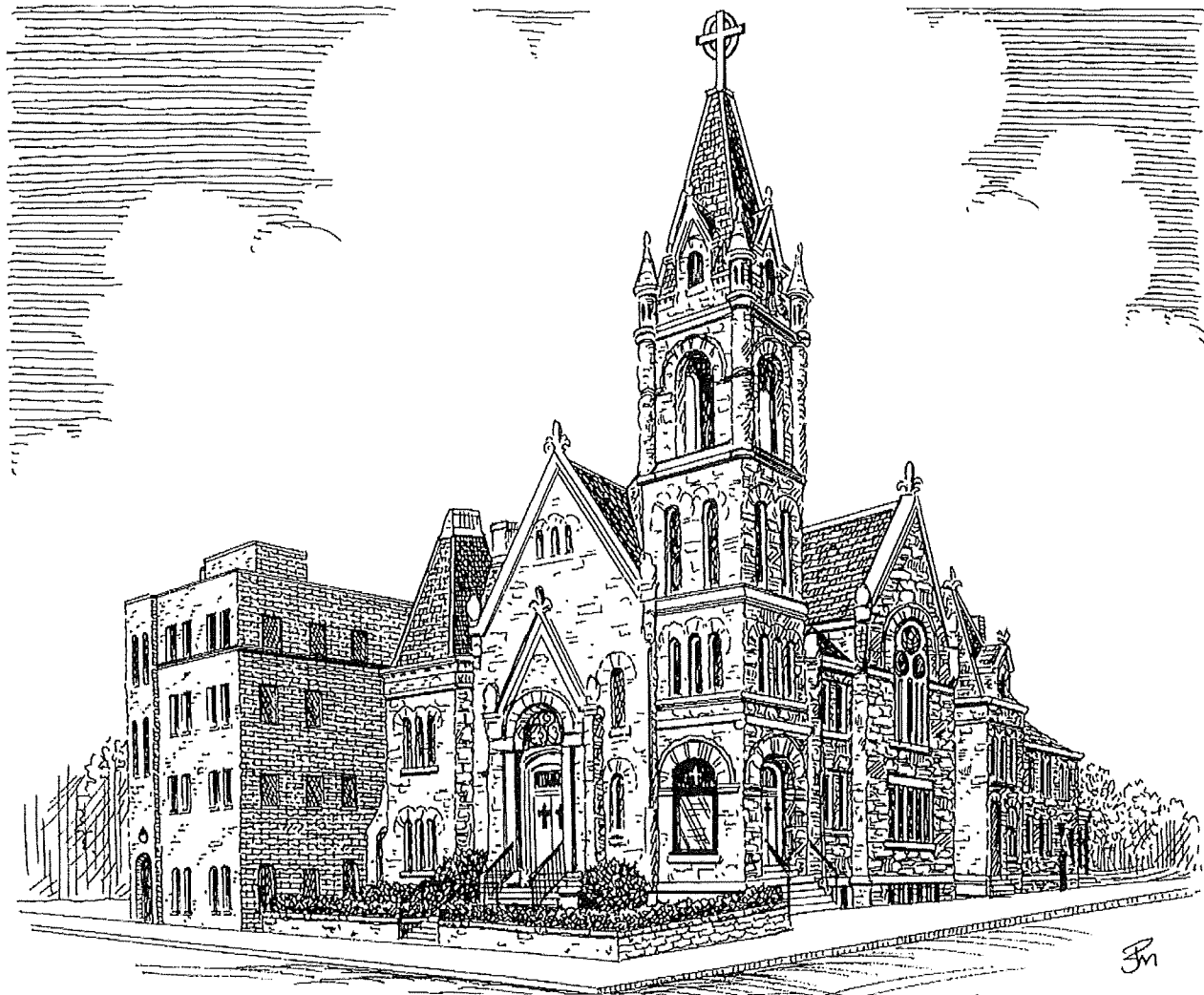


THE VISITOR



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

Volume 67

March 2025

Number 3

"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: 8:30-2:30 Monday-Friday. Church phone: 419/522-0662. FAX: 419/522-0075. Website: www.felc-mansfield.org Early Learning Center phone: 419/522-7500.

CHURCH STAFF

Reverend Jay Jackson Jr.

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, Finance Director
Angie Mullins, Parish Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Dave Carew, Custodial/Maintenance
Andy Kershaw, Property Manager
Kayla McFadden, Director of Young Adult Ministries

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

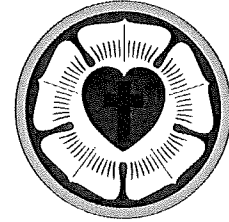
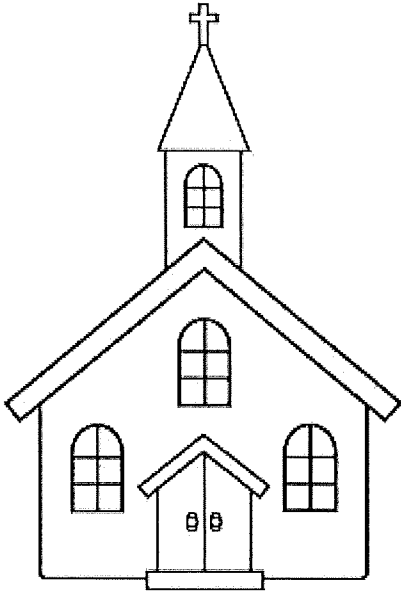
CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President, <i>Cindy Russell</i>	Evangelism, <i>Alicia Schulz</i>
Vice President, <i>Chad McFadden</i>	Finance, <i>Lu Blankenship</i>
Secretary, <i>Christopher Kaschube</i>	Personnel, <i>Teri Brenkus</i>
Early Learning Center, <i>Chris Cichanowicz</i>	Property, <i>Mike Anderson</i>
Christian Education, <i>James Murphy</i>	Social Ministry, <i>Gary Lane</i>
Worship, <i>Jan Fisher</i>	Stewardship, <i>Sandra Volz</i>

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

If you have any questions, please contact Angie Mullins at the church office at
(419)-522-0662 or parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org



NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



QR CODE FOR
TITHES AND OFFERING

We have made a commitment to focus on
the following values and objectives:

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Early Learning Center (ELC)
2. Align Ministries to Strategic Focus
3. Engaging Youth
4. Repurpose Staff Including Accountabilities
5. Create a Culture of Engagement

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

Pastor Jay's Jottings

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen savior and Lord.

