

# THE VISITOR



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

Volume 64

SEPTEMBER 2022

Number 9

*"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](http://www.felc-mansfield.org), Early Learning Center phone: 419/522-7500.

**CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. Dr. Miguel Acosta  
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  
Faith Williams, 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>Teri Brenkus</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>Misty Grove</i>	Stewardship <i>Sandra Volz</i>
Christian Education <i>open</i>	
Worship <i>Cindy Russell</i>	
Congregational Life <i>Cindy Hill</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>	

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

The church office hours are changing! The new hours will be as follows:

Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

If you any questions about these changes, please contact Faith Williams at the church office. (419)-522-0662 or at [parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org)



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 Miguel.....**

*For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.” But you were unwilling... Isaiah 30:15 (ESV)*

“I can’t just sit still; I have to be doing something!” Do you know any people like that? I feel like there was a time where I did a better job of kicking back and relaxing. These days, it just seems harder. Everywhere I look, there’s a task to do, an appointment to remember, an email to respond to, a mess to clean up. I can feel guilty sitting down and doing... nothing. Can you relate? Mentally, we have a hard time receiving the rest that God would grant us, too. Even when we do slow down, do we do so with any intentionality? Or do we give ourselves immediately to distraction? When we hear of news that would distress us, news of evil and tragedy in our world or of difficulty for someone we love, do we jump on the hamster wheel of anxiety and worry? Or are we able to rest as we entrust the situation or the loved one to God’s care in prayer? The context of our verse above from Isaiah 30 was a stressful moment in Judah’s history. The northern kingdom of Israel had fallen to the mighty Assyrian empire, and now the Assyrians had fixed their sights on Jerusalem. Time to worry? Time to panic? Time to scramble and make alliances with Egypt or other nations? God had a different solution. Return to Me. Rest. Quiet your soul. Trust in me. Judah would not do this perfectly. Many would fail. Thankfully, God would grant them at just the right time a faithful king, Hezekiah, who would take this message seriously and turn to God. And God would provide Judah miraculous rescue from the Assyrians around the year 700 BC. In these last weeks of summer, I pray that you will have some moments to rest, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. If you don’t feel like you have those moments, I pray that God would grant you the courage to create them, to set aside the “urgent” to rest and find renewal in Him, in His Word. Is there something in your life agitating and troubling you? Don’t just do something – pray! And as you do, take comfort in these words from Isaiah 30:18: “For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.”

Christ’s peace and joy,

**Pastor Miguel**

## **Pastor Miguel's Bible Study**

### **Adventuring Through the Bible**

This is a study that will take us through the Bible in one year. (It is not the same as the Daily Walk Bible.) It will teach us more about our relationships with God. It will teach us about human relationships. It will teach us about family relationships by relating biblical stories to today's world. It will help us build our spiritual relationships with Our Lord. It is about a life pattern that is as old as ancient times and as new as our lives today!

Please consider extending your Christian education by setting aside this time for study. It will be well worth your dedication. Come and join the rest of us on Tuesdays from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM in the Emmaus Room.

We begin on Tuesday, September 6, 2022. Material will be provided.



### **NALC Convocation, August 5, 2022**

The NALC Annual Convocation for 2022 was held via Facebook and Zoom. This is the new reality as we voted one year ago to hold live in-house convocations every other year; a financial decision. Heather and Chad McFadden were our church's delegates this year. There will be a summary report given soon. Thank you to Heather and Chad for representing our church.

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

Tuesday, August 16, 2022- 7:00 PM

***DRAFT COPY- Updated August 17, 4:03 PM***

***Present: Misty Grove, Sandie Volz, Chris Cichanowicz, Gary Lane, Jan Fisher, Ted Ellis, Christopher Kaschube, Cindy Russell, Pastor Miguel Acosta, Lu Blankenship, Teri Brenkus***

Absent: Rob Skropits, Chad McFadden, Mike Anderson

The meeting was called to order by Christopher Kaschube at 7:02 PM.

Devotion and Prayer by Sandie Volz.

***Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:***

Presented the FELC Church Council minutes from July 2022 for approval. **MOTION** (Sandie/Gary) to approve the minutes. **MOTION APPROVED.**

***Executive Committee:***

Church Council President Rob Skropits and Vice President Chad McFadden will be absent from the August 16 Church Council Meeting. The Executive Committee appointed Church Council Secretary Christopher Kaschube to Chair the meeting.

The Executive Committee approved parish secretary Faith Williams changing from a four (4) day work week to a five (5) day work week. Faith will work the same hours per week, but now her work day will end at 2:30 PM. The Executive Committee feels that decisions such as this can be made by the Senior Pastor as the Head of Staff, as long as it does not change any contract issues of number of hours or pay per week.

