

THE VISITOR



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

Volume 67

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"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.

Psalm 118:24 – *“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

I don't want to talk about January anymore. January 2025 was not a very good month for me or for my family. I am glad to see January 2025 go by the wayside. So, let's look forward to February. While we have some challenging family events coming up, (the funeral for our granddaughter most notably) there are other dates in February that we may be looking forward to...

President's Day is a day we celebrate the birthdays of some of our important leaders.

Valentine's day is a day we celebrate the loved ones in our life.

Groundhog's Day is a day we let a rodent decide whether we get 6 more weeks of winter or an early spring.

But there are some other dates we can look forward (or not look forward) to.

Feb 3rd – Feed the Birds Day

Feb 9th – Chocolate Day

Feb 12th – Hug Day

Feb 19th – International Tug of War Day

It would seem we have a day for just about everything and everyone. There's Missing Day, Pluto Day, Flirting Day, and E-day (anyone know what that one is?) The point is, in our deeply individualistic society where our lives are measured by our accomplishments, if we get a day of our own, then we have really made it.

And yet, like many others, we are taking it day-by-day, walking through the challenges of this broken world, sometimes waiting for the next thing to drop, and looking forward to seeing when this day will end so that a new day can begin and start over. This is the joy and the challenge of being human. Living with the absolutely crushing days, wondering when it will end, and looking forward to the most joyous of days, hoping they will last forever.

When King David wrote Psalm 118 (please read it), he shared the highs and lows of his life. And through it all, he continued to give thanks to the one who gave him life to begin with. He still experienced the lowest of lows, and the highest of highs, and through it all, he knew that each day is a day that the Lord has made. He (and we) will rejoice in it. It's hard. Sometimes it feels suffocating, and it's hard to breathe, (let alone look forward to tomorrow), but through it all, God is there. God sent us Jesus for these times and more. To assure us that we will not ever walk alone through the darkness, but that His light will overcome it all, and if we believe, that light will last forever.

I probably won't celebrate National Chili Day (27th) or national pistachio day (26th) or national walk the dog day (22nd) but I will celebrate another day. A day to walk with the one who created us, who came to save us, and who promises to be with us to the end of the age. This and every day is a day that the Lord has made, Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

God Loves You and So do I,

Pastor Jay

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

Tuesday, January 28, 2025- 7:00 PM

DRAFT COPY- Updated January 29 7:45 AM

Present: Chris Cichanowicz, James Murphy, Christopher Kaschube, Mike Anderson, Lu Blankenship, Nicole Goddard, Jan Fisher, Cindy Russell, Chad McFadden

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

Prayer and devotion led by Mike Anderson.

Secretary, Christopher Kaschube:

- Electronically presented the FELC Church Council minutes from November 19 for approval. **MOTION** (Lu/Jan) to approve the minutes. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Pastor's Report, Jay Jackson:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

2025 is off and running. I am still riding on the holiday high as I had the opportunity to experience Advent/Christmas at FELC. What a beautiful sanctuary when she is all dolled up for the holidays.

Pastorally...

Lowell Weeks' funeral was a sad and joyful event. Much like life is for most of us. We are sad because such a loving heart has left us, and rejoicing because we will see him again. I had an opportunity to visit a few folks in the hospital as they were navigating health issues, but this is just a reminder that I am still an outsider, so if you hear of someone or know of someone that needs a visit, please let me know. I would rather be told numerous times, than not be told at all because we (naturally) assume that I have been told by someone else, and no one actually tells me.

I plan on doing a few home visits and extended care facility visits in the coming months, so please let me know if there is someone you know that would love a visit, and pray and discern if you might accompany me and introduce me as many if not all of the folks I'll be visiting don't know me.

Lastly, Thank you.

To say we have had a rough start to 2025 is an understatement. We thank you for all of your prayers and support through the transition of our home challenges (which have gotten bigger) and through the loss of our sweet girl Daphne. Your prayers have been welcomed, coveted, and we ask that you continue to lift us up.

Daphne's funeral will be on February 15th (Saturday) so I would like to ask not to lead worship on the 16th, as I'm not sure what state of mind I'll be in.

We have plans in the works for so many exciting things here at FELC, but when life goes sideways, we adapt, and we pray, and we come together as a body in Christ. (Thanks Chris for that message).

Thanks again for what you do for the Kingdom, and I give thanks for your partnership in the Gospel, which means more now than ever before.

God Loves You and so do I.

Executive Committee:

- An E-Vote was held on December 9:
 - The Finance Committee **RECOMMENDS** a check in the amount of \$1473.38 to pay the seller's mortgage on the house he is purchasing so they don't lose out on it while the Maryland house has still not sold. This