I want to say thank you again. It seems that I am saying Thank you for one reason or another the last 6 months. Thanks for the gift of serving with you. Thanks for the gift of living in your home. Thanks for the gift of food. Thanks for the gift of love and support. Thanks for the financial gift. Thank you.

I shared with a small group of folks the other night that this has been a humbling and affirming part of my and my family's life. I have been so used to being in the "power" position of caring and taking care of things. For my family and for the church that I left to come here. It was a time when I felt the need to try and control all the situations that came my way.

But then in May 2024, things began to go sideways. Change began to be apparent. And moves needed to be made, and there was so much that was out of my control. And I began to really understand one of my favorite two letter phrases.... "But, God." Life was seemingly out of my hands....

But, God knew where we were heading before we did.

But, God had a worship community ready for us to be a part of.

But, God put people in place to love and support us.

But, God provided a hope in Christ for us when life went tragically bad.

But God continues to lead, and we continue to trust.

But God....

I know I was called to be a pastor in this community at this time, and I love that God had such a big hand in getting us here, But, God has also prepared you to be a people of this community at this time for us as well. I will testify until my time ends that God has a plan. And you need to hear that you have done as much pastoring to me and my family than I have ever done with you yet. And thank you.

I look forward to seeing where God will take us together for the sake of His Kingdom. I wouldn't want to do this without you, and I'm glad I don't have to.

God Loves You and So do I,

Pastor Jay

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

Tuesday, February 25, 2025- 7:00 PM

DRAFT COPY- February 25

Present: Chad McFadden, Alicia Schulz, Christopher Kaschube, Jan Fisher, Chris Cichanowicz, Cindy Russell, Pastor Jay Jackson, Gary Lane, Lu Blankenship, Nicole Goddard

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Prayer and devotion led by Lu Blankenship.

Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:

- Electronically presented the FELC Church Council minutes from January 27 for approval. **MOTION** (Jan/Chad) to approve the minutes. **MOTION APPROVED.**
- E-vote from January 30th on a **RECOMMENDATION** from the Social Ministry Committee to approve the NALC Disaster Response Task Force to host training at FELC on Friday, April 25th 3:00-6:00 and Saturday, April 26th 9:00-4:00. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

Pastor's Report, Jay Jackson:

I want to say thank you again. It seems that I am saying Thank you for one reason or another the last 6 months. Thanks for the gift of serving with you. Thanks for the gift of living in your home. Thanks for the gift of food. Thanks for the gift of love and support. Thanks for the financial gift. Thank you.

I shared with a small group of folks the other night that this has been a humbling and affirming part of my and my family's life. I have been so used to being in the "power" position of caring and taking care of things. For my family and for the church that I left to come here. It was a time when I felt the need to try and control all the situations that came my way.

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I know I was called to be a pastor in this community at this time, and I love that God had such a big hand in getting us here, But, God has also prepared you to be a people of this community at this time for us as well. I will testify until my time ends that God has a plan. And you need to hear that you have done as much pastoring to me and my family than I have ever done with you yet. And thank you.

I have been able to connect with some local pastors and have done a few visits with folks after surgeries and I have enjoyed getting to know more of the community at FELC and in Mansfield. I will be taking part in my first recorded message for the WMAN service on Sunday the 2nd. I've enjoyed sitting with the young adults and confirmation youth.

I look forward to seeing where God will take us together for the sake of His Kingdom. I wouldn't want to do this without you, and I'm glad I don't have to.

God Loves You and So Do I.

Executive Committee:

- Annual Reports from all committees are due to the office as soon as possible.

Church Council Group 1 (Financial/Property):

Property Committee, Mike Anderson: No report

Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:

General Operating Fund (GOF): includes ELC

January 2025 Income was \$77,514.33

January 2025 Expenses were \$77,682.62

January Expenses were more than income by \$168.29

YTD Income was more than Budget by \$19,181.33

YTD Expenses were less than Budget by \$6,753.38

General Operating Fund (Early Learning Center):

January 2025 Income was \$41,478.34

January 2025 Expenses were \$30,378.58

January Expenses were less than income by \$11,099.76

YTD Income was more than Budget by \$6,478.34

YTD Expenses were less than Budget by \$3,897.42

General Operating Fund (First English Lutheran Church):

January 2025 Income was \$36,035.99 (offering income \$35,467.06/special income \$568.93)

January 2025 Expenses were \$47,304.04

January Expenses were more than income by \$11,268.05

Other Funds:

ELC Fund Expenses \$2,503.64

Malawi Orphan Care Fund Special Offering Disbursement \$395.00

FELC Maintenance Fund Expenses \$984.20

Major Capital Improvement Fund Expenses \$35,349.15

M&W Pittman Fund Expenses \$53.50

Endowment Fund Expenses \$10,496.46

GOF Recap:	2024 Carryover	\$46,227.21
Pass Through Fund to GOF		\$62.50
Gen Endow Fund to GOF (allowed \$139,744 + \$90,000)		\$0.00
MCI Endow Fund to GOF (allowed \$14,831)		\$0.00
New Min & Miss Endow Fund to GOF (allowed \$20,925)		\$0.00
NMM Fund to GOF (allowed all Young Adult Expenses)		\$1,000.00
Gambier Fund to GOF (allowed all Christian Education Expenses)		\$1,426.00
2025 YTD Income		\$77,514.33
2025 YTD Expenses		\$77,682.62
General Operating Fund Balance as of 1-31-2025		\$48,547.42

Link: [Jan 25 Consolidated Fund Activity.xls](#)

Link: [1. Jan 25 Endowment Chart.xlsx](#)

Stewardship Committee, Sandie Volz:

- '8 Days of Generosity' will return March 30-April 6.