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

***Pastor, Miguel Acosta:***

Plans I have for the Church Council to consider in the future in regards to things I have observed in the first three weeks of my Call at FELC:

- I will continue to learn the operating functions and learn the processes of the FELC and the ELC, including Finances of the church and ELC.
- Consider appointing Nicole Goddard manager of financial operations.
-

- Youth group will begin September 18. I will collaborate with the Youth leadership team to facilitate new opportunities for our youth.
- After meeting with the Worship Committee, begin to gradually introduce new items to the worship service, such as having open prayer requests once a month from the congregation during the service.
- Hire a Youth leader, at least part time.
- Provide members and volunteers with opportunities and workshops to help learn why we are Lutheran, and do what we can do for the growth of the church.
- Collaborate with committees for opportunities outside the church to reach potential new members.
- Increase our presence on social media platforms
- Collaborate with other local ministers
- Look for ways and potential to utilize our retreat center
  - Youth programs
  - Summer camps
  - Spiritual retreats
  - Potential source of income

Propose a joint meeting of all Committees and their members to form a priority list of items we should tackle first.

Pastor received a letter of welcome from Mansfield Mayor Theaker.

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

I sent this out to my faithful volunteers, which amounted to 25 this month: A big THANK YOU to all of you for serving yesterday! We served 164 guests as a GREAT team! That means that 367 people received some great healthy produce! I also want the adults to tell their young ones who helped that I am grateful for their willingness to serve. It is wonderful that everyone just steps in and gets to work on the tasks at hand! Thank you again and again. It's an awesome God that we serve! In spite of a really drizzly day, we did super mission work!

Senior Boxes continue to grow in guests and need. We gave out 51 in July. It is awesome having Pastor Miguel circulating around the narthex on Sunday morning greeting as many people as possible! Thank you, Pastor! He has already begun to post a daily devotional on our FELC Facebook page, and has plans for a podcast, and weekly Bible Study. That is what I consider “internal” evangelism, caring for God’s people within.

### ***Jan Fisher, Women's Ministry:***

On Monday, August 8th the ladies of Women's Bible Study met for lunch at the home of Jan Fisher. We discussed options for our next Bible Study and decided on the study entitled "Seamless" written by Angie Smith. We will be placing an order for the books very soon after we get ladies signed up. We will begin on the second Monday of September at 1:00 PM in members' homes.

Luther Fellowship met on Monday, August 15 at 11:30 AM in the Emmaus Room for a time of fellowship with Pastor Miguel. After we all chatted we enjoyed pizza for lunch. This group is great and they really enjoy being with each other!

Women's Ministry **RECOMMENDS** holding a bake sale fundraiser after worship on Sunday, November 13. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

### ***Social Ministry, Gary Lane:***

The Social Ministry Committee has greatly expanded its duties since the formation of a six member committee this year.

- Wednesday Noon Lunch is served on the first and third Wednesday of each month.
  - The August 3rd event had approximately 30 people attend. The second one is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17.
- The Elijah House meal is scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month. The meal delivery for July was canceled due to illness. However, in August, meals were delivered by Alicia Schulz to 13 current residents.
- Vacation Bible School was held August 2, 3, & 4 at FELC. There were 25 in attendance from Holy Trinity, Kingdom Grace Fellowship and FELC. We are continuing to offer joint service functions in the future.
- Pub Ministry at the Black Dog Tavern was held August 9. It was well attended by 15 and the topic was gun control. All remained Christian friends after the discussion.
- We are continuing to collect items for distribution in plastic containers at the Narthex. This month we are asking for soap.

The Social Ministry Committee **RECOMMENDS** that FELC participate in the CROP Walk again this year. The date is Sunday, October 2, 2022. There will be sign-ups, and contributions can be made via personal checks and online donations. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

The Social Ministry Committee **RECOMMENDS** that FELC hold a Fall Festival in our west parking lots on Sunday, October 9, 2022, 1:00 to 3:00 PM. We plan to partner with Holy Trinity and Kingdom Grace Fellowship in this community endeavor. There may be a few expenses involved, but we plan to apply for Thrivent Action Team card for basics. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**



***Personnel Committee, Teri Brenkus:***

I interviewed Michelle Couch for the assistant director position and found her very capable of the duties she has already been performing for a long time. The Personnel/Finance Committees **RECOMMEND** approval of Michelle Couch as the Assistant Director of the FELC Early Learning Center with appropriate compensation. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

We had an incident at the ELC which involved a teacher leaving a bruise on a child. Angie reacted instantly and appropriately by contacting Children Services, law enforcement and the State about the incident. She also blocked the teacher (who worked here for 2 1/2 months) from entering the building by deleting her access code.

