

THE VISITOR



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

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Number 10

"Pointing People to Jesus Through Intentional Relationships"

THE VISITOR is published monthly by First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Ave. West, Mansfield, Ohio 44902-1698. Church office hours: 8:30-4:30 Tuesday-Friday; closed Monday. Church phone: 419/522-0662. FAX: 419/522-0075. Website: www.felc-mansfield.org, Early Learning Center phone: 419/522-7500.

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. 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, Assistant Director Early Learning Center

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*

Personnel *Teri Brenkus*

Vice President *Chad McFadden*

Property *Mike Anderson*

Secretary *Christopher Kaschube*

Social Ministry *Gary Lane*

Early Learning Center *Misty Grove*

Stewardship *Sandra Volz*

Christian Education *open*

Worship *Cindy Russell*

Congregational Life *Cindy Hill*

Youth Ministry *Ted Ellis*

Evangelism *Jan Fisher*

SCS Superintendent *Amy Skropits*

Finance *Lu Blankenship*

Women of FELC *Jan Fisher*

Global Mission *Chris Cichanowicz*

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



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

From the Pastor's desk

For the past several months we have been having an ongoing (guided) conversation at our parish council meetings about church growth, and this past month the theme we highlighted was “Inviting Culture/Personal Invitation/Genuine Community” We act like our culture ... and our culture determines our behavior, our actions. We are inclined to blame external circumstances for many of our current woes, especially the past couple of years. But when we are honest with ourselves, we realize that these are not new “woes” ... we have been trending some of these ways for quite some time. One of those “woes” is growing, developing, maybe even desiring, cohesive communities. Our culture seems to be splintering, not uniting. Apostle Paul reminds us in Ephesians that this is not the culture of the church of Christ. In Ephesians he tells us, “He has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth... so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ.” God’s way is to unite. Not to clone one another nor whitewash our differences, but to bring us together in Christ in community. Therefore, the culture of our church is so vital. And the culture God desires might be counterculture with our culture at large. We don’t want to think this way, but the actions of our world, even our nation, tell us something different. Now there is a lot to say and discuss here, but I’m only going to highlight, and not in depth, one thing here. We want to develop a culture where new guests consistently show up at your church and want to stay. There is nothing more powerful, and effective, than when a person invites a friend to attend our church. When people invite others to your church, good things happen. At the heart of it all, in almost every growing church is this: people inviting their friends. If we don’t invite our friends, don’t expect to grow. This assumes Christians have non-Christian friends we can invite. Shockingly, too many Christians don’t. Often, we cocoon ourselves in a little bubble, distraught over the direction the world is heading and angry at or indifferent toward people who don’t hold our values and beliefs. In the first chapter of the gospel of John (vrs. 35- 51), we have a slew of stories strung together with people, eventual disciples, and the early Christ community, inviting others to follow Jesus. The invitations are simple, direct and are extended to friends ... and effective.

But there is something about their invitation that we sometimes miss and fail to implement. They do not primarily invite their friends into their following (church), nor into their way of believing and understanding, nor to a building or program. They invite one another to meet Jesus. You may not like me, but I know you will like Jesus. I may not be able to do a whole lot

for you, but Jesus can. I am not a savior, but Jesus is. That is the invitation that makes a difference. I'm going to share a story that highlights this point.

There is a story told about a Shakespearean actor who was known everywhere for his one-man shows of readings and recitations from the classics. He would always end his performance with a dramatic reading of Psalm 23. Each night, without exception, as the actor began his recitation - "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want". The crowd would listen attentively. And then, at the conclusion of the Psalm, they would rise in thunderous applause in appreciation of the actor's incredible ability to bring the verse to life. But one night, just before the actor was to offer his customary recital of Psalm 23, a young man from the audience spoke up. "Sir, do you mind if tonight I recite Psalm 23?" The actor was quite taken back by this unusual request, but he allowed the young man to come forward and stand front and center on the stage to recite the Psalm, knowing that the ability of this unskilled youth would be no match for his own talent. With a soft voice, the young man began to recite the words of the Psalm. When he was finished, there was no applause. There was no standing ovation as on other nights. All that could be heard was the sound of weeping. The audience had been so moved by the young man's recitation that every eye was full of tears. Amazed by what he had heard, the actor said to the youth, "I don't understand. I have been performing Psalm 23 for years. I have a lifetime of experience and training - but I have never been able to move an audience as you have tonight. Tell me, what is your secret?" The young man quietly replied, "Well sir, you know the Psalm... I know the Shepherd." That is the difference maker in who we are and in everything we do.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Miguel.