Church Council Group 2 (Internal/External Ministries):

Evangelism Committee, Alicia Schulz: No Report

Social Ministry Committee, Gary Lane:

- Gary Lane submitted his resignation from his position as Committee Chair, due to a lack of time to dedicate to the position.
- **MOTION** (Alicia/Jan) to appoint Anita Nehr Korn to the position of Social Ministry Chair for the remainder of the elected term (until May 2025). **MOTION APPROVED.**
- The Church Council is thankful to Gary for his time and service to FELC!

Global Missions Committee:

Sri Lanka

- Brian and Barb's Christmas celebration was shared with Islanders where they stressed Galatians 4:4-7. Their hearts were prompted to pray even more for "their dear Islander friends who continue to live as slaves, and don't know the freedom offered through the Savior."
- They are asking for prayers for good health for Barb. She has had more sickness than usual since their arrival in Sri Lanka.
- Need prayers for patience with themselves and continued energy to keep learning how to live in Sri Lanka.
- Barb's mother spent 2 weeks with them celebrating her 87th birthday on January 27th. They planned to take her snorkeling in the Islands!
- Romans 1 and 2 Corinthians are the only unfinished books in the New Testament that need to be completed in the Islanders' language. Pray that God will smooth the way as the work continues.

Malawi

- Two teams are planning trips to Malawi this summer. One leaves from May 18 to June 2. Their focus will be teaching Bible school at the MOCP. Joy Jones is also planning to check their finances while there. Supplies are also needed: flannel and clothing (shirts and dresses). The 2nd trip is from June 18 to July 1 (a medical team of 4-7 and small business information will be their focus)
- The feeding program needs funding because of inflation. Cost has gone up from \$85,000 to \$120,000 per year.
- The Chikotis plan to come here this summer has been moved to 2026.
- The farm was able to secure a government loan to take care of the 25 acres of maize planted.
- Construction work on the irrigation tower is now complete.
- The maize mill is working and is serving the community well.

Peru and Bolivia

- No update

Church Council Group 3 (Education):

Christian Education Committee, James Murphy: No Report

Youth Committee, Ted Ellis:

- 9 youth and 4 adults played Bingo with residents at Wedgewood on Feb. 23rd.
- There is a planned lock in for the youth at the church on March 15.
- We are planning on going bowling in April.
- In May we will have a clean up of the flower beds, parking lots, etc. at the church. All are welcome to come and help. More details later.
- In June there will be canoeing and a sleep over at Tricia's.

Young Adult Ministries, Kayla McFadden:

- Young Adults are still having Bible study every Wednesday evening. We started a 12 week study of James at the end of January
 - January 29th we had 9 people in attendance
 - February 5th we had 10 people in attendance
 - February 12th we had 8 people in attendance, 7 went to Applebees following the study
 - February 19th we had 7 people in attendance
- Invested in the lives of the young adults
- Created a flyer for Young Adult Group
- 4 people are committed to going on the mission trip to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada in June. I am working on figuring out details for this trip!

Other Church Council Committees/Reports:

Music & Worship Committee, Jan Fisher:

- On Tuesday, March 4, 5:00 to 6:30 PM First English Lutheran Church, 53 Park Ave West will be holding a 'Pancakes and Jass' evening open to the community. Damian Boyd's Redemption Jass Band will be playing. We will serve pancakes, sausage, and applesauce to "kick off" the season of Lent. Donations will be accepted.
- Lent begins on Wednesday, March 5, with worship, communion and imposition of ashes at 7:00 PM. On Wednesday, March 12, we will begin our Lenten soup suppers from 6:00 PM to 7:30. Included in that time will be discussion and reflection on our spiritual disciplines, which Pastor Jay will also be leading us through during our Sundays of Lent.
- Once again FELC will be hosting worship during March of Prayer. Our date to host worship is Monday evening March 17 at 6:00 PM. This is different for us, since we have done Easter Vigil in the past, however, Easter falls on April 20 this year.
- We will have a 5th Sunday pot-luck meal following worship on Sunday, March 30. Please watch the bulletins for details.
- This Easter we have decided to focus on "just lilies" for our floral Easter celebration. Please use the order form supplied in the March Visitor to designate your donation and honorarium. Sunday, March 23 is the last day to place an order for lilies.
- Wednesday night soup suppers will begin on March 12; Heather McFadden is coordinating the volunteer groups who will provide soup. The Congregational Council will host the first soup supper on Wednesday, March 12 at 6:00 PM.

Women's Ministry, Jan Fisher:

- Women's Ministry
 - Women's Bible Study will meet on the second Monday, March 10, at 1:00 PM in the Emmaus Room. It's never too late to join this group. Every woman is welcome.
- Due to extreme cold, Luther Fellowship was rescheduled for the third Monday in March at 2:00 PM. Re-purpose Bingo. Please bring two small wrapped "white elephant" gifts as bingo prizes.
- Arts and Crafts
 - Our next craft project will be something to do with Easter. Stay tuned for date and time which has not yet been established.
- Senior Boxes
 - We gave out Senior boxes on February 25. We had 102 guests.

Early Learning Center Committee, Chris Cichanowicz, Angie Murphy, Becky Pittman:

March is a very busy month for us at the ELC.

From Angie:

- Our fundraiser has begun. The money raised will help parents with some of the summer trips planned. Money for cookies or bread is due on March 9th.
 - Fundraising items are available for pick-up from 2-5 beginning March 27th.
- Summer camp registration starts on Monday, March 3rd. We are accepting 50 kids for summer camp.
- The week of March 3rd is Dr. Seuss week. Stop in and you will see the kids in crazy outfits each day.
- March 5th Pastor Jay is doing a special Ash Wednesday service with our kids at 9:30. Everyone is welcome to come.
- March 10th the ELC Board will meet at 4:45 in the Emmaus room.
- On March 13th all the ELC staff will attend a communicable disease class at Madison High School. This is required by the state.
- March 13th and 14th Megan and Angie will attend a leadership conference in Perrysburg, Ohio.
- April 27th is our Spring Sing and egg hunt.
- I have applied for a grant through Richland County Foundation for \$1600.00. The ELC children and summer camp are putting on a musical/play at the Renaissance Theatre on July 7th. Becky is writing our play, so you won't want to miss it!

