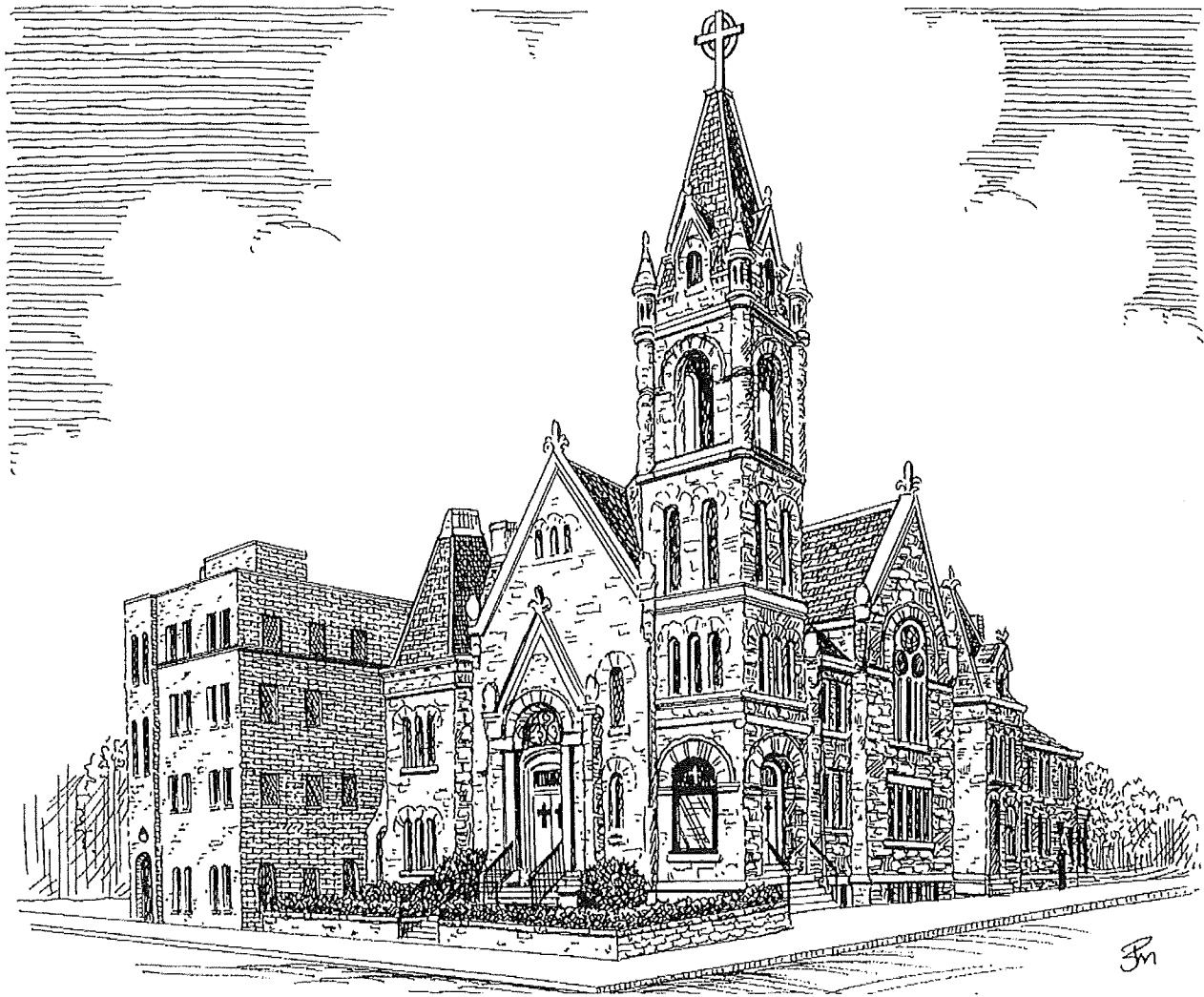


# THE VISITOR



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

Volume 66

December 2024

Number 12

*"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](http://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