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES & REPORTS

Tuesday, October 18, 2022- 7:00 PM

DRAFT COPY- Updated October 18, 11:22 PM

Present: Chad McFadden, Misty Grove, Sandie Volz, Chris Cichanowicz, Cindy Russell, Jan Fisher, Lu Blankenship, Teri Brenkus, Ted Ellis, Christopher Kaschube, Pastor Miguel Acosta, Scott Berry

Absent: Gary Lane, Rob Skropits, Mike Anderson

The meeting was called to order by Chad McFadden at 7:11 PM.
Devotion and prayer by Chris Cichanowicz.

Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:

Presented the FELC Church Council minutes from September 2022 for approval. MOTION (Cindy/Chris C) to approve the minutes. MOTION APPROVED.

Executive Committee:

Reminder to have background checks completed at the Sheriff's office ASAP- we have two Council members left to have this done.

Reminder to address concerns and questions, big and small, to the appropriate committees and appropriate staff members to avoid confusion and misunderstandings. Please remind your committee members of this as well.

Social Ministry Committee, Gary Lane:

Elijah House- A snack pack meal was delivered for October. Only one person was there to receive it. They are required to go to church and they choose "ARC ", we are reconsidering the intentional part of this ministry for the future. However, we will continue delivery in November and December.

The Crop Walk was very successful. The amount collected so far is \$1,036.

The Fall Festival was held on October 9th and everyone attending had a great time.

New plans for next year are already being considered.

Senior Box Lunch has been a huge success. We gave out 66 boxes last month and ordered 80 for this month.

Towels, toilet paper, and personal hygiene items were delivered to the Domestic Violence Shelter facility here in Mansfield. They were very grateful and we are happy that Thrivent Action Teams helped with a card!

Evangelism Committee, Jan Fisher:

Once every 6 months we check our membership rolls and send out a personal note to those folks who have not been to worship in the previous 6 months, reminding them that we miss them and care about them. Chris Mayglothling has recently joined the Evangelism Committee and she very recently sent out 28 personal notes.

Thanks to all of you dedicated volunteers. October 11 was a milestone! We received 6,444# of produce and we served 227 guests, and there were 72, yes, 72 new families!! Our next closest "top distribution" was 210 sometime in 2021. Everyone please give Angie Murphy a big hug because she does an amazing job of the data entry! (I just get to do the reports once we are all done.) What a rich blessing God has given us! Senior Boxes distributed 67 late in September! It grows every month. In November the Greater Cleveland Food Bank will be adding a 15# box of pre-packaged fresh produce for each person receiving the food box. Gary may have also reported this. I'm grateful for Larry Faith, Gary Lane, Larry Lantz, and Mike Anderson for working back in the garage. Jane Anderson, Angie Murphy, and I handle the east parking lot and registrations. We are blessed to help these folks out with some extra monthly food!

Women's Ministry, Jan Fisher:

As reported before, we will celebrate Women's Thankoffering on Sunday, November 13. The offering is intended to go to Zoe's Learning Center (Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church) on Reba Avenue. Details were in the October Visitor. We will also be holding a bake sale on November 13, which simply helps to support our programs.

Women's Bible Study continues to meet on the second Monday of each month in members' homes. We continue with a study of the old testament entitled "Seamless". We are all enjoying this study and the fellowship that goes along with it.

About every five weeks we send out cards to homebound members. There are just over twenty cards going out at present. It's important to let these members know that they are not forgotten.

Luther Fellowship continues to enjoy gathering for fellowship. On October 18 the group went to Amish Country by bus to enjoy the fall colors. A stop was made for Amish pie and a good cup of coffee!

Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:

General Operating Fund (GOF): includes ELC

September 2022 Income was \$48,549.98

September 2022 Expenses were \$71,121.70

September Income is less than expenses by \$22,571.72

YTD Income is \$486,031.47 which is less than budget by \$3,337.53

YTD Expenses are \$608,301.37 which is less than budget by \$90,262.33

YTD Income is less than YTD Expenses by \$122,269.90

Early Learning Center (ELC):

September 2022 Income was \$30,548.15

September 2022 Expenses were \$32,216.16
September Income is less than expense by \$1,668.01

YTD Income was \$278,284.77 which is less than budget by \$14,315.23
YTD Expense are \$242,141.31 which is less than budget by \$48,864.69
YTD Income is more than expenses by \$36,143.46

*Please note the ELC is also using the ELC Grant Fund for some expense (see fund activity report)

Finance will be meeting with Louis Navellier and Rob Hogsette, our financial advisors, on November 15, probably around 10:00 AM. Any council member who would like to sit in is more than welcome.

At the Finance Committee October meeting, the antiphonal organ project was discussed once again. Because two Committees (Music & Worship and Property) already voted to proceed, Finance wants Scott to present the project to Council so they can vote on whether or not to proceed. Finance is convinced that the project is not something we should be spending money on in the next few years because of the balance still owed on the stained glass windows, the elevator project, and the air conditioning replacements. Added to that is the fact that Andy foresees roofing issues over the next few years. Also, just because of the age of our building, there will undoubtedly be a number of necessary projects surface over the next few years (i.e. restroom renovations). Pastor agreed to talk to Scott about presenting the organ project to the Council. Cindy/Jan makes a MOTION to continue to move forward asking the congregation to approve the Antiphonal Organ Project. MOTION APPROVED (8 Yes, 2 No).