From Becky:

- 24 ELC children sang "love songs" about Jesus on Tuesday, February 11th at Primrose Retirement Community and Wedgewood Estates.
- The ELC preschool classes will begin their intergenerational program at Primrose Retirement Community on Tuesday, March 18th. The kids will participate in an activity with the residents on the third Tuesday of each month moving forward.
- The March Bible verse is John 13:34 "love one another as I have loved you."
- The ELC families have been invited to the Pancakes and Jazz evening. They are also invited to participate in a Nerf gun game as families from 4:45 - 5:30.

Personnel Committee, Teri Brenkus:

- With a heavy heart, Teri Brenkus submitted a letter of resignation as the Personnel Committee Chair, as her schedule does not allow the time needed to participate on Council as she would like.
- The Church Council wishes to thank Teri for her time and service to FELC!

Safety Team:

- The Safety Team purchased new safety equipment. This shoots a non lethal pellet spray. We will be watching videos on how to properly use it.
- Seven members of the Safety Team went to a strategic training event in January. This was a four hour tactical training (meeting our requirements for the year) on how to properly handle a firearm around a group of people.

We would like to have permission to host a training at our church. It may take a year or more to get on the training schedule. The Strategic Team travels all over the U.S. We will receive 3 free tickets for hosting. Consent was given by Council.

Old Business:

- The Executive Committee will be reviewing our committee structure and council positions.

New Business:

- The Lenten offering will go to the Salvation Army.
- **MOTION** (Chad/Alicia) Nicole Goddard as the statutory agent for FELC for 2025. **MOTION APPROVED.**
- March Devotional/Coffee Fellowship: Youth Committee
- The next Council Meeting is Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 PM.

MOTION (Chris. C/Gary) to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. **MOTION ?.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Kaschube, FELC Church Council Secretar



From your Finance Committee.....

At our January congregational meeting, we approved a budget with total expenses of \$1,019,220, which includes the Early Learning Center budget of \$411,330 and a Property Committee budget of \$102,450.

We have estimated our Weekly Offering Income to be \$280,000 and income of \$420,000 from the Early Learning Center.

Each year, we draw from our General Endowment Fund to meet the budget. The specified withdrawal from this fund is \$139,744 for this year, along with some miscellaneous income leaves us a deficit of \$88,543. There was an additional draw of \$90,000 approved to cover this deficit.

At the congregational meeting, we also voted to withdraw up to \$135,000 from the Major Capital Improvements Endowment Fund to cover the costs of renovating the restrooms in the Undercroft.

We continue to do our best to be good stewards of all that God has blessed us with.

At the end of each quarter, we will tally all the giving (not including the Early Learning Center income) and give 10% of that total to the following:

- NALC (including the Seminary)
- World Mission Prayer League (for the Kraf's' missions)
- World Mission Prayer League (for the Sorges' Missions)
- NALC Disaster Relief
- Malawi Orphan Care Ministries
- Richland Pregnancy Services
- The New Store

As always, if you have any questions relating to FELC finances, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

In Christ's service,
Lu Blankenship

luella616@gmail.com

419-564-1469



Lent 2025 at First English Lutheran Church

March 5, 2025 – April 17, 2025

Lent is a traditional time of year, the 40 days before Easter, that many worship communities use to reflect on what Jesus has done for us on the cross. The forty days are reflective of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. These forty days are a time to be intentional about renewing aspects of our faith, and in many cases streamlining our lives to line up with Jesus. It is a time when many traditions will engage in one or all of the spiritual disciplines. Solitude/Silence, Scripture immersion, Fasting, Prayer and many more.

All spiritual disciplines are designed to do one thing and only one thing. To draw us nearer to God. There may be additional benefits for our lives, but at the heart of the disciplines is the desire to grow nearer to God. Spiritual practices are a means to do so, when the goal, is a deeper relationship with Jesus and being nearer to our creator.

We will take an immersive look at a few spiritual disciplines during our Lenten journey. We will learn about them on Sundays as we look to find ways to utilize them in our everyday life, and we will go deeper on Sundays during the Education hour. We will also have an opportunity to learn and practice on Wednesday nights during this season.

I would invite you to go deeper in your relationship with Jesus these forty days and be a part of this time of reflection and engage with us together as we look to abide with Jesus more.

Here's what to Expect.... (mark your calendars)

Wednesday March 5th – Ash Wednesday service @ 7:00pm

A time to remember that we came from the earth and we will go back to the earth, but have the hope of living with Jesus beyond our earthly lives.

Sunday March 9th – Introduction to the Disciplines, focus on “scripture”

***Wednesday March 12th** – Meal and Immersive Teaching/practice “*Scripture*”

Sunday March 16th – The discipline of Prayer

Monday March 17th – Prayer Service (March of Prayer) @ 6:00pm

***Wednesday March 19th** – Meal and Immersive Teaching/practice “*Prayer*”

Sunday March 23rd – The discipline of Solitude and Silence

***Wednesday March 26th** – Meal and Immersive Teaching/practice “*Solitude*”

Sunday March 30th – The discipline of Generosity

***Wednesday April 2nd** – Meal and Immersive Teaching/practice “*Generosity*”

Sunday April 6th – The discipline of Sabbath

***Wednesday April 9th** – Meal and Immersive Teaching/practice “*Sabbath*”

Sunday April 13th – Palm Sunday – A Sunday to celebrate Jesus triumphant entry in to Jerusalem marking his eventual Kingship.

Thursday April 17th – 7:00 pm- Maundy Thursday – A night of remembrance around Jesus’ Last Supper.