Now I will work on verifying who on the committee is still interested in serving and set a monthly personnel meeting. Stay tuned for that info. Once active members have been confirmed we will meet with the staff and start revamping the personnel handbook. After reviewing the website about who else serves on council (to familiarize myself), I noticed that there is no contact information or listing online for our members. Can we add that under the leaders and worship tab? I feel communication is certainly key and they need to know how to contact us with their concerns.

***Stewardship Committee, Sandie Volz:*** No Report

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

The committee decided to continue kneeling at the rail for communion (for those that are able) and stay there until Pastor Miguel or the Assisting Minister have given a blessing to the entire table.

Pastor Miguel would like to start a sermon series in September. Committee agreed.

The Safety Team recently walked through the church to familiarize themselves with the layout and location of various things such as current locations of Sunday School rooms.

Attendance and Facebook Views for July:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>FB Views</u>
3rd	100	152
10th	104	151
17th	99	118
24th	98	241
31st	91	184

### ***ELC Committee, Misty Grove:***

This month at the ELC we have had some staff changes. One staff member was hired on July 11th, and the same staff member was let go on August 11th. Caylynn Penney was hired on August 15th, and she will start September 1st. She is enrolled at Ohio State and is majoring in Early Childhood Learning. The 3rd floor preschool currently has 25 children, the transition room has 11 children, The infant room has 6 infants and there are 10 school aged children.

The ELC will be closed on Sept 2nd for teacher in-service, and the 1st day of preschool is Sept 6th.

We have closed our summer time grant through the Richland County Foundation. Our garden turned out great and the children are really enjoying it.

The ELC staff is having their first meeting with Pastor Miguel and Misty Grove on August 16th at 5pm. Pastor Miguel will have a light breakfast with the ELC staff on 1 Monday every month. Becky, Mrs. Chris and Angie will cover kids for that.

From Becky Pittman-

The ELC school-age kids blessed the residents at Wedgewood Estates with beautiful singing last month! A "win-win" for both the children and those listening. I plan to keep singing and interacting with our school-age kids in the fall that will be attending the daycare at the end of each school day.

VBS was a success! 9 ELC children attended. (We averaged 25 kids/night)

I had the pleasure of chaperoning an ELC field trip in August! We went to the Olentangy Caverns. It gave me the opportunity to get to know some of the children better in a smaller setting.

I am looking forward to having small group music regularly again in the fall up in the 3rd floor music room. We will have large group music outside on the front steps as long as the weather allows!!

### ***Global Missions Committee, Chris Cichanowicz:***

#### **The Far Side:**

- Islander believer Mark is doing intensive comprehension testing with Brian and Barb this week -- reading the translated draft of the book of MATTHEW and hoping it will soon be ready to share.
- They begin leading a once a week 2 1/2 hour online 7 week training called "Multiplying Hope".
- Barb has been comprehending test reading through ROMANS with a new Island friend. It's going well!
- They hope to spend October, November and December in Sri Lanka

**Malawi:**

- Reminder of the MOCP fundraiser on Saturday, August 27 during the Mansfield Cruise-In, from 12-8 P.M. Please let Jan Fisher or me know if you can help .
- Average number of children being fed in Malawi 6 days a week is 900.
- All businesses we help with are doing well.
- The July team brought the orphans clothes and shoes as well as sports' equipment.
- Construction of the maize mill building has started.

**Peru:**

- The Immersive English Camp has completed its sessions. It proved that learning English can be fun as well as educational! Shannon has placed lots of photos on Facebook.

***Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:*****GOF Recap:**

2021 Carryover	\$113,321.20
Gen Op Fund to Women of FELC Fund	(\$1,000.00)
ELC Grant Fund to GOF	\$4,600.00
FELC Memorial Fund to GOF	\$7,000.00
WFELC Fund to GOF (Easter Flowers)	\$20.00
Gen Endow Fund to Gen Op Fund	\$0.00
Maj Cap Imp Endowment Fund to GOF	\$0.00
New Min & Miss Endowment Fund to GOF	\$0.00
RGH II Campaign Funds to Gen Op Fund for loan pymt	\$5,360.52
2022 YTD Income	\$378,603.48
2022 YTD Expenses	\$438,952.82
GOF Balance as of 7-31-2022	\$68,952.38
GOF Balance as of 8-9-2022	\$39,346.17

***Financial Review Report from the accountant:***

- Checking Account Register and Check Disbursements:
  - During the month that was reviewed (July 2021), the ELC had a checking account that was not tied to the general ledger. This account is no longer maintained and recommendation would have been to close it. It was also noted that there were some ELC disbursements that did not have adequate receipts.
- Credit Card Transactions
  - Recommend more detail on expenditures.
- Bank Reconciliation and Investment Accounts
  - Okay
- Income and Deposits
  - ELC does not maintain an account statement by parent and child for state payments. They do it for private payments. It would be advisable to maintain a payment ledger system by child for both private payments and state payments.