Having been involved in the Dickson Fund disbursement meetings in the past, the Finance Committee RECOMMENDS FELC designate the gift from that fund to Dayspring until amended in the future. Dayspring closely matches the guidelines of the fund which is to provide funds "for the care of indigent and aged persons and the incurable sick" in the greater Mansfield area. The fund has a balance of over \$130,000; and, since we only give away proceeds every year, we should have money to be given to a beneficiary every year. Some of the things Dayspring has purchased with these funds in the past are: 10 lift chairs, handicapped-accessible scale so residents can be weighed in wheelchairs and walkers, mobile vitals monitor, LUCAS device (to provide chest compressions to someone who has stopped breathing). Dayspring is in need of some updates in their lounge areas as well as new dining chairs, so they would use this year's distribution toward those items. RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.

Stewardship Committee, Sandie Volz:

Stewardship has set Sunday November 6th, as Pledge Sunday. We will send letters to the Congregation with a pledge card and letter from the Pastor a week before that. We

also plan to ask members to consider giving time as well as money - one side of the Pledge Card for financial pledge and the other side an offering of time. A Thank You letter/reminder from the Stewardship Chair will be sent to the Congregation in November after Pledge Sunday.

Global Missions Committee, Chris Cichanowicz:

Malawi:

One of the recent MOCP projects is asking us for special 'quarterly covenant prayers' to pray daily for the orphans and others in our world.

From October through November please pray the following: 'Heavenly Father, we ask your blessings on each child that comes to our orphan project. Cover them with your hands of protection while they learn more about you. Grace them with your mercy. Continue to help them grow. In Jesus name. Amen.' (The next set will be given in January's report.)

Anyone interested in a mission trip to Malawi in 2023 must let Pastor Andy know by December 1. His email address is ajones@popstjoe.com. He will answer any questions you may have. More details will be found in the next Visitor.

The Far Side:

On September 29 Brian and Barb left for a three week stay in Sri Lanka before attending a conference with others to give and receive help in translating God's Word into their native people's language. They hope to return to The Far Side in mid-December.

Peru and Bolivia:

It's not too late to be part of the next IMMERSE group with the Krafts. If interested in teaching English to our Spanish friends, please see Chris Cichanowicz before November 1st.

Property Committee, Mike Anderson:

The Property Committee did not meet this month. Andy is still getting quotes on the air conditioner for the 3rd floor. Andy has also turned the budget for next year.

Music & Worship Committee, Cindy Russell:

Congo Life is planning the October Potluck which will be Sunday October 30th following the Worship Service. It will be all about chili.

Women's Thankoffering will be observed Sunday, November 13th. The special offering will go to Zoe's Learning Center.

We will be hosting a Community Thanksgiving Service on Monday evening, November 21st at 7:00. We are partnering with Holy Trinity Lutheran and Kingdom Grace Fellowship. This is part of a week-long series of Community Thanksgiving Services hosted by area churches.

Christmas decorating will be Tuesday, November 22nd after Pastor Miguel's Bible Study (approximately 2:00). All volunteers are welcome!!

Attendance and Facebook Views for September:

	Date	Attendance	Facebook Views
	9/4	81	121

9/11	110	112
9/18	96	142
9/25	98	88

ELC Committee, Misty Grove:

The ELC committee chair met with the ELC Director, Finance Committee Chair, bookkeeper, and Pastor to review and discuss the ELC budget for 2023. The budget was turned into the Finance Committee.

The ELC has approximately 55 children currently. As Becky mentions below we have an amazing mission field with the daycare and it is my goal to work with the Director to increase the number of children and families that we serve. One major hurdle is staffing the day school so that we can increase the attendance. I will be working with Angie more in the upcoming weeks to discuss creative ways to improve our staffing, thus accepting more children from our waitlist! This will allow us to bring more children to our Lord and build more intentional relationships!

Submitted by Becky Pittman:

The ELC kids are busy learning songs for their Thanksgiving program on Thursday, November 17th at 11am. They will sing for their families before we share a feast together in the undercroft.

All families continue to receive a Children's Church invitation the Thursday before the designated Sunday.

The daycare is an FELC mission field! If one family comes to church on a Sunday, then we will thank God for this blessing! We can also bring MANY to Christ Monday through Friday by building intentional relationships with the children, parents and grandparents. Let's send them home at the end of each day filled with the love of God, the light of Christ and the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Important upcoming dates submitted by Angela Murphy:

On October 12th, 7 members of ELC were re-certified in CPR and First Aid.