**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, *Cindy Russell*

Vice President, *Chad McFadden*

Secretary, *Christopher Kaschube*

Early Learning Center, *Chris Cichanowicz*

Christian Education, *James Murphy*

Worship, *Jan Fisher*

Evangelism, *Alicia Schulz*

Finance, *Lu Blankenship*

Personnel, *Teri Brenkus*

Property, *Mike Anderson*

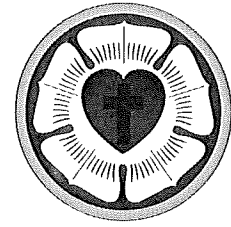
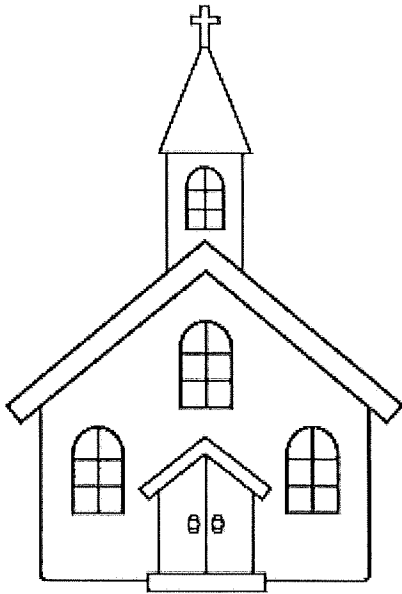
Social Ministry, *Gary Lane*

Stewardship, *Sandra Volz*

**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](mailto: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*

December 2024

An Advent-ageous time of year.

As many people will share, Christmas is their favorite time of the year. I too, admit that I enjoy the Christmas season more than most. I enjoy decorating our home for the season, doing my best to create the “Jackson” version of a Norman Rockwell painting. Stockings, multiple trees, lights, candles, a fireplace; those all scream “Christmas” comfort to me.

And yet, in the middle of our best attempts to have a perfect Hallmark Christmas, life smacks us around and our Christmas cheer is wiped away. If you live long enough, it will happen to you. Whether it's a death in the family, the loss of a job, financial struggles, or something else, there will be a time when the trials of life will overcome the joy of the Christmas season.

And so, my word of encouragement for you is to lean into Advent rather than Christmas. Amid the hustle and bustle of the world, comes the arrival of our King. We have the advantage of knowing Jesus has come and is coming again. So our advantage becomes our “advent-age.” We know that Jesus is coming back, and when that happens, all of life will be renewed and recreated.

Advent is not “Christmas.” It is an intentional time of reflection, remembering that Jesus joined us in our earthly journey, living like us, becoming one of us (incarnate), so that He could eventually find His way to the cross for us. And because He did all of that, we remember this time of year as an advent-ageous time.

“Advantageous” means something is beneficial, helpful, or favorable. “Advent-ageous” means that Jesus is beneficial, helpful, and favorable to our lives today, and to our ultimate future with Him. This life is great, but our best life is coming with Jesus' return.

All it takes to live an “Advent-ageous” life, is a belief in Jesus. That's it. A belief that He went to the cross for you, died for you, and was raised on the third day for you, so that when this life is through, we can join Him in the best life ever. A life in the glory and presence of God. We get so caught up in all of the other things that we think are important for life, but the reality is, the best advantage we have is the advent of Jesus.

I pray that you have an adventurous Holiday season, and my family and I look forward to experiencing the joy of the season with our new FELC family and community.

God Loves You and So Do I.

Pastor Jay

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

Tuesday, November 19, 2024- 7:00 PM

***DRAFT COPY- Updated November 19***

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

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

Prayer and devotion led by Gary Lane.

***Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:***

- Electronically presented the FELC Church Council minutes from October 15 for approval. **MOTION** (Jan/James) to approve the minutes. **MOTION APPROVED.**

***Pastor's Report, Rev. Jay Jackson Jr.:***

This month is more of a (three month) reflection than a report. A reflection on generosity.

We are still giving thanks for the wonderful partners in the Gospel here at FELC. I enjoyed getting to know many of you more intimately during our six sessions of Pizza with the Pastor. There are so many folks that have a passion for Jesus and want to seek new and innovative ways to reach others with the good news of Jesus, while continuing to honor the work that Jesus has been doing over the years at FELC. I enjoyed the conversations about expectations and vision that accompanied the pizza. Thank you to those who participated.