Friday April 18th – 7:00 pm - Good Friday – A service of reflection for what Jesus did for us on the Cross.

Saturday April 19th – 7:00 pm – Easter Vigil Service. A night when we remember our baptism in light of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Sunday April 20th – Easter Sunday @ 10:00 am – A Celebration of Jesus' Resurrection from the Dead.

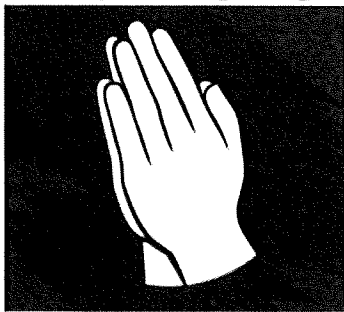
**Looking for folks to provide childcare on Wednesday evenings.*

Lent can be a very powerful season of reflection, honesty, vulnerability, and growth. But it will only be valuable to the extent that you commit to it. I would ask that you pray individually to be part of a community that wants to immerse themselves in the life of Jesus, and these disciplines are just a beginning. The goal is to be like Christ. To do as he did, and to practice what he practiced. Each of these disciplines Jesus did in his life, and when we follow him, it means we follow what he did, because we trust him and believe in him.

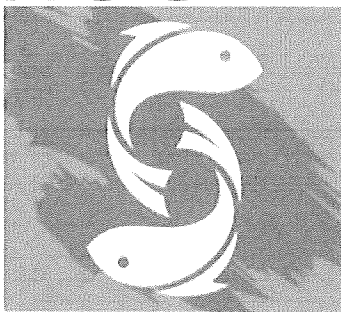
One of the ways that we will also be able to discipline ourselves during this coming season, is to offer help and resources to others. Our Lenten offering this year will be going to the Salvation Army, as they have helped so many during this long, cold winter!

I look forward to walking the journey with you this Lenten season. I pray that you will engage fully with this season, making the disciplined life in Christ a priority over all other non-salvific tasks we enjoy as we live with the gift of life.

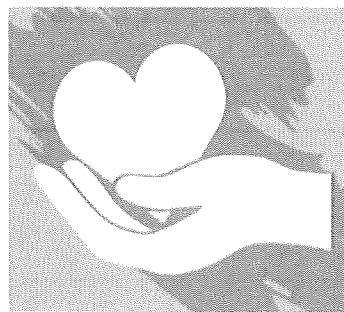
The Season of Lent



PRAY



FAST



GIVE

Easter Lilies

This Easter we have decided to focus on “just lilies” for our floral Easter celebration. Please use the order form supplied in the March Visitor to designate your donation and honorarium. Sunday, March 23 is the last day to place an order for lilies.

Please use this form if you would like to give an Easter lily in honor of
or in memory of a loved one on Easter Sunday.

The deadline for ordering is **SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025***

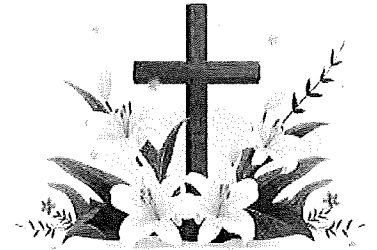
(*No orders will be accepted after March 23rd because our order
must be submitted to the greenhouse soon after.)

You can turn your order and money in to the Church Office either in person or by mail,
or you can put it in the offering basket on Sunday.

The lilies will decorate the Church on Easter morning, April 20th

The plants may be removed by the donor after the
10 a.m. worship service that morning.

FOR FLOWER PURCHASES ONLY
For donations, please use the special Lenten Envelope



2025

Easter Flowers



Lily Order:

Number of plants _____ (\$10.00 per plant) = \$ _____

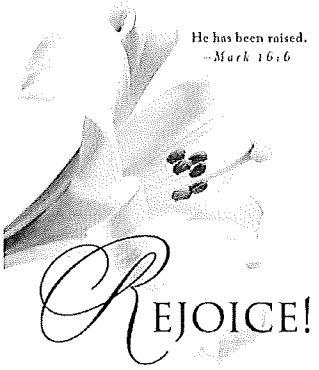
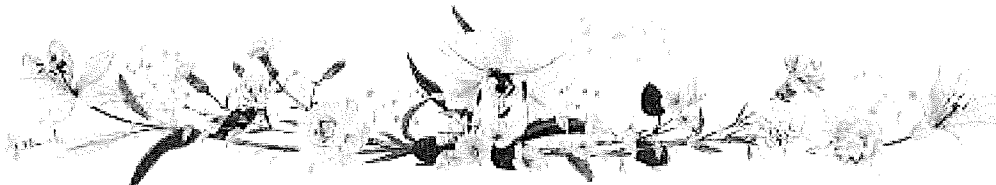
“In Memory of _____”

“In Honor of _____”

“Given by _____” Person ordering _____

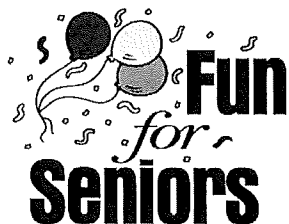
Giver/Envelope # _____ Ck# _____ Amount _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **FELC**



Service Ministry

We gave out Senior boxes on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. We had 102 guests.



Luther Fellowship

Due to extreme cold, Luther Fellowship was rescheduled for the third Monday in March at 2:00 PM. Re-purpose Bingo. Please bring two small wrapped "white elephant" gifts as bingo prizes.

Arts and Crafts

Our next craft project will be something to do with Easter. Stay tuned for date and time which has not yet been established.

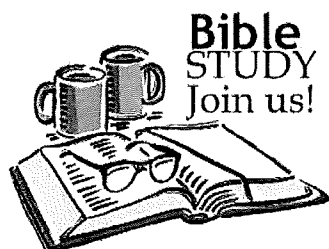


March of Prayer Service

Once again FELC will be hosting worship during March of Prayer. Our date to host worship is Monday evening March 17 at 6:00 PM. This is different for us, since we have done Easter Vigil in the past, however Easter falls on April 20 this year.

