentative plans are to take in a movie. The time will be announced. It is great to gather together and visit where there is so much love!

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

Global Mission

Below is the transcript of Chris' temple talk sharing about our missionaries the Krafts:

I'm here this morning as the Global Missions' leader to remind all of you here and at home that the Lenten offerings this year are being sent to Nick and Shannon Kraft, our missionaries in Peru and Bolivia. They are part of the Go Missions International. Their motto is "Love and Serve" and that's what they have been doing for the past 24 years!



They have made a considerable impact in making disciples for our Lord during that time. One of their main ways in making disciples for Jesus, especially interested young people, is a workshop known as CORE, an 8 week school of discipleship and missions. They also started IMMERSE which is a camp where those interested learn to speak English. Over the years they have added counseling for abused women and hurting families, Praise and Worship, and a program called KIDS (where little ones learn about Jesus).

In 2021, knowing the great need for providing adequate room for these activities, and providing adequate space for others to rent space for their own retreats, camps, fasting, conferences or receptions, Nick and Shannon donated \$30,000 of their own savings to have a special building erected for this purpose.

Unfortunately, only the basics of the first floor of this building were completed. All sorts of problems befell them in accomplishing this goal completely. First of all, Nick Kraft, one of the main construction helpers, became ill and was diagnosed with ulcerative colitis. Nevertheless, he continued to work but at a much slower pace. Then, of course, Covid struck and the government declared a total lockdown. This canceled all of their planned mission programs and trips. They were barely allowed to even leave their home. Next their car broke down and the mechanic told them it would be wiser to buy another car than pay for the repairs it would take to fix this one.

On top of all these setbacks, their 4 children are now grown. In the spring of 2021 added expenses for one in college, one going to college in the fall, one in the armed forces and a daughter who just finished her theses in February loomed before them. Financial crises overwhelmed them. Right now their monthly expenses total \$5,174 per month. Their monthly income is \$3000 + \$400 work. That puts them in the hole \$1774 every month! Despite these financial burdens, they have never given up hope that God will provide. So far in 2022 that is slowly happening. Because the Covid restrictions have lessened, they were able to organize a CORE group and retreats paid by others using the facility are happening every weekend, which is helping to supplement the Krafts for meals. This, of course, is not nearly enough.

I'm praying that the Lord will open all of our hearts to give generously to this couple who have practically given their entire lives to bring others to Christ regardless of the hardships.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Cichanowicz

Global Mission Chairperson

PUB THEOLOGY

The April meeting is set for April 12, 2022 for Pub Theology. Discussions have been meaningful and lively! Please consider joining us.

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 possibility 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 Ellis and Andy Kershaw

Becky's Views.....

The worship and tech teams are personally so excited to welcome Samuel Bennett Berry into this world!! We certainly have all missed Scott and the magnificent sound of his organ playing, but we are very happy that he, Ashley and Samuel have gotten to spend several weeks together as a new family. Scott will be back with us on Sunday, March 20th!



You have two opportunities to hear our bell choir play this month! Our group of 10 will be providing special music during the March 27th 10:00 worship service and during the March of Prayer service on Thursday, March 31st.

The ELC kids and I are busy learning many songs about Jesus. We can't wait to sing all of them for you on Sunday, April 3rd during the 10:00 worship! You don't want to miss it. Jesus LOVES the little children!!

Thank you for your grace and understanding as we try to figure out why our screens are occasionally "glitching" during worship. Technology is great! (When it works) We appreciate your patience.

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 April we will offer communion on Wednesday, April 20, 2022

MEMORIALS

none this month



Jo Wirstrom

March 14, 2022

Richard Hughes

March 5, 2022

(Ruth Hughes's son)

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

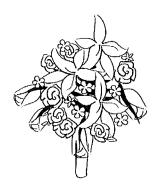
FREE PRODUCE AND SENIOR FOOD BOXES......

Hurray for April! We begin our Free Produce Distribution on the second Tuesday, April 12, 2022. We can always use some more volunteers for our DRIVE THROUGH PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION. THIS WILL BE OUR SIXTH YEAR! We do this April through November. However, Senior Boxes will be available year round, once every month on the fourth Tuesday.

April Senior Boxes will be available on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM.

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



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.

May 22, 2022

June 19, 2022

June 26, 2022

July 03, 2022

July 10, 2022

July 17, 2022

Good News!

NALC DISASTER RESPONSE

When Disaster Strikes: How NALC Congregations Can Help

What should NALC pastors or congregation leaders do when a natural disaster, such as flooding, tornadoes, and fires, strikes in their community or in an area where the congregation is able to or desires to provide assistance?