I give thanks for the flexibility of the last month or so as we continue to walk through the challenges of a new school for the boys, and the challenges of completing a move to Mansfield. I give thanks for people who are generous with their time (James Murphy) as he took off work to join me in moving the rest of our stuff out of the Maryland house. And our family continues to give thanks for the generosity of being able to use the retreat center during our time of transition.

I give thanks for worship. For the different styles that come together to worship our one Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For the leaders that continue to guide me as I get more comfortable in this worship community. And for the opportunity to sit with my family on a Sunday like "Thank-offering" as I was able to worship together with them.

I give thanks for the opportunity to walk with young people in their faith journey. From the ELC to confirmation, there are so many ways to show Jesus to the next generation.

I am continuing to be amazed at the generous network of people and pastors in this community. As I meet the folks from the warming center and Matthew 25 and the "thanks-living" team, and missionaries, and walking with the pastor at St John UCC as they navigate their future.

The staff. They are your heartbeat, and they love what they do. Please thank them when you have the opportunity.

I give thanks for folks who are encouraged by one another as we sit and discuss how God is moving through study, and Pub Theology. Coming together in the name of Jesus is so very important.

I give thanks for the cards and notes that just randomly pop up. Whether it is a word of encouragement, or giving thanks for this new partnership, I am humbled to be able to walk with you as together we strive for the Kingdom of God.

Three months have gone by, and while we are not fully settled in our own lives, I know and trust that I am fully settled in my life with Christ. Not that I have reached the ultimate goal, but that the strength and joy that comes from serving our risen Lord is one that will continue to sustain me and my family through the rough patches. I look forward to seeing where God is leading so many people who are ready and willing to serve in the name of Jesus. I look forward to seeing where God is going to move us for the sake of the Gospel. And I look forward to immersing myself and my family more into the Kingdom mission that we all share at FELC.

God Loves You, and So Do I.

**Executive Committee:** No report

**Church Council Group 1 (Financial/Property):**

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

- The Property Committee did not meet in November. Andy, as usual, is addressing the daily tasks of keeping our physical building intact.
- **MOTION** by (Mike/Alicia) to proceed with a bathroom project for the undercroft from the Major Capital Endowment Fund, to be approved by the Congregation. . **MOTION APPROVED.**
- Discussion about the church insurance for 2025.

***Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:***

**General Operating Fund (GOF):** *includes ELC*

October 2024 Income was \$50,782.93

October 2024 Expenses were \$92,259.19

*October Income is less than expenses by \$41,476.26*

YTD Income is \$586,934.99 which is **more** than budget by \$7,474.99

YTD Expenses are \$735,933.15 which is **less** than budget by \$18,141.85

*YTD Income is less than YTD Expenses by \$148,998.16 (Gen End income - \$182,958)*

**Early Learning Center (ELC):**

October 2024 Income was \$27,975.98

October 2024 Expenses were \$39,875.82

*October Income was less than expense by \$11,899.84*

YTD Income was \$350,673.84 which is **more** than budget by \$50,673.84

YTD Expense were \$326,526.72 which is **more** than budget by \$26,826.72

*YTD Income is more than YTD Expenses by \$24,147.12*

**First English Lutheran Church (FELC):**

October 2024 Income was \$22,806.95

October 2024 Expenses were \$52,283.37

*October Income was less than expense by \$29,476.42*

YTD Income was \$236,261.15 (YTD Offerings: \$227,478)

YTD Expense were \$409,406.43

*YTD Income is less than YTD Expenses by \$173,145.28*

**GOF Recap:**

<b>2023 Carryover</b>	<b>\$51,600.97</b>
Women of FELC to GOF (postage)	\$40.75
Pass Through Fund to GOF	\$37.50
Stained Glass Window Fund	\$1,210.00
ELC Fund to GOF	\$0.00
Gen Endow Fund to GOF \$182,958	\$173,629.62
MCI Endow Fund to GOF \$8947+\$22,350 for Elev.	\$22,350.00
New Min & Miss Endow Fund to GOF \$19,594	\$0.00
Account Clean up from GOF	(\$120.54)
2024 YTD Income	\$586,934.99
2024 YTD Expenses	\$735,933.15
GOF Balance	<b>\$99,750.14</b>

Endowment Funds Total Value: \$3,599,720 (YE 2023 Value: \$3,228,759)

General Endowment Fund Only: \$2,503,937 (YE 2023 Value: \$2,243,323)

Major Capital Improvements Endowment: \$304,942 (YE 2023: \$273,899)

New Missions & Ministries Endowment: \$479,923 (YE 2023: \$445,992)

Praise God that we have these endowments. They help us pay our current expenses, do major projects, and will fund the new youth position for a couple years.