March 5th Sunday Potluck

We will have a 5th Sunday pot-luck meal following worship on Sunday, March 30. Please watch the bulletins for details.



Men's Bible Study

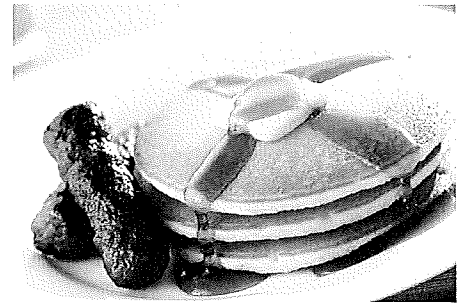
Men's Bible Study meets on Monday mornings at 9 am in the Emmaus Room. All are welcome!

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet on the second Monday, March 10, 2025 at 1:00 PM in the Emmaus Room. It's never too late to join this group. Every woman is welcome.

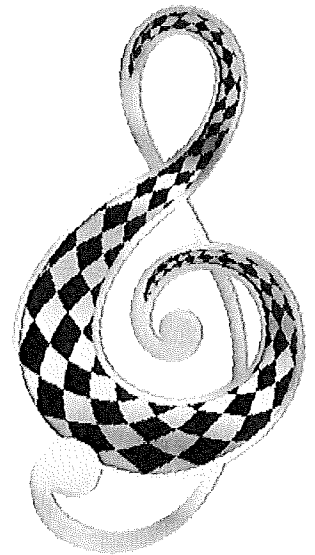


Pancakes



&

Jazz



March 4th

5:00-6:30pm

First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Ave W

Join us for fellowship, pancakes with toppings, sausage, and donuts while you enjoy the Redemption Jass band.

**** Free will offering ****

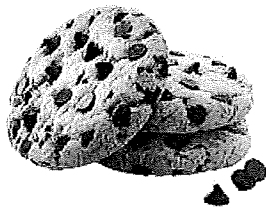
ELC

Little People BIG News



Flashback into February

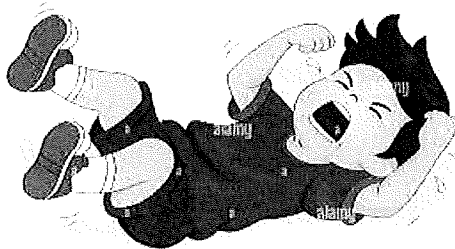
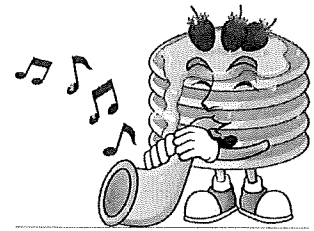
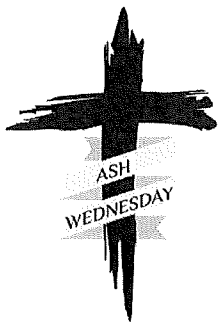
On February 19th ELC began our fundraiser selling Butter Braid breads and cookies as we have in the past. Our Pre-school kicked off the start of their monthly trips to sing at Wedgewood & Primrose.



A peek into March

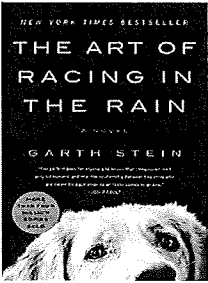
ELC will continue to run our fundraiser selling butter braid breads and cookies through March 10th. We will have our annual dart gun fun before joining "The Redemption Jass Band" for pancakes, sausage and donuts on March 4th. On March 5th Pastor Jay will be leading the ELC for Ash Wednesday at 9:30am. Then finally ELC will be hosting a class on Tantrums on March 18th from 4:45-6:45pm if you or

someone you know may be interested. By attending the class, you could have the opportunity to win gift cards. Childcare will also be provided in the event you would need it.



BOOK CLUB NEWS!

For this month we read and will review *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein.

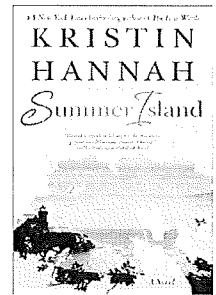


The Art of Racing in the Rain is a 2008 novel by American author Garth Stein. Narrated from the perspective of the protagonist's dog Enzo, the novel explores philosophy and the human condition through the narrative device of car racing. The novel was a *New York Times* bestseller for 156 weeks.

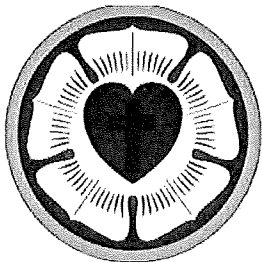
We will meet at my house on **March 23, 2025 at 2:30 PM.**

Next month we will read and discuss *Summer Island* by Kristin Hannah.

This is a poignant, funny, luminous novel about a mother and daughter – and the complex ties that bind them, the past that separates them, and the healing that comes from forgiveness.



Thank you so much for all your support!
Judy Santoro



NALC Disaster Preparedness Training

We will be hosting this event here at First English Lutheran Church on April 25-26. The cost of registration is \$10.00 and covers the certificate, manual, ID badge, lunch, and t-shirt. We will also be doing a “STUFF the TRUCK.” The form is attached with more information, and you can call the church office (419) 522-0662, if you have further questions! Thanks!



NALC DISASTER RESPONSE
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE TRAINING

NALC Disaster Response Task Force is providing disaster preparedness training at Level One Basic and Level Two Specialized. These educational workshops will provide training to volunteers in each participating congregation, preparing each to form disaster volunteer teams. Each Mission District assists in the formation of teams and the preparedness training. Recognized credentials will be provided.