On the 18th, 7 members of the ELC staff will be re-certified in Child Abuse. This certification renewal is required every 3 years. The remainder of the staff took it at another time and they are not due for renewal.

October 20th is our class trick or treat and party. We are blessed to have many of our downtown businesses pass out candy to us.

October 21st the preschool class will take a trip to Honey Haven Farms.

November 2nd will be our open house/parent teacher conferences from 4:30pm-6pm.

November 3rd Michelle and Angie will take part in a webinar for our new Child Care Management website. We will not sign a contract till after 1st of the year because of year end statements for taxes.

November 17th from 11am-1pm is our family feast for our kids, parents, grandparents etc. We will prepare a wonderful meal for them to enjoy and share fellowship. I have some wonderful church members who have offered to help.

July of 2023 will be the review for our Star 5. This will involve many hours of prepping and lots of paperwork. The ladies from the YWCA will come in and evaluate each class. This will require the teachers, Michelle, Megan (step up coordinator) and Angie to have additional, individual jobs to maintain the rating.

Old Business: none

New Business: Christmas Party Date-Dec 7, 2022 for all Council members, Church Staff, and ELC Staff. Judy Santoro will cater the dinner.

Notes:

November Coffee Fellowship and Council Devotion: Social Ministry
November Council Meeting is Tuesday, November 15th, 7:00 PM

MOTION (Ted/Teri.) to adjourn. MOTION APPROVED.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher J. Kaschube
FELC Church Council Secretary

**HELLO, FRIENDS! HERE'S A QUICK REMINDER THAT THERE ARE A
NUMBER OF CASSEROLE DISHES, TRAYS, AND BAKING PANS DOWN IN
THE UNDERCROFT KITCHEN TO BE PICKED UP BY YOU. YOU CAN FIND
THEM ON THE COUNTER TOP NEAREST THE STEPS.**

Pastor's Weekly Bible Study is held on Tuesday, 1:00 to 2:00 PM, meeting in the Emmaus Room.

From Finance and Stewardship

Dear Fellow Disciples.....

On October 30, your Stewardship Letter, Pledge Card, and Time & Ability Sheet will be available for you to pick up. On Monday, October 31, we will mail your packet to you if it hasn't been picked up.

Then, on November 6 and November 13, there will be a box in the Narthex where you may deposit your Pledge Card and Time & Ability Sheet.

Once a year, we ask you to prayerfully consider, not only how much your offerings will be, but also how you can participate in our ministry. God really asks very little of us in comparison with what he gives us.

It takes a league of folks to prepare for and assist with our worship service. Then, when the worship ends and the service begins, it takes yet more people to do that service. Whether taking care of our church property or serving others in our community, we all need each other; and there is much to do.

Some of the ways we are regularly serving our community are: produce, senior boxes, Elijah's House, Bare Necessities, community partnering, and Wednesday Noon Lunch.

Please review the Time & Ability Sheet and find ways for your family members to serve. Complete your packet with pledges of time and tithes, and bring those to church with you on November 6 or 13. November 6 is All Saints Sunday and November 13 is Thank Offering Sunday; so, rather than making these pledges a part of the service, they will be collected in a box in the Narthex.

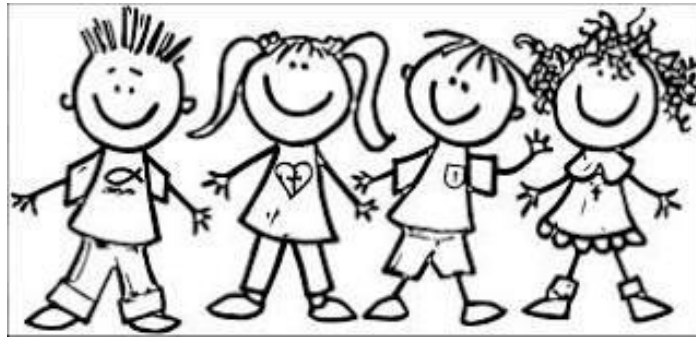
Thank you all for doing your best!

We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. I Thessalonians 1:2-3

Blessings,

Sandie Volz, Stewardship

Lu Blankenship, Finance



ELC

Little People BIG News November

Flashback into October



Our Halloween parties were fun and included downtown trick-or-treating to local businesses who signed up to participate. Our Pre-K students went on a trip to Honey Haven farm!

A Peek into November



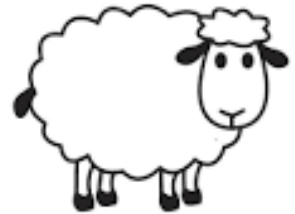
Our conferences will be held on November 2nd from 4:30-6. Parents will be able to discuss their child's progress with teachers. Our Thanksgiving Feast will be held on November 17th. We will welcome our ELC families to enjoy a meal with their children. This will also include a small program with Mrs. Becky. ELC will be closed on November 24th and 25th.