**RECOMMENDATION** from Finance Committee to approve the 2025 Budget. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED MOTION** (Chris/James) to ask the Congregation to approve the 2025 Budget **MOTION APPROVED.**

**MOTION** (Chad/Chris C.) to implement the new pay increases beginning January 1. If the budget is not approved by the congregation on January 19, the salaries will revert until passage of the 2025 budget. **MOTION APPROVED.**

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

**Church Council Group 2 (Internal/External Ministries):**

**Evangelism Committee, Alicia Schulz:** No Report.

**Social Ministry Committee, Gary Lane:**

- Approximately 130 Senior Boxes were delivered last month. We are planning for 80-100 during the winter months. The Social Ministry Committee feels that we can improve with more training. We are planning to show up early at 8:30am next Senior Box Tuesday November 26th.
- WNL continues to serve approximately 50.
- We are planning to serve a Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday the 20th. We will serve the meal with the people sitting at the tables.
- Blessing and Generosity bags are planned to be available by the 19 th. They will include items such as: toothpaste, soap, gloves, deodorants, etc. The Salvation Army is planning on a warming center meal at 6 pm on Thanksgiving. We are considering having our church bus available to bus people from the Arc Church to the Salvation Army center.

**Global Missions Committee:**

- Malawi
  - Pastor Andy said the response to a 2025 trip to Malawi was too few for a team to go.
  - No students passed the college test this year.
  - Blessings, a university student, has been assigned to do his practicals at a hospital in Blantyre.
  - Precious attained his college degree as a Secondary school teacher and will be starting his first job in Lilongwe.
  - Average number of children fed this year is 900, six days a week.
  - Number of boarding school students is 12.
  - Number of high school students is 86.
  - Leonard Lobium sent a sincere thank you note to the Chikoti's and us for supporting his education. He is now in Level 3, pursuing Education Sciences.
  - Construction work on the irrigation tank tower is almost complete.

**Church Council Group 3 (Education):**

**Christian Education Committee, James Murphy:** No report.

**Youth Committee, Ted Ellis:**

- 12 youth and 4 adults will attend Quake in early January in Cincinnati.
- 12 youth and 4 adults attended the lock-in at church on November 16.
- 10 youth attended Honey Haven farm in October.

**Other Church Council Committees:**

**Music & Worship Committee, Jan Fisher:**

- We have been invited to be a part of a family oriented Christmas Party put on by the Mansfield Parks Department December 3, 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Prospect Park. Our involvement would be to supply hot chocolate and cookies to 100 to 150 kids and their parents on that evening. We think it's a great community involvement opportunity and could be funded via the Social Ministry Committee. (I am reporting because I am the person who was contacted about this event.)
- November 26 is our community Thanksgiving worship service at 7:00 PM. We are hosting here and Holy Trinity and Kingdom Grace Fellowship will be joining us. Each church has a part in the service. It is our hope that our congregation community will be attending this service. We plan to offer fellowship following the service, having warmed spiced cider and donuts for everyone.
- Poinsettia order forms to adorn the sanctuary are available now, the deadline is December 1, 2024.
- We are continuing with our plans for a candlelight Christmas Eve Service beginning at 7:00 PM with music for a Holy Night and worship at 7:30. We have ordered single battery operated candles for the sanctuary windows, (something we have never had before.) Pastor Jay will be officiating and Holy Communion will be celebrated.
- There will not be a fifth Sunday potluck at the end of December. It is too close to New Years.

**Safety Team, Myra Cordrey:**

- The Safety Team had 7 members attend the CPR and FIRST AID TRAINING Oct. 21st. with the church staff. We also had 6 members attend a de-escalation class at the Mansfield Alliance Church Oct. 26th.
- **RECOMMENDATION** to approve two new members of the Safety Committee for carrying during church service. They have had training. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**
- We have been present for the extra services, Bible school, rummage sale this year.
- Thank you for everyone's support and for our great team.