- The accountant recommended that all expenditure requests (check requests) be as specific and detailed as possible so that the expense is properly recorded. Abbreviations and shortcuts should be avoided.
- It was also recommended that the pass-through fund be used for only one fund drive at a time.

The Finance Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the ELC follows the accountant's recommendation to maintain a payment ledger system by child for both private payments and state payments. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

The Finance Committee **RECOMMENDS** that we only do special offerings that are planned well in advance so that special envelopes can be included in the mailings with the regular offering envelopes. These might be just quarterly and would not include those benevolence recipients included in the church budget. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

- Note: Otherwise, members can give as they choose to whom they choose without involving the church office.

#### **Grant detail for upcoming congregational meeting:**

Total Grant Amount	\$193,000		
Reserved for ELC Staff bonuses (retention, sign-on, referral)	-\$25,000		
Balance applied to ELC Payroll, freeing up funds for projects	\$168,000		
		<u>ELC 70%</u>	<u>FELC 30%</u>
Elevator Replacement	\$120,000	\$84,000.00	\$36,000.00
A/C Replacement for Third Floor	\$56,000	\$39,200.00	\$16,800.00
A/C Replacement for Reception Area & Pastor's Office	\$8,000	\$5,600.00	\$2,400.00
Totals		\$128,800.00	\$55,200.00

The grant funds should be received within the next few weeks.

Nicole will do a draw from the General Endowment Fund within two weeks and the Benevolence for the second quarter will be paid. (About \$7,000 total)

Discussion regarding cash-only field trips resulted in a decision by Finance that field trips will be done only with a credit card. Dealing in cash is just too cumbersome for the office and for the teacher who takes the cash on the field trip. It may mean there will be some places the ELC won't be able to take the kids to, but handling cash is problematic.

We have received and paid for the second invoice on the stained-glass windows \$16,736.41

The pump for the boiler is being installed this week for a total cost of \$7,280.00.

All Pro Elevator needs a deposit of around \$46,800 to start ordering the parts. Andy will go ahead and return the signed contract. Then a check will be sent after the grant money is received.

The playground has been reseeded; and, with that invoice, the playground fund will be almost totally spent.

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

The Property Committee met on August 1, 2022. Andy informed us of the ELC receiving the grant from the Government and how graciously they are going to share it with the Congregation. The first item to address would be repairing the Elevator as its importance to the ELC is critical. The second issue that will be addressed will be installing a new air conditioner for the Third Floor. These actions will be taken immediately upon approval from the Congregational Meeting. Andy also reported Lind Signs notified him the newly planted trees for the parking lot are in violation of the agreement we signed with them for the billboards on our parking lot. Per the agreement, no trees are allowed in front of the signs that would block the view of the billboards. Andy informed the City of the situation and they are pushing back as it is their effort and money. Andy assured us he will stick with the situation until it can be resolved. Andy also informed us he has reached an agreement with Thompson Asphalt to coat and seal and restripe the Main Parking Lot.

***Youth Committee, Ted Ellis:*** No Report

***Old Business:*** None

***New Business:*** None

Notes:

Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 28 following worship.

All Council members must have the BCI/FBI background check complete as soon as possible

September Coffee Fellowship and Council Devotion: Evangelism Committee

September Council Meeting is Tuesday, September 20th, 7:00 PM

**MOTION** (Teri/Misty) to adjourn the meeting at 8:36PM. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Christopher J. Kaschube*

*FELC Church Council Secretary*

## Thoughts from Finance and Stewardship.....

It's back-to-school time and heading into fall. Yikes! That means it's time for Stewardship and Finance to start planning for a stewardship campaign and next year's budget.

Finance will be asking each committee to come up with its **needs** and **wants** for 2023. Rather than just getting a dollar figure from each committee, we will ask the committees to think about what they **need** funds for and what they **would like to have funds for** if funds were available.

We are going to ask each committee chair to think in terms of programs and meet with the Finance Chair and Nicole (the church financial secretary) to come up with their **necessary** budget and their **"if it's possible"** budget. The budget process will begin mid to late September.