Thank you for your continued to support!

Angie Murphy, Director

Michelle Couch, Assistant Director

Within the Fold



There were no financial donations made during October for Wednesday Noon Lunch support.

90th Birthday Celebration

Please join us as we celebrate the 90th birthday of Jane Sprang on Sunday, December 4, 2022. There will be an open house from 2:00 to 5:00 PM for Jane here at church in the Emmaus Room. Your presence is the only gift needed. Please enter on the east side of the church, via Luther Hall. If you have questions please contact Liz Sprang.

To Women's Ministry Committee,

Thank you very much for the \$100 check that you sent me. It will help pay a bill. Thank you for helping me in my time of need. God Bless You!
Your Friend from church, **Liz Sprang**

The "Garden Gals" want to say thank you to these 7 people who helped with fall cleanup on Sat. October 15: Sandie Volz, Brenda Eyerly, Chris Cichanowicz, Jan Fisher, Lu Blankenship, Dave Carew and Andy Kershaw. We all pulled together and got things shaped up for the winter! Team effort paid off!

Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank everyone for their continued love, support and prayers for my brother, Jim McFarland and our family during his extended illness and passing. I am SO BLESSED to be part of this church family!! My nephew was amazed at the support and love we received from First English Lutheran Church. I don't know what people do without the love of fellow church members and the love of Jesus!!!! Again, thank you to everyone.

In Christ's Love,
Cindy Russell and family

SAVE THIS DATE: NOVEMBER 22, Come help decorate the church following Pastor's Tuesday Bible Study: 2:00 to ? when done.....or whatever fits your schedule. We need your help turn this Godly place to Glory for Advent/Christmas!

Elijah's House Update

Karen and Ted Ellis' small group will be taking a meal to Elijah's House on Tuesday, November 1.

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

All Saints Day, Celebration on November 6

Worship Committee is planning a special recognition on All Saints Day. If you have lost a loved one in the past two years please contact the church office to have your loved one's name added to the list for special recognition.

COMBINED THANKSGIVING SERVICE

We will join with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church in hosting a Thanksgiving service OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY on Monday evening, November 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM. Details to follow. PLEASE SAVE THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR.

Cindy Russell
Worship Committee Chairperson

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Please see Gary's council report.

Gary Lane, Social Ministry Chairperson

Women's Ministry



Women's Thank Offering will be celebrated on Sunday, November 13, 2022

It's always great to celebrate women's ministry, and we are very active here at First English. We will hold a Thank Offering service on Sunday, November 13 as well as holding a bake sale in the Narthex on that date. It has always been a tradition to designate the special offering for that day to a worthy cause. (You may remember that last year we supported Shruti Kulkarni with our offering.) This year we will support Zoe's Learning Center after school program (Kingdom Grace Fellowship, Reba Ave, Mansfield.) They have approximately 20 to 25 elementary school students who come there after school for tutoring, reading, TLC, a hot meal, and a take home snack. These children need a little extra attention which they get at Zoe's Learning Center from Pastor Renea Collins and the other faithful volunteers who assist there. We have been building an intentional relationship with Kingdom Grace Fellowship over the past five years, most recently having them join us for Vacation Bible School in August. They are right here in our City of Mansfield mission field! Please prayerfully consider giving whatever you are able in financial support of this offering. Questions can be directed to Jan Fisher, Women's Team Leader.

Happily I share the many programs and activities of Women's Ministry:

- **Prayer Shawls and Fleece Blankets given for various reasons**
- **Bake sale to benefit our treasury for future programs**
- **Quilts that are given to our High School graduates in May**
- **Daily Bread: meals to a member released from hospital, OR for new baby, or for grief/funeral**
- **Funeral meals when requested by family of deceased**
- **Oversee and plan Luther Fellowship monthly events**
- **Lead a Women's Bible Study monthly**
- **Graduation gift cards in May**

- **Starbucks gift cards to college students and young military as Christmas gift.**
- **Chick-fil-A gift cards sent to college students and young military as Valentines gifts.**
- **Designate a specific offering focus for annual Thank Offering**
- **Cookies/candy to home-bound members at Christmas.**
- **We sponsor sending two Malawian high school students to high school each year.**
- **Pillows and pillow cases as a project for needy kids**

Women's Bible Study continues to meet on the second Monday of each month in members' homes. We continue with a study of the old testament entitled "Seamless". We are all enjoying this study and the fellowship that goes along with it. We encourage any women who are interested in spiritual growth to join us.

Funeral meals, when necessary, will be provided.

NOVEMBER: Squad B: Myra Cordrey, Jan Fisher, Chris Cichanowicz, Beth Harruff

LUTHER FELLOWSHIP

On Monday, October 17 Luther Fellowship took a bus trip to Amish Country to enjoy the beautiful fall colors. Eleven of us enjoyed the day of fellowship! Plus we welcomed our new driver, Darlene Bohland!