Since the NALC is a small church with widespread congregations, it is important that you contact us as quickly as possible when a disaster occurs in your area.

First and foremost, if the disaster is close by, make sure you are safe.

Next, contact the NALC Disaster Response Coordinator, Mary Bates (740-509-1132; disasterresponse@thenalc.org) as quickly as possible so the prayer power of the NALC can be unleashed. Be sure to also contact your Mission District to see if your local NALC Disaster Response Team can provide assistance.

NALC Disaster Response has resources and capabilities to assist in early response and longer term recovery. We can open the gates to material resources, networking, counseling, training, and volunteers.

Remember, the key is early communication! The sooner we learn of a disaster in your area, the more quickly NALC Disaster Response can respond to the needs of your community.

There is a DONATE button on their section of the NALC website to expedite your giving of funds.

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.

NALC Disaster Response for Ukraine

Several of our members have asked what we might be able to do for the people of Ukraine. Donations can come through the church <u>during the month of April</u>, or you can donate directly on the website listed below. Please refer to this post:

The Council of FELC has approved the collection of support donations for the people of Ukraine. This collection, of course, is totally up to whatever is on your heart. NALC Disaster Response will accept the donations and then forward to SON.org. The actual website is:

which reaches out to orphans far and wide often overseas. (It stands for Spiritual Orphans Network.) PLEASE CLEARLY MARK YOUR NAME AND PURPOSE OF DONATION ON THE ENVELOPE.

April 2022 Volunteers Wine West: Jodi Mumaw Wine East: Gregg Thatcher Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship (Nave) Intinction: Sandie Volz **ACOLYTES GREETER** April Hayden Skropits Jane Mako April Max Weeks 10: **LAY READERS** April 17: Lydia McFadden April 3: Sandie Volz 24: Hayden Skropits April April 10: Tricia Volz April 14: ALTAR WORKERS April 15: Scott and Jodi Mumaw April 16: **ASSISTING MINISTERS** April 17: Jan Fisher Chris Kaschube April 24: Angie Kaschube **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS** USHERS **NAVE** Personnel Greg Hughes and Pat Smith **COMMUNION PREPARERS** Lana Conry Mike & Jane Anderson April 3: **PASTORS' PRAYER PARTNERS** April 10: Chris & Kathy Hoecker Chris Cichanowicz Lowell Weeks (Palm Sunday) Mary Schwartz Jan Fisher April 14: Sandie Volz & Lana Conry PEW PAD GLEANERS (Maundy Thursday) April 3: Cindy Hill April 16: Charles & Myra Cordrey 10: Brenda Eyerly April (Easter Vigil) 14: Stacey Crall April April 17: Ted & Karen Ellis 15: Jodi Mumaw April (Easter Sunday) 16: Linda Hughes April **COMMUNION SERVERS** April 17: Liz Sprang April 24: Lana Conry April 3: Stacey Crall **PROPRESENTER** Wine West: April 3: Teri Brenkus Wine East: Gary Simmons April 10: Isaac McFadden Intinction: Jane Sprang April 14: Cindy Russell April 10: April 15: Peyton McFadden (Palm Sunday) April 16: Isaac McFadden Wine West: Pat Heichel April 17: Cindy Russell Wine East: Linda Hughes April 24: Allison Weeks Intinction: Jane Mako **SLING STUDIO** April 14: April 3: Suzanne Rippel (Maundy Thursday) 10: Tom Sarbach April Wine West: Jan Fisher April 14: Todd Heichel Wine East: Chris Cichanowicz April 15: Todd Heichel Intinction: Lu Blankenship 16: Todd Heichel April April 16: April 17: Todd Heichel (Easter Vigil) April 24: Suzanne Rippel Wine West: Gary Lane SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST Wine East: Anita Nehrkorn 3: Linda Hughes April Intinction: Alicia Schulz April Suzanne Rippel April 17:

April

April

(Easter Sunday)

(Easter, no Sunday School)

24: Katie Garn

Prayer Requests

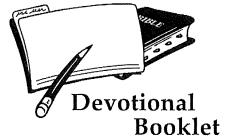
To be put on the printed prayer listing: If you would like the church family to know of your joy or concern, please notify the pastors or call Angie Cockrell (419.522.0662) in the church office to be added to the list. Please call again when it is appropriate to have that prayer request deleted.



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 **April** 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!

NALC.org offers a great devotional option. "The NALC.org" 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 **YouTube** to view past sermons.

And please check out our new FELC mobile friendly website!