Most of you know that the offerings don't bring in enough money to meet current operating expenses. We rely heavily on our endowment funds to meet these expenses. It is the goal of Stewardship and Finance to meet current expenses with offerings and set endowment monies aside for major projects. (Due to the age of our facilities, we have lots of major projects.)

Also, Stewardship and Finance are working together to focus on a few worthwhile special offering collections in 2023 and cut down on the number of such collections. Our pastor explains it this way: Cutting one's cloak into two pieces to warm another person and oneself makes a difference. Cutting one's cloak into 20 pieces ends up not making a difference for anyone.

**HEBREWS 6:10** - *"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them."*

*Continually serving others is a form of expressing our faith in and to God. When we start to grow weary in our serving, we can be reenergized in our commitment by knowing that he sees us and he will not forget.*

As always, your questions and concerns are appreciated.

In Christ's Service,  
**Lu Blankenship, Finance Chair (419-564-1469)**



Come join us for a day of

Food 🎃 Games 🎃 Fun 🎃 Friends



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# OCTOBER 9TH



1 PM – 3 PM



First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Ave West (Mulberry Side)

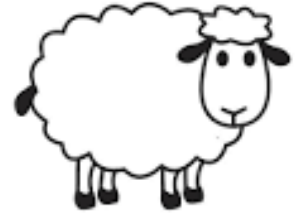
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**POPCORN**

**FOOD**

**TREATS**

**PUMPKIN PAINTING**



## Within the Fold

**There were \$20.00 in Wednesday  
Noon Lunch envelope donations in August.**

Kroger Rewards for Malawi from May 1, 2022-July 31, 2022

49 Households \$223.52

**A FRIENDLY REMINDER THAT IF YOU HAVEN'T REGISTERED WITH KROGERS FOR THEIR REWARDS PROGRAM, PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPTION. IT CERTAINLY HELPS US SUPPORT THE FEEDING PROGRAM FOR MALAWI. YOU CAN GET INSTRUCTIONS ON KROGER'S WEBSITE.**

**Natalie Dudte**, great granddaughter of Shirley Shupp, is leaving for Taiwan on August 23, 2022. Please keep Natalie in your prayers as she does the Lord's work.

VBS for this year is a wrap, and oh what a great job Angie Murphy and Becky Pittman did with all the planning! It turned out to be a wonderful thing joining with Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church! *Thanks so much to each of you for the part you played in helping with food or crafts! We do such great teamwork at FELC!*

Daily devotions, sent by Pastor Miguel, are now being posted on Facebook. Just go to the First English Lutheran Church Facebook page to view them.

Pastor's Weekly Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, September 6 from 1:00 to 2:00 PM, meeting in the Emmaus Room.

On August 4, Pastor Miguel presented an online streaming of future plans. You can go to our FB page and check for that date to view the streaming.



## **Elijah's House Update**

The meal for Elijah's House in August was prepared by Alicia Schulz. Elijah's House is changing mens' lives and there are qualifications to reside there. Pastor Lintern says that over 9 months they have served 34 men. Church attendance on the weekend is a requirement. They do a weekly Bible Study on Tuesdays, so sometimes when we deliver food the study is just getting started.

***Do you have a group that would willingly prepare a nice home cooked meal for these men? Check with Cindy Russell or Becky Pittman for particulars on making the delivery.***

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.

## **Worship and Music Committee**

Please see Cindy's council report

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

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

Our team is planning the **Fall Festival** that will occur on Sunday, October 9, 2022. This is a safe and fun event somewhat to take the place of Trick or Treat. We will have games, music, hot dogs, cocoa, cotton candy, popcorn, and other treats. We will be seeking volunteers to help with food and games

**Gary Lane, Social Ministry Chairperson**

## ***Women's Ministry***



Women's Bible Study met for lunch at Jan Fisher's home and did some brainstorming about their next Bible study. All agreed to get the study entitled "Seamless" written by Angie Smith. It is a study of the old testament. Following that study we will do "Matchless" which is a study of the new testament. Any and all women of the church are encouraged to join us. We meet in members' homes at 1:00 PM on the second Monday of the month. We will meet on Monday, September 12, 2022 to begin our new year, place to be announced.

Funeral meals, when necessary, will be provided.