Disaster Volunteer training includes components on:

Level One (unskilled disaster response for debris removal and basic information on FEMA regulations)

Level Two (specialized trainings) including:

- Case Management – how to identify and track client needs and the assistance they receive – BECOME A VOLUNTEER CASE MANAGER!
- Donations Management – how to coordinate and organize donated materials
- Volunteer Management – how to identify the skills of each volunteer and address risk management issues – FORM A DISASTER VOLUNTEER TEAM & HELP REBUILD HOMES!
- Spiritual Christian Care – how to identify and document qualified volunteers to provide spiritual care – PROVIDE SPIRITUAL CARE TO THOSE HURTING AND IN NEED!
- Congregational Facility Preparedness – prepare congregations before disaster strikes – WRITE A DISASTER PLAN FOR CHURCH FACILITIES!
The disaster plan should address: Natural disasters such as fires, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, etc. Man-made disasters such as plant explosions, terrorist bombings, train derailments, etc. Active shooter protection as per state and local laws and programs, Medical emergencies, and Local Emergency resources such as County EMA and local law enforcement agencies
- Family Preparedness – prepare families before disaster strikes, construct family preparedness kits – GREAT SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT!

For more information, please contact any member of the NALC Disaster Task Force or Mary Bates, Disaster Coordinator/Trainer at 740-509-1132 or disasterresponse@thenalc.org

NALC Disaster Task Force
Disaster Preparedness Training
"Learn your strengths in disaster response"

Registration for Friday Active Shooter Training and Saturday Level One & Two Training

First English Lutheran Church
53 Park Ave West Mansfield, Ohio 44902

_____ **Friday April 25, 2025 (3pm-6pm) Active Shooter Training**

Light Breakfast Starting at 8:30am

_____ **Level One: Saturday April 26, 2025 (9am-12pm) *What the NALC does when disaster strikes***

(Please check training details on back page for Level two)

_____ **Level Two: Saturday April 26, 2025 (12:30pm-3pm) Specialization:**

Please choose just one of the following Volunteer Case Management _____

Donations Management _____ Volunteer Team Coordination _____

Spiritual Christian Care _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Church/Organization: _____ Phone: _____

Describe any involvement you have had with disaster response:

Deadline to Register: Friday April 18th

Fee: \$10.00

Training includes:

Certificate, Manual, ID Badge, Lunch

T-Shirt (*Size*) _____

Please send a check or money order and registration form to:

First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Ave West

Mansfield, OH 44902

419-522-0662 (please call with any questions)

For more information contact Mary Bates, Disaster Coordinator/Trainer: 740-509-1132
or email disasterresponse@thenalc.org

NALC Disaster Response

STUFF the TRUCK!



Please bring your prayers and support to:

First English Lutheran Church

53 Park Ave West
Mansfield, OH 44902

April 25th - 26th

Suggested Donations[Ⓜ]

- † Bibles
- † Quilts & Blankets
- † Flood Buckets
- † School Kits
- † Healthcare Kits
- † Gift Cards

Monetary Donations

Financial donations designated for
NALC Disaster Response*
should be made payable and mailed to:
North American Lutheran Church
2113 Harwood 4703 Road, Suite 309, PMB 409
Bedford, TX 76021-4703

*Please indicate "NALC Disaster Response"
on the memo line of your check

For more information contact:

Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response
740-509-1132 -or-
disasterresponse@thenalc.org

[Ⓜ] See the "Kit Packing List" for more information

COMMUNION AT ARBORS AT MIFFLIN Arbors at Mifflin at 3:30 PM.



In March we will offer communion at Arbors at Mifflin on Wednesday, March 19, 2025. We are grateful to Gary Lane and Larry Lantz for their dedication to this ministry, along with Beth Harruff's dedication to assisting with this ministry via her piano accompaniment as well as her vocal accompaniment!

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.

Within the Fold

THANK YOU

Dear Disciples of Jesus at First English,
Thank you all so much for your recent donation of \$795 to the North American Lutheran Seminary! Your generous financial gift helps us do the work of forming pastors, deacons, and leaders for the North American Lutheran Church who are Christ-centered, mission driven, traditionally grounded, and congregationally focused.
Please continue to pray for the work of NALS. Again, thank you!
In Christ, Rebecka Andrae Fentz



Memorial Donations

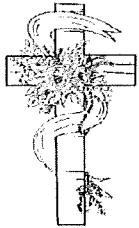
- **Jackson Family**

- *In memory of Daphne Filkins*

*Given by: Kevin & Toni Zehe, Mary Schwartz, Ken & Deb Suzuki,
Carol Fritz, Greg & Linda Hughes, Mike & Jane Anderson, Jan Fisher, Ted & Karen Ellis,
Chris Cichanowicz, Suzanne Rippel, Brenda Eyerly, Teri Brenkus, Nate & Rachelle Zehe, Rob
& Amy Skropits, Lana Conry, Vicki Kern, Gail Elder, Steve & Chris Mayglothling, John & Pat
Fraifogl, Beth Harruff, Chad & Heather McFadden, Charles & Myra Cordrey, Alicia Schulz,
Dan & Lisa Peterson, Cindy Russell, Richard & Debra Riei,
Gary & Shirley Lane*



We are pleased to report that there are no recently deceased members or friends in our FELC family.

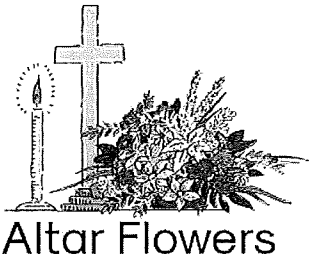


Pastoral Acts

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 Angie Mullins 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.