Luther Fellowship for November

We will gather in the Emmaus Room at 5:30 pm on Monday, November 21 to enjoy a meal of Kentucky Fried Chicken. Everyone will drop a few dollars in the basket to cover the cost of the meal. Then at 7:00 pm we will go to the sanctuary to be part of the Combined Community Thanksgiving Worship Service. We are combining with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Kingdom Grace Fellowship for this worship service. Give thanks to God for His richest blessings!

PUB THEOLOGY

We will meet on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Old Bag of Nails on Lexington Avenue near Cook Rd. 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 September topic at Old Bag of Nails was a bit deep. Thanks to Pastor Miguel for leading the discussion. Nineteen were present.

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

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE NEXT MISSION TEAM GOING TO MALAWI IN 2013? HERE IS A LETTER FROM PASTOR ANDY JONES GIVING DETAILS OF FORTHCOMING PLANS FOR 2023 MISSION TRIP. IT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

Dear friend of Malawi,

Thank you for expressing interest during the past few years in being a part of a short-term mission trip to Malawi with Malawi Orphan Care Project, Inc. Since beginning our relationship with Kanyenyeva Orphan Care Ministries in 2005, we have organized and led more than a dozen teams on trips to Malawi. The people of Kanenyeva in Malawi are very excited to welcome their American friends every year, and to extend to them their very special

Malawian hospitality from the “Warm Heart of Africa.”

We invite you to join us in praying about your possible involvement in a mission trip to Malawi in 2023 or beyond. Teams can travel at any time during the year, depending upon when the team participants are available for travel. Our partners have shared that May through August is the best time of year for them, which often works well for us. Teams in the past have led VBS type programs and sports camps, discipling for teens, roofed houses, and focused on literacy and education. Our partners continue to express distinct interest in a MEDICAL trip. In what way is God leading you?

Please pray about this opportunity and reply to this email to let us know of your interest by December 1st. After we hear from those who feel called to explore a trip, in early December we will schedule a time for a Zoom conversation to discuss what is involved in a mission trip to Malawi with MOCP, answer questions and explain the discernment process. A commitment to join a team is not needed until early 2023. Please be praying about your involvement until that time!

If you have any questions, please contact us. And please distribute this invitation to anyone else you know who might have an interest!

Thank you and may God bless your journey.

Andy Jones

Mission Trip Coordinator

ajones@popstjoe.com

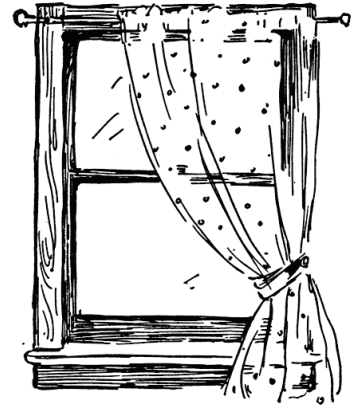
Malawi Orphan Care Project

www.malawiorphancareproject.org

Chris Cichanowicz

Global Mission Chairperson

Becky's Views.....



The bell choir will be ringing again on Sunday, December 11 and on Christmas Eve. Would you like to participate with us?? Just let me know! Rehearsal dates are in the works.

The ELC kids are learning lots of songs about Jesus (and one song about a big fat turkey!) for the Thanksgiving feast on Thursday, November 17. If you would like to help serve food/clean up, please let myself or Angie Murphy know.

Save the date! We are hosting a Thanksgiving service on Monday, November 21 beginning at 7pm. We are excited to be teaming up with Holy Trinity and Kingdom Grace (our VBS partners!) for a night of worship, thanksgiving and praise to our Lord and Savior.

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 NOVEMBER we will offer communion at Wedgewood Estates and Arbors at Mifflin on Wednesday, November 16, 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.



Memorial Donations

There were no memorial donations during October.



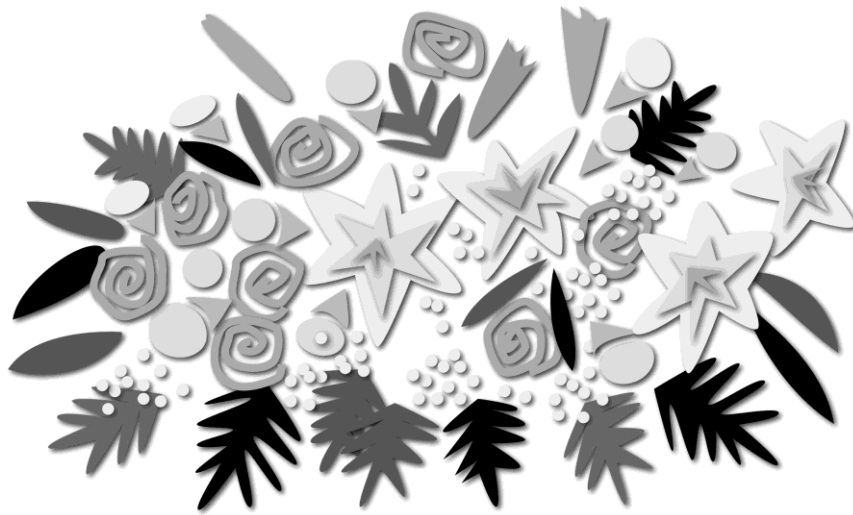
Jim McFarland

October 5, 2022

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



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 Faith Williams 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.