**SEPTEMBER: Squad C: Anita Nehrkorn, Erna Clark, Alicia Schulz, Sandie Volz**

## **LUTHER FELLOWSHIP**

On Monday, August 15, we invited Pastor Miguel to join us in the Emmaus Room at 11:30 for a "kind of" meet and greet. There were 13 in attendance, so anxious to get to know their new pastor! We enjoyed Donatos pizza and other treats during our time of fellowship. All you 80+ folks, please plan to join us! You are always welcome! In September we will gather at 4:00 PM at the home of Karen and Ted Ellis to enjoy a cook-out on their deck. Bring a dish or dessert to share, meat will be provided. More details later.

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

## **Congo Life**

The pot luck at the end of July was a huge success with delicious enjoyable food, sandwiches, and ice cream sundaes to top off the treats! Attendance was great as we celebrated welcoming Pastor Miguel, Kelly, and Jackie into our fold.

Next pot luck will be at the end of October. Stay tuned for details.

**Cindy Hill**  
**Congregational Life Chairperson**

## **PUB THEOLOGY**

*We will meet on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Black Dog Tavern in Bellville, OH. We will all enjoy each other's fellowship as we relax and share thoughts. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend or two!  
(Topic to be announced.)*

The August gathering at Black Dog Tavern was very interesting. The topic was discussion about the Second Amendment to the Constitution: Gun Control. Thanks to Ted and Andy for researching this interesting topics, which are things we should all be aware of.

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 Miguel 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 perspectives on the topics. Give it a try!

**Ted Ellis and Andy Kershaw**

**Global Mission**



**Go Missions International:**

We would like to share some news from the Krafts, as they have just recently completed their "Immerse Camp" which was an intense way to learn English. This little notation is from someone who really enjoyed the camp!

Immerse camp has been an amazing week. We all laughed, enjoyed and got to know each other that we became into a fantastic family



The campfires, the karaoke night, the morning classes, each one of the meals, the Canadian games, the Canadian, American, South African, Venezuelan, Bolivian and ofc Peruvian people, the cold showers, also each conversation and I could keep going non stop. All has been wonderful and I locked it in the bottom of my heart



Thank you Lord and La casa del alfarero for making this camp possible and encouraging us to improve our everyday English

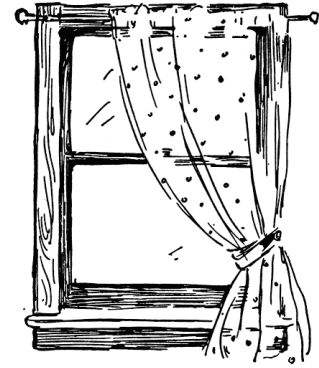
Thank you all



**Chris Cichanowicz**

**Global Mission Chairperson**

## Becky's Views.....



The ELC school-age kids blessed the residents at Wedgewood Estates with beautiful singing last month! A "win-win" for both the children and those listening. In the fall I plan to keep singing and interacting with our school-age kids that will be attending the daycare at the end of each day.

VBS was a SUCCESS!! It was great combining with Holy Trinity and Kingdom Grace. We hope to team up with them again in the future. We averaged 25 kids each evening, and we filled them up with delicious dinners, fun songs about Jesus, and scriptures set to music. THANK YOU to the MANY volunteers that helped out!!! You are greatly appreciated.

Scott and I are both so thankful to have so many outstanding musicians here at FELC! We are blessed nearly every Sunday with special music. If you have a talent you would like to share, please let us know.

I will be on vacation from Wednesday, September 7th through Tuesday, September 13th. Haley is getting married!! We are so excited and blessed to officially welcome Paxson Carbone into our family! Haley will be "Mrs. C" just like her Grandma.

*1 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 AND ARBORS AT MIFFLIN**

**Wedgewood Estates at 2:00 PM and Arbors at Mifflin at 3:30 PM.**

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 Miguel. The residents are always anxious to see their fellow FELC members.

**In September we will offer communion on Wednesday, September 21, 2022.**

If you know of a member who cannot attend church services and would like to have a communion deacon bring communion to him or her at home, please contact Larry Lantz @ 419-756-5506 or call the church office at 419-522-0662.

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## MEMORIALS



### Memorial Donations received

**There were no memorial donations received during the month of August.**



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

Robert Rettig  
Janet Shenberger  
Anita Miller

July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022  
August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022



## **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.

*September 11, 2022*

*September 18, 2022*

*September 25, 2022*

*October 2, 2022*

*October 9, 2022*

*October 16, 2022*

*October 23, 2022*

*October 30, 2022*

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## **Sunday School begins on September 11, 2022**

After the summer hiatus we will begin Sunday School again the second Sunday in September: September 11, 2022. We meet at 9:00 AM until 9:45 AM in various rooms according to children's ages. The room assignments will be announced closer to the start date. We do know that the Junior High and High School age youth will be up in the Penthouse. Please check with Amy Skropits, Sunday School Superintendent for location assignments. Adult Sunday School meets in the Emmaus Room.