<u>felc-mansfield.org</u> 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 <u>acockrell@felc-mansfield.org</u> 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 MGoddard@felc-mansfield.org

MAY Visitor Newsletter Deadline: TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022 Assembled and mailed: THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022.

PLEASE EMAIL ALL ARTICLES TO: <u>newslettereditor53@yahoo.com</u> 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 sberry@felc-mansfield.org Scott Berry Becky Pittman bpittman@felc-mansfield.org Angela Murphy cds@felc-mansfield.org Nicole Goddard ngoddard@felc-mansfield.org Angie Cockrell acockrell@felc-mansfield.org Church Office office@felc-mansfield.org newslettereditor53@yahoo.com Jan Fisher, Editor

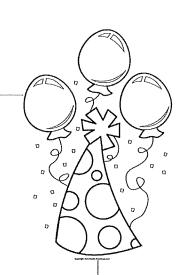
Jan Fisher, Editor <u>newslettereditor53@yahoo.com</u>
Andy Kershaw <u>propman@felc-mansfield.org</u>

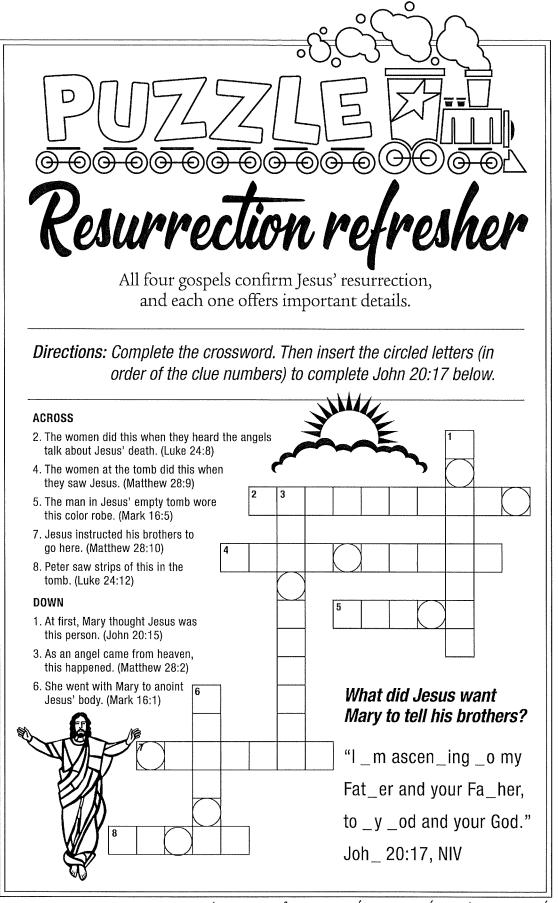
Visit our web site at: www.felc-mansfield.org
Find us on Facebook at First English Lutheran Church.

Emergency cell phone number if the pastor cannot be contacted at church: 217-778-8017 Pastor Timothy Hubert

APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

James Murphy	1120 Laver Rd Mansfield OH 44905	April 2
David Williams	855 Vanderbilt Dr. Lexington OH 44904	April 3
Rachel Shupp	744 Pulver List Rd Mansfield OH 44905-2547	April 4
Clarence Lauthers	35 Woodside Blvd Lexington OH 44904	April 5
Brad Wolfe	236 Bowland Ave. Mansfield OH 44907	April 5
Richard Prater	1478 Brookpark Dr Mansfield OH 44906-3504	April 6
Norma Jean Cushing	322 Boston Ave Mansfield OH 44906-1951	April 8
Shirley Shupp	1128 Crestwood Dr Mansfield OH 44905	April 8
Louise Dickson	455 Logan Rd # 35 Mansfield OH 44903-2103	April 16
Virginia Shasky	3440 Stein Rd Shelby OH 44875	April 19
Malachi McFadden	1190 Timbercliff Dr Mansfield OH 44907	April 19
Judy Gleason	400 Davis Rd Mansfield OH 44907-1122	April 21
Gabriel McFadden	1190 Timbercliff Dr Mansfield OH 44907	April 23
Glen McLaughlin	P O Box 1767 Mansfield OH 44901-1767	April 24
David Carew	1080 Briarwood Rd Mansfield OH 44907-2310	April 27
Marilyn Calver	360 Westgate Dr Mansfield OH 44906-2953	April 28
Grady William Heichel	4222 State Route 42 S Lexington OH 44904	April 29
Jean Worley	2673 Lexington Ave Mansfield OH 44904-1425	April 30





Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen; DOWN 1. gardener, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, MIV

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APRIL 2022 VISITOR