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

- The Women's Ministry is very grateful for all the support given on Nov. 17 for the bake sale and Thank Offering. To date we have combined donations of \$1081.00 which will be gifted to Zoe's Learning Center at Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church on Reba Ave.
- In October Luther Fellowship enjoyed a trip to The Barn in Smithville, OH and has moved to every other month, so will not meet in November. The December meeting will be held on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 2:00 PM. We will enjoy some singing presented by the ELC kids. Following that we will enjoy some Christmas fellowship, the theme to be announced.
- Women's Bible Study- We will meet on the second Tuesday, December 9 at 1:00 PM. Barbara Justice continues to be our teacher. All women are very welcome to increase their spiritual growth by joining us!
- We will be packing cookies for our home bound friends on Monday, December 9 at noon. The packages then get delivered by Communion Deacons. Please bake small cookies with NO nuts, or you can make some kind of homemade candy with NO nuts. The Arts and Crafts group has made some very cute table size Christmas trees that will also go to our homebound folks.

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

- The ELC Bible verse for November is Psalm 92:1 "It is good to give thanks to the Lord!" The congregation is encouraged to attend the ELC Thanksgiving feast this Thursday, November 21st at 11am to continue building intentional relationships with our ELC families and staff. The kids will be presenting a 10 minute program; songs of Thanksgiving! Thank you to the FELC volunteers who are helping to prepare the food!
- Our congregation is encouraged to attend the ELC Christmas program on Monday, December 9th at 6pm to continue building intentional relationships with our ELC families and staff.
- Angie Murphy will be off from December 16th through December 20th.
- The ELC is hosting an FELC/ELC Christmas Kids' Night Out on Friday, December 13th from 5 to 7:30.
- The ELC is closed from December 23rd-27th.
- The ELC staff will be serving a community lunch on Friday, December 27th on the corner of Bowman and Fourth Street as a community service project.
- Angie and Megan attended a state meeting on 11-19-24 regarding state changes in the upcoming year.

**Personnel Committee, Teri Brenkus:** No report.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

- **MOTION** (Lu/Jan) to have a Q&A on January 5 regarding the 2025 Budget and set the Congregational vote for the 2025 budget on January 19. **MOTION APPROVED.**
- **MOTION** (Jan/Gary) to designate the 2024 Advent offering to the Kraft family missionaries. **MOTION APPROVED.**
- December Coffee Fellowship: Ushers
- December Devotion: Cindy Russell
- The next Council Meeting is Tuesday, January 28 at 7:00 PM.

**MOTION** (Gary/Chris C.) to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 PM. **MOTION APPROVED.**

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Christopher J. Kaschube, FELC Church Council Secretary*



## Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry is very grateful for all the support given on Nov. 17 for the bake sale and Thank Offering. To date we have combined donations of \$1081.00 which will be gifted to Zoe's Learning Center at Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church on Reba Ave.



## Worship and Music

Join us for a candlelight Christmas Eve Service beginning at 7:00 PM with music for a Holy Night and worship at 7:30.

Pastor Jay will be officiating and Holy Communion will be celebrated. Please invite your friends to join us for worship on this Holy Night.

## Social Ministry



We have been invited to participate in a family-oriented Christmas party hosted by the Mansfield Parks Department on December 3 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Kingdom Grace Fellowship Church. Our involvement will be to supply hot chocolate and cookies to 100 to 150 kids and their parents on that evening. If you would like to volunteer to help with this project on December 3 please contact Jan Fisher.

## Service Ministry

We had a chilly but successful day on Tuesday, November 12, serving over 191 people for our final produce distribution for 2024. We filled people's cars with russet potatoes, carrots, onions, sweet potatoes, eggplant, summer squash, cucumbers, cantaloupe and bread products. What a great variety. This ministry has grown and grown over the past ten years. It is our joy to provide this to the Mansfield community! We will be back at it next April 2025. And a special big thank you to all the many volunteers who so faithfully help each month! You are a huge blessing.



### **The Senior Box distribution update:**

This ministry continues to grow and serve our senior community! Because of the Christmas holiday, our next Senior Box Distribution will be on the third Tuesday of December:  
December 17, 2024 at 10:30am

First English Lutheran Church & Early Learning Center  
presents...