## Evangelism for Today's World



Our Produce Distribution on Tuesday, August 9 was a bit damp but also was super successful! We gave away nearly 6000# of fresh produce to 164 guests. There are always new families in need of this produce, and this month we had 37 new families. According to the statistics that I report that means we gave produce out to help sustain 367 people this month. That is a wonderful thing. I'm very grateful to the 25 volunteers who braved the rain! Thank you to them. It is great when some of our grandparents can bring their grands and teach them to get involved in reaching out and serving others! We have had Anderson grands, Eyerly grands, Clark grands, and Suzuki grands! Blessed to be a blessing! Our next produce distribution will be Tues. September 13.

Please see Jan's council report for further evangelism details.

### **SENIOR BOXES OF NON-PERISHABLES. DRIVE THROUGH EVENT.**

We distributed Senior Boxes on Tuesday, August 23 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM on the east side of our building. The stats will come later as we missed the Visitor deadline for reporting August numbers. There is a low income qualifier and many people qualify for this non-perishable food. Please pass the word that it's easy to get registered: bring ID and proof of income. This is important in these days of food insecurity. And many thanks to Pastor Miguel, Larry Faith, Gary Lane, and Larry Lantz for being the guys back in the garage, meeting the people and giving them this non-perishable food!

*Note: Senior Boxes will be available year round, once every month on the fourth Tuesday. Spread the word, 60+ can apply with low income guidelines! You must be a resident of Richland County and low income is a qualifier.*

**September Senior Boxes will be available on Tuesday, September 27, 2022 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 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***



## *September 2022 Volunteers*

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

#### **ACOLYTES**

September 4: TBD  
September 11: TBD  
September 18: TBD  
September 25: TBD

#### **ALTAR WORKERS**

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

#### **ASSISTING MINISTERS**

Alicia Schulz

#### **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS**

Evangelism Committee

#### **COMMUNION PREPARERS**

September 4: Mike & Jane Anderson

#### **COMMUNION SERVERS**

September 4:  
Wine West: Heather McFadden  
Wine East: Lu Blankenship  
Intinction: Alicia Shultz

#### **GREETER**

Erna Clark

#### **LAY READERS**

September 4: Angie Kaschube  
September 11: Lu Blankenship  
September 18: Myra Cordrey  
September 25: Shirley Lane

#### **PASTORS' PRAYER PARTNERS**

Chris Cichanowicz  
Mary Schwartz  
Lowell Weeks  
Jan Fisher

#### **PEW PAD GLEANERS**

September 4: Liz Sprang  
September 11: Cindy Hill  
September 18: Jodi Mumaw  
September 25: Lana Conry

#### **PROPRESENTER**

September 4: Isaac McFadden  
September 11: Teri Brenkus  
September 18: Peyton McFadden  
September 25: Allison Weeks

#### **SLING STUDIO**

September 4: Todd Heichel  
September 11: Todd Heichel  
September 18: Tom Sarbach  
September 25: Suzanne Rippel

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST**

None

#### **SOUND BOARD OPERATORS**

September 4: Ed Farner  
September 11: Ed Farner  
September 18: Ed Farner  
September 25: Ed Farner

#### **USHERS NAVE**

Greg Hughes & Pat Smith  
Lana Conry & Justin Grove

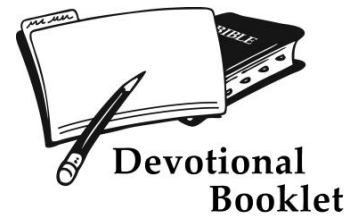
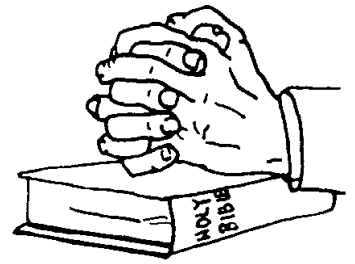
## Prayer Requests

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 Faith Williams (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 **SEPTEMBER** are in the tract racks, so please help yourselves to these booklets. Make daily devotions a necessary part of your “routine.” There are also many good apps available for your iPhone or Android. In today’s busy world, apps are a wonderful digital tool! And don’t forget to check our FELC Facebook page for the daily devotions that Pastor Miguel posts.

NALC.org offers a great devotional option. “TheNALC.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!