November 6, 2022

November 20, 2022

November 27, 2022

December 11, 2022

December 18, 2022

December 25, 2022

January 1, 2023

January 8, 2023

January 15, 2023

January 22, 2023

January 29, 2023

Evangelism for Today's World



Once every six months we evaluate our current membership lists. Recently a personal note was sent out to members who may not have communed or had a record of giving. It is not our intention to drop anyone from our rolls, so we just like to make contact letting folks know that we care about their activity within the church.

I always love to give you updates on our Free Produce Distribution, and our activity in October was “the top of the mountain” as we had 227 guests and 72 new families. Our very top number for these past six years! It was quite a busy day serving our guests some very nice fresh produce. We serve in November and then we are off until April 2023. After all, who really wants to get frozen out there in December, January, February or March?

NOVEMBER SENIOR BOXES OF NON-PERISHABLES/15# OF PRE-PACKAGED PRODUCE WILL BE ADDED

This mission just continues to grow because of the inflation-related need within our community. As stated above, the November distribution will have produce added and this is wonderful news. It is difficult for us to accurately estimate how many boxes we need, but we use former figures to estimate future figures!

Senior Boxes distributed 89 boxes on October 25, 2022. That's a huge growth record and we actually ran out before we served everyone. There were many new people registering as well. Many thanks to Jane Anderson for being our “traffic” gal! She keeps people cleanly and clearly parked in our east parking lot.

We are excited to be able to serve our community in this manner and our guests are so very thankful. The boxes contain canned vegetables, canned fruit, pasta or rice, dehydrated milk and much more. In addition the people coming get a prepackaged box plus a 2# box of cheese, and in November the 15# box of produce gets added. 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 Larry Faith, Gary Lane, Mike Anderson and Larry Lantz for being the guys back in the garage, meeting the people and giving them this non-perishable food! If you can volunteer to join them please talk to Gary Lane.

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.

November Senior Boxes will be available on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

Jan Fisher, Evangelism Chairperson

November 2022 Volunteers

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

ACOLYTES

November 6: TBD
November 13: TBD
November 20: TBD
November 27:

ALTAR WORKERS

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Chris Hoecker

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Social Ministry Committee

COMMUNION PREPARERS

November 6: Charles & Myra Cordrey
November 20: Ted & Karen Ellis

COMMUNION SERVERS

November 6:
Wine West: Gregg Thatcher
Wine East: Rachelle Zehe
Intinction: Greg Hughes
November 20:
Wine West: Pat Heichel
Wine East: Linda Hughes
Intinction: Jan Fisher

GREETER

Lu Blankenship

LAY READERS

November 6: Tricia Volz
November 13: Jan Fisher
November 20: Angie Kaschube
November 27: Lu Blankenship

PASTORS' PRAYER PARTNERS

Chris Cichanowicz
Mary Schwartz
Lowell Weeks
Jan Fisher

PEW PAD GLEANERS

November 6: Liz Sprang
November 13: Rhonda Rehm
November 20: Cindy Hill
November 27: Linda Hughes

PROPRESENTER

November 6: Teri Brenkus
November 13: Peyton McFadden
November 20: Allison Weeks
November 21: Cindy Russell
November 27: Isaac McFadden

SLING STUDIO

November 6: Todd Heichel
November 13: Suzanne Rippel
November 20: Todd Sarbach
November 27: Suzanne Rippel

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST

November 6: Kathy Hoecker
November 13: Chris Cichanowicz
November 20: Jan Fisher
November 27: Tricia Volz

SOUND BOARD OPERATORS

October 6: Ed Farner
October 13: Ed Farner
October 20: Ed Farner
October 27: Ed Farner

USHERS NAVE

Jeff Davis & Annette Doklovic
Chris & Kathy Hoecker

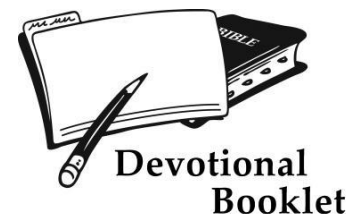
Prayer Requests

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 **NOVEMBER** 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 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 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**

**DECEMBER Visitor Newsletter Deadline: TUESDAY, November 15,
2022**

Assembled and mailed: WEDNESDAY, November 23, 2022.