Altar Flowers

- April 20, 2025 (EASTER SUNDAY)
- May 4, 2025
- May 18, 2025
- June 1, 2025
- June 8, 2025
- June 15, 2025
- June 22, 2025
- June 29, 2025



March 2025 Volunteers

Sunday 10AM Worship (Nave)

ACOLYTES

March 2: TBD
March 5: TBD
March 9: TBD
March 16: TBD
March 23: TBD
March 30: TBD

ALTAR WORKERS

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

ASSISTING MINISTER

Alicia Schulz

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Youth

GREETER

Betty Wilson

COMMUNION PREPARERS

March 2: Ted & Karen Ellis

March 5: Beth Harruff
(Ash Wednesday)

COMMUNION SERVERS

March 2:
Wine West: TBD
Wine East: Gary Lane
Intinction : Lu Blankenship

March 5: (Ash Wednesday)
Wine West: Anita Nehrkorn
Wine East: Chris Cichanowicz
Intinction : Pat Smith

LAY READERS

March 2: Joe Rogers
March 5: TBD
March 9: Chris Cichanowicz
March 16: Stacey Crall
March 23: Todd Heichel
March 30: Amy Skropits

PRAYER PARTNERS

Chris Cichanowicz
Mary Schwartz
Jan Fisher

ATTENDANCE SHEETS

March 2: Linda Hughes
March 5: TBD
March 9: Brenda Eyerly
March 16: Stacey Crall
March 23: Lana Conry
March 30: Chris Mayglothing

SLIDES

March 2: Teri Brenkus
March 5: Isaac McFadden, Ash Wed
March 9: Cindy Russell
March 16: Peyton McFadden
March 17: Cindy Russell, March of Prayer
March 23: Isaac McFadden
March 30: Allison Weeks

LIVESTREAM

March 2: Todd Heichel
March 5: Todd Heichel, Ash Wed
March 9: Todd Heichel
March 16: Suzanne Rippel
March 17: Suzanne Rippel, March of Prayer
March 23: Suzanne Rippel
March 30: Tom Sarbach

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

March 2: Tyler Crall
March 9: Kayla McFadden
March 16: Elizabeth Freeman
March 23: Lu Blankenship
March 30: James Murphy

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST:

March 2: Tricia Volz
March 9: Allison Weeks
March 16: Angie Kaschube
March 23: Judy Santoro
March 30: Suzanne Rippel

USHERS NAVE

Rich Riei and Hayden Skropits
Elizabeth Freeman
Alternate: Tricia Volz

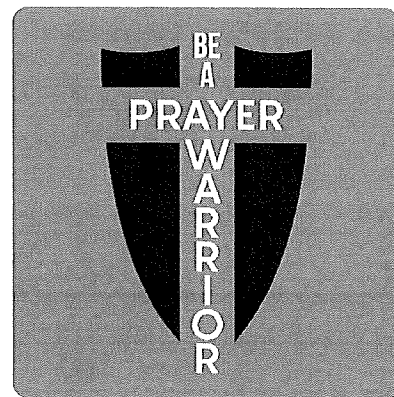
FUNERAL MEALS

Pat Heichel, Linda Hughes,
Lana Conry, & Mary Schwartz

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 pastor or call Angie Mullins (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 heads 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!

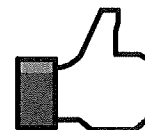
A great and user-friendly way to receive DAILY DEVOTIONS written and supplied by NALC is to text: *ReadingTheWord to 24251*. They will respond back with a link and devotions will come to your phone every morning. They can be read and/or audible.

You can also get devotions from our felc-mansfield.org website by selecting the NALC logo button.

NALC.org offers a great devotional option. "TheNALC.org"
Check it out!



Find us on Facebook: First English Lutheran Church

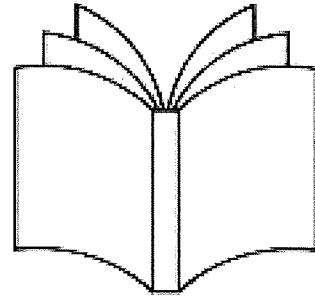


Please refer to **YouTube** to view past Proclamations.

And please check out our new FELC mobile friendly website felc-mansfield.org where you can be directed to online worship via Facebook and YouTube.

BULLETIN INFORMATION DEADLINE!

**Need to get information in the bulletin for a meeting or an announcement?
Send details to Angie Mullins 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 are assembled at 8:30 A.M. on Thursdays each week.

Nicole Goddard, Finance Director, may be reached by calling the church office at 419-522-0662 or email her at NGoddard@felc-mansfield.org

April 2025 Visitor Newsletter Deadline:

Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

Assembled and mailed: Friday, March 28, 2025.

PLEASE EMAIL ALL ARTICLES TO: parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org or leave in the mail slot marked Visitor Editor. You may also contact the church office at (419) 522-0662

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH E-MAIL AND WEB SITE

Jay Jackson

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

Angie Mullins

parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org

Andy Kershaw

propman@felc-mansfield.org

Kayla McFadden

nextgen@felc-mansfield.org

Visit our website at: www.felc-mansfield.org.

Find us on Facebook at First English Lutheran Church.

<p>Volunteer Scheduling Contacts The monthly volunteers are published in the Visitor and posted on bulletin boards.</p>	<p>Funeral Meals Sandie Volz</p>
<p>Acolytes Heather McFadden</p>	<p>Attendance Sheets</p>
<p>Altar Workers and Safety Team Scott and Jodi Mumaw</p>	<p>Safety Team Charles and Myra Cordrey</p>
<p>Greeters Alicia Schulz</p>	<p>Slides, Sound Board, Sunday School Breakfast, Children's Church, Livestream Becky Pittman</p>
<p>Assistant Ministers, Ushers, & Lay Readers Cindy Russell</p>	<p>Communion Lana Conry</p>

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

Pastor: Jay Jackson
pastor@felc-mansfield.org

President: Cynthia Russell
president@felc-mansfield.org

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

Secretary: Chris Kaschube
secretary@felc-mansfield.org

Early Learning Center:
Chris Cichanowicz
elc@felc-mansfield.org

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

Finance: Lu Blankenship
finance@felc-mansfield.org

Evangelism: Alicia Schulz
evangelism@felc-mansfield.org

Personnel: Teri Brenkus
Personnel@felc-mansfield.org

Worship & Music: Jan Fisher
musicworship@felc-mansfield.org

Property: Mike Anderson
property@felc-mansfield.org

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

Youth: Ted Ellis
youth@felc-mansfield.org

Stewardship: Sandie Volz
stewardship@felc-mansfield.org

Christian Education: James Murphy
Christianed@felc-mansfield.org

(Revised July 2024)
Non-Profit Org.

Join us
during this
season
of Lent.