# CHRISTMAS KIDS' NIGHT OUT

(Parents' Night Off)

**\$5** FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13  
per child 5:00 – 7:30 pm



- ❄️ Pancake Dinner
- ❄️ Bus Trip to see Lights
- ❄️ Crafts and a special visitor

Ages 3 to 12  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
Deadline to sign up: December 6

Parents to meet back at the church at 7:30 for a special visitor



Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

Here at FELC, we are looking for some *advent-urous* people this year. People who are willing to step out in faith and proclaim to others that the Kingdom of God is here! The Kingdom of God has come through Jesus, and with it comes so much that we can benefit from in our lives. Hope. Peace. Joy. Love. This Christmas eve, we will celebrate “**A Kingdom Proclamation**”. And what comes with proclaiming the kingdom is so important for us and those around us.

**Proclaim Hope - Micah 7:7** - *But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me.* We are called during Advent (and always) to be prepared for the coming of Christ. That comes with hope for a new and glorious life with God while we wait.

**Proclaim Peace** – Jesus proclaims in **John 14: 27** *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*” We are called through our baptisms to be a people of peace. Let us proclaim that peace through Jesus Christ.

**Proclaim Joy – 1 Peter: 1: 8** *Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,*” Faith comes from hearing the Word. We have the joy of proclaiming the Word about Jesus and His coming Kingdom.



**Proclaim Love – John 13: 35** *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*” We are called by Jesus to show His love to others. We do that by proclaiming the love he had for us by coming down from Heaven, going to the cross, and being raised from the dead. For you. For Me.

Advent is an amazing time of preparation and waiting. It is focused on preparing the way of the Lord. Nothing speaks louder than mission work. Mission work is taking Jesus to people. It is meeting them wherever they are and introducing them to the one who died for them to save them. Mission work is proclaiming the kingdom to its fullest. And we give thanks this Advent season for the Kraft family missionaries.

**Our Advent offering this year will be given to the ministry of the Kraft family.** They have been supported by FELC throughout the years, and this year we give thanks and generous support with our financial giving as we support their Kingdom work.

I look forward to seeing you this Advent season, but most of all, I look forward to seeing Jesus in you above all else.

God Loves You, and So Do I,  
Pastor Jay

## BOOK CLUB NEWS!

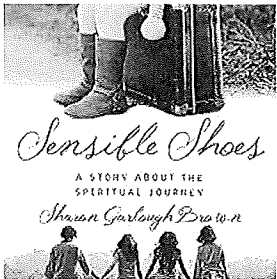
- ❖ We are reading *A Christmas Carol* this month to discuss on December 8, 2024 at 2:30 PM in the Emmaus Room.

*A Christmas Carol* is an evergreen, world-famous novella, telling the story of the rich but miserable, old Ebenezer Scrooge who, after being visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Yet to Come, realizes there's more to life than money, opens his heart, and changes his miserly ways.



- ❖ The selection for December to be read and discussed on January 12, 2025 is:

Sharon Garlough Brown tells the moving story of four strangers as they embark together on a journey of spiritual formation:



- Hannah, a pastor who doesn't realize how exhausted she is.
- Meg, a widow and recent empty-nester who is haunted by her past.
- Mara, a woman who has experienced a lifetime of rejection and is now trying to navigate a difficult marriage.
- Charissa, a hard-working graduate student who wants to get things right.

You're invited to join these four women as they reluctantly arrive at a retreat center and find themselves drawn out of their separate stories of isolation and struggle and into a collective journey of spiritual practice, mutual support and personal revelation.

Along the way, readers will be taken into a new understanding of key spiritual practices and find tangible support for the deeper life with God.

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## Luther Fellowship

**LUTHER FELLOWSHIP IS NOW OPEN TO ANYONE WHO IS RETIRED,  
REGARDLESS OF AGE!**

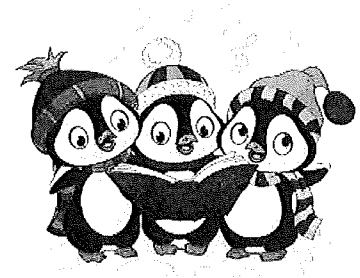


In October Luther Fellowship enjoyed a trip to The Barn in Smithville, OH and has moved to every other month, so did not meet in November. Our December meeting will be held on Monday, December 16, 2024 at 2:00 PM. We will enjoy some singing presented by the ELC kids. We will enjoy some Christmas fellowship, a theme to be announced.