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

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH E-MAIL AND WEB SITE

Rev. Miguel Acosta	pastor@felc-mansfield.org
Scott Berry	sberry@felc-mansfield.org
Becky Pittman	bpittman@felc-mansfield.org
Angela Murphy	cds@felc-mansfield.org
Nicole Goddard	ngoddard@felc-mansfield.org
Faith Williams	parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org
Jan Fisher, Editor	newslettereditor53@yahoo.com
Andy Kershaw	propman@felc-mansfield.org

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

Find us on Facebook at First English Lutheran Church.

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

Pastor Miguel Acosta

330-265-7329

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:



Name (Last, First)	Address Block (current as of today)	Birth Date
Rosemary Mckean	5970 Trailwinds Dr. Apt. 121 Fort Meyers FL 33907-8395	November 2
Garnet Stafford	230 Valley Hi Dr Lexington OH 44904-9792	November 2
Mary Ellen Hedges	Mansfield Place 1841 Middle Bellville Rd Apt. 122 Mansfield OH 44904	November 4
Beverly Graham	540 Sunset Blvd Mansfield OH 44907-2706	November 7
Walter Kautz Sr.	1630 Mount Zion Rd Mansfield OH 44903-8858	November 14
Josh Hamrick	170 Boston Ave Mansfield OH 44906	November 14
Hannah Skropit	3399 Oakstone Dr Ontario OH 44903	November 21
Edward Farner	1360 W Circle Dr Mansfield OH 44905	November 22
Scott Berry	8300 Aylsworth Rd Shreve OH 44676	November 23
Justin Grove	861 Andover Rd. Mansfield OH 44907	November 23
James Hannewald	271 Otterbein Dr Lexington OH 44904-1031	November 24
Ray Ellison	The Waterford Apt 120 1296 S Trimble Rd Mansfield OH 44906-2977	November 28
Bryce Carroll	2779 Mansfield-Lucas Rd Lucas OH 44843	November 28



CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THEIR DEDICATED EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Pastor Miguel Acosta
pastor@felc-mansfield.org

evangelism@felc-mansfield.org

President: Robert Skropits
president@felc-mansfield.org

Visitor Editor:
newslettereditor53@yahoo.com

Vice President: Chad McFadden
vicepresident@felc-mansfield.org

Personnel: Teri Brenkus
Personnel@felc-mansfield.org

Secretary: Chris Kaschube
secretary@felc-mansfield.org

Worship & Music: Cynthia Russell
musicworship@felc-mansfield.org

Early Learning Center: Misty Grove
elc@felc-mansfield.org

Property: Mike Anderson
property@felc-mansfield.org

Global Mission & Stephen Ministry:
Chris Cichanowicz
globalmissions@felc-mansfield.org

Social Ministry: Gary Lane
social@felc-mansfield.org

Finance:
Lu Blankenship
finance@felc-mansfield.org

Youth: Ted Ellis
youth@felc-mansfield.org

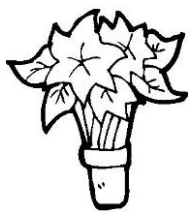
Stewardship: Sandie Volz
stewardship@felc-mansfield.org

Christian Education:
Christianed@felc-mansfield.org

Evangelism/Witness & Women of FELC: Jan Fisher

(Revised July 2022)

POINSETTIAS are a tradition at First English Lutheran Church; an opportunity to honor a loved one and at the same time beautify the Chancel on Christmas Eve.



Deadline for ordering is **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022**

Cost per plant is \$10.00 (RED FLOWERS, WHITE FLOWERS, DEEP PINK FLOWERS)

*** (No orders will be accepted after November 27th because our order must be submitted to the greenhouse soon after.) ***

Turn your order and money in directly to the Church Office either in person or by mail or put your order in the offering plate.

If you put the order in the offering plate, please put check & order form in a separate envelope marked for flower order.

On December 24th, the plants may be removed by the donor after the **Christmas Eve Service** (the plants should remain at the church during the days leading up to Christmas Eve).

INSTEAD OF RECEIVING A PLANT, you may make a donation to one of the listed funds below.



cut here

Poinsettia Order:

Number of plants _____ (\$10.00 per plant)=\$_____ Red____,White____, Deep Pink_____

Donation (no plant):

\$_____ Stained Glass Windows

\$_____ Major Capital Improvement Fund

\$_____ Memorial Fund

\$_____ Current Expenses

“In **Memory** of _____”

“In **Honor** of _____”

“Given by _____ (Person ordering
Envelope #_____)

Non-Profit Org.

US Postage
PAID

Permit No. 714
Mansfield, OH
44902

affix label here

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

DO NOT DELAY - DATED MATERIAL ENCLOSED

NOVEMBER 2022 VISITOR