[felc-mansfield.org](http://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 Faith Williams at [parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org) or phone  
the church office at 419.522.0662.**

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

**Nicole Goddard, our bookkeeper, may be reached by calling the church office  
at 419-522-0662 or email her at [NGoddard@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:NGoddard@felc-mansfield.org)**

**OCTOBER Visitor Newsletter Deadline: TUESDAY, September 20, 2022  
Assembled and mailed: THURSDAY, September 29, 2022.**

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

### FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH E-MAIL AND WEB SITE

Rev. Miguel Acosta	<a href="mailto:pastor@felc-mansfield.org">pastor@felc-mansfield.org</a>
Scott Berry	<a href="mailto:sberry@felc-mansfield.org">sberry@felc-mansfield.org</a>
Becky Pittman	<a href="mailto:bpittman@felc-mansfield.org">bpittman@felc-mansfield.org</a>
Angela Murphy	<a href="mailto:cds@felc-mansfield.org">cds@felc-mansfield.org</a>
Nicole Goddard	<a href="mailto:ngoddard@felc-mansfield.org">ngoddard@felc-mansfield.org</a>
Faith Williams	<a href="mailto:parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org">parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org</a>
Jan Fisher, Editor	<a href="mailto:newslettereditor53@yahoo.com">newslettereditor53@yahoo.com</a>
Andy Kershaw	<a href="mailto:propman@felc-mansfield.org">propman@felc-mansfield.org</a>

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

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

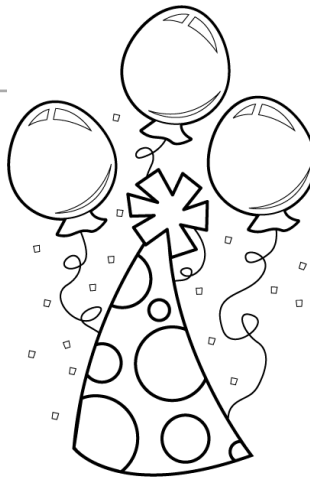
*Emergency cell phone number if the pastor cannot be  
contacted at church:*

**Pastor Miguel Acosta**

**330-265-7329**

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Name (Last, First)	Address Block (current as of today)	Birth Date
Gary Lane	2274 Saratoga Ct Mansfield OH 44904	September 1
Tricia Volz	1550 Graham Rd Mansfield OH 44903-7764	September 5
Thomas Beck	P.O. Box 957 Kelleys Island OH 43438	September 6
Tyler Crall	222 Marlow Rd Mansfield OH 44906	September 9
Andy Kershaw	1972 Chelsea Dr Mansfield OH 44904	September 12
Jane Anderson	1110 Sheirer Rd Mansfield OH 44903-8644	September 15
Kim Williams	855 Vanderbilt Rd Lexington, OH 44904	September 16
Charles Cordrey	7459 Renie Rd Bellville OH 44813	September 20
Sandra Jones	1731 Honeysuckle Dr Mansfield OH 44905	September 22
Thomas Wappner	2269 Bennington Dr Mansfield OH 44904-1673	September 22
Lily Garn	85 Harding Heights Blvd Mansfield OH 44906	September 22
Patricia Heichel	4242 St Rte 42 S Lexington OH 44904	September 25
Hayden Skropits	3399 Oakstone Dr Ontario OH 44903	September 27
Sandra Rader	408 Chapman Ln Lexington OH 44904	September 28
Joy Hunt	422 Chapman Way Lexington OH 44904	September 29



## **CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THEIR DEDICATED EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

**Pastor Miguel Acosta**  
**[pastor@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:pastor@felc-mansfield.org)**

**President: Robert Skropits**  
**[president@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:president@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Vice President: Chad McFadden**  
**[vicepresident@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:vicepresident@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Secretary: Chris Kaschube**  
**[secretary@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:secretary@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Early Learning Center: Misty Grove**  
**[elc@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:elc@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Global Mission & Stephen Ministry:**  
**Chris Cichanowicz**  
**[globalmissions@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:globalmissions@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Finance:**  
**Lu Blankenship**  
**[finance@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:finance@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Evangelism/Witness & Women of FELC: Jan Fisher**  
**[evangelism@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:evangelism@felc-mansfield.org)**

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**[Personnel@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:Personnel@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Worship & Music: Cynthia Russell**  
**[musicworship@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:musicworship@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Property: Mike Anderson**  
**[property@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:property@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Social Ministry: Gary Lane**  
**[social@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:social@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Youth: Ted Ellis**  
**[youth@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:youth@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Stewardship: Sandie Volz**  
**[stewardship@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:stewardship@felc-mansfield.org)**

**Christian Education:**  
**[Christianed@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:Christianed@felc-mansfield.org)**

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