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## Christmas Caroling

We're going Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 8th! Please join us for lunch at Pizza Hut on Lex-Springmill Road after worship and then we will go spread the love of Jesus to our homebound members.





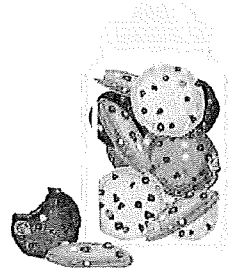
**Bible  
STUDY**  
Join us!

## 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

We will be packing cookies for our home-bound friends on Monday, December 9 at *noon*. The packages then get delivered by Communion Deacons. Please bake small cookies with NO nuts, or you can make some kind of homemade candy with NO nuts. The Arts and Crafts group has made some very cute table-size Christmas trees that will also go to our home-bound folks.



We will meet on the second Monday, December 9 at 1:00 PM. Barbara Justice continues to be our teacher. All women are very welcome to increase their spiritual growth by joining us!

## COMMUNION AT WEDGEWOOD ESTATES AND ARBORS AT MIFFLIN

**Wedgewood Estates at 2:00 PM &  
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, check with the church office.

In December we will offer communion at Wedgewood Estates and Arbors at Mifflin on Wednesday, December 18, 2024. 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 FELC Family,

I am so “Happy” to be able to write this “Thank you” note, to all of you, for your prayers and cards, both get well and Birthday wishes. The signed poster with the snail brought a smile to my face when I opened it up, for at the time that is just how I felt.

God Blessings to you all! Sandie Volz.



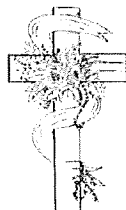
**Nathan Warmath**

**November 5, 2024**

(Kim & Ruth Maurer’s son-in-law)

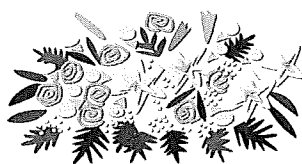
We remember in our prayers the family and friends of those who have recently lost loved ones through death. We pray for Christ’s gifts of healing and peace during this time of loss and sorrow that they may be comforted with the Promise of the Resurrection through faith in Christ.

## *Pastoral Acts*



**NONE**

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**



Altar Flowers

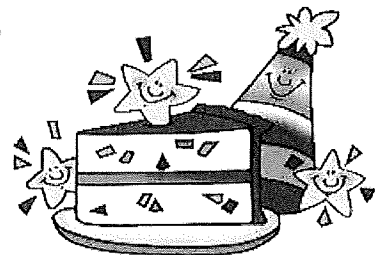
The following opportunities are available for the donation of Altar Flowers. Please consider purchasing flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please call Angie Mullins at the Church Office (419-522-0662) to reserve one of the dates listed below or to check the availability of other upcoming dates. *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.

- ❖ *December 1, 2024*
- ❖ *December 8, 2024*
- ❖ *December 15, 2024*
- ❖ *December 29, 2024*

## December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Happy Birthday Amy Skropits and Becky Sarbach	3 	4 Happy Birthday Cindy Russell & Gary Shade	5 Happy Birthday Heather McFadden	6 	7 Happy Birthday Justin Reeder
8 	9	10 Happy Birthday Jane R. Mako	11 	12	13	14 Happy Birthday Tom Sarbach
15	16 	17	18 Happy Birthday Yvonne Dixon	19 	20 Happy Birthday Lydia McFadden	21 Happy Birthday John Fraifogl
22 	23	24	25 Happy Birthday Alicia Schulz	26	27 	28
29 Happy Birthday Jean Gall	30	31 				

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



\*\*No Anniversaries this month  
\*\*For addresses, see Church Directory

# December 2024 Volunteers

## Sunday 10AM Worship (Nave)

### ACOLYTES

December 1: TBD  
December 8: TBD  
December 15: TBD  
December 22: TBD  
December 24: TBD  
December 29: TBD

### ALTAR WORKERS

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

### ASSISTING MINISTER

Chris Kaschube

### COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Ushers

### GREETER

Anita Nehr Korn

### COMMUNION PREPARERS

December 1: Ted & Karen Ellis

December 24: Charles & Myra Cordrey

### COMMUNION SERVERS

December 1:  
Wine West: Judy Santoro  
Wine East: Chris Mayglothling  
Intinction: Sandie Volz

December 24:  
Wine West: Heather McFadden  
Wine East: Jodi Mumaw  
Intinction: Jan Fisher

### LAY READERS

December 1: Amy Skropits  
December 8: Sandie Volz  
December 15: Tricia Volz  
December 22: Alicia Schulz  
December 24: TBD  
December 29: Isaac McFadden

### PRAYER PARTNERS

Chris Cichanowicz  
Mary Schwartz  
Lowell Weeks  
Jan Fisher

### ATTENDANCE SHEETS

December 1: Chris Mayglothling  
December 8: Stacey Crall  
December 15: Linda Hughes  
December 22: Brenda Eyerly  
December 24: TBD  
December 29: Lana Conry

### SLIDES

December 1: Isaac McFadden  
December 8: Allison Weeks  
December 15: Teri Brenkus  
December 22: Justin Crall  
December 24: Cindy Russell  
December 29: Peyton McFadden

### LIVESTREAM

December 1: Todd Heichel  
December 8: Todd Heichel  
December 15: Suzanne Rippel  
December 22: Suzanne Rippel  
December 24: Tom Sarbach  
December 29: Tom Sarbach

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

December 1: Angie Murphy  
December 8: Lu Blankenship  
December 15: Elizabeth Freeman  
December 22: Tricia Volz  
December 29: Tyler Crall

### SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST:

December 1: Jan Fisher  
December 8: Lana Conry  
December 15: Myra Cordrey  
December 22: Linda Hughes  
December 29: No Sunday School

### USHERS NAVE

Ken & Debbi Suzuki  
Ted & Karen Ellis  
Alternate: Joe Rogers

### FUNERAL MEALS

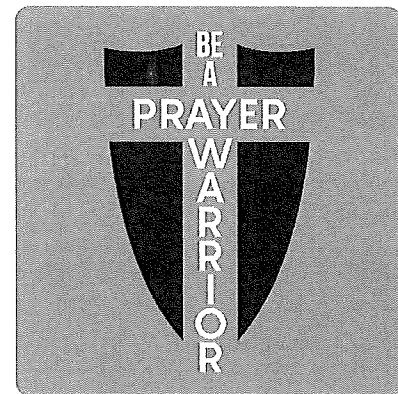
Jan Fisher, Chris Cichanowicz,  
Beth Harruff



## 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!**

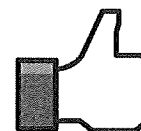
A great and user-friendly way to receive DAILY DEVOTIONS written and supplied by NALC is to text: *ReadingTheWord to 24251*. They will respond back with a link and devotions will come to your phone every morning. They can be read and/or audible.

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

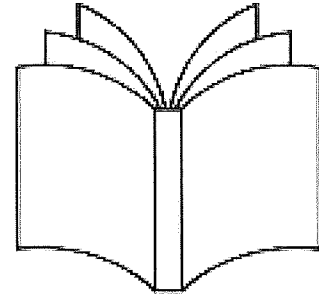


Please refer to **YouTube** to view past proclamations.

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

**January 2025 Visitor Newsletter Deadline:**

**Monday, December 23, 2024.**

**Assembled and mailed: Friday, December 27, 2024.**

PLEASE EMAIL ALL ARTICLES TO: [parishsecretary@felc-mansfield.org](mailto: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](mailto:pastor@felc-mansfield.org)

Scott Berry

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

Becky Pittman

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

Angela Murphy

[cgs@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:cds@felc-mansfield.org)

Nicole Goddard

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

Angie Mullins

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

Andy Kershaw

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

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

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

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

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

**Pastor: Jay Jackson**  
**[pastor@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:pastor@felc-mansfield.org)**

**President: Cynthia Russell**  
**[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:**  
**Chris Cichanowicz**  
**[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: Alicia Schulz**  
**[evangelism@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:evangelism@felc-mansfield.org)**

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

**Worship & Music: Jan Fisher**  
**[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: James Murphy**  
**[Christianed@felc-mansfield.org](mailto:Christianed@felc-mansfield.org)**

**(Revised July 2024)**  
**Non-Profit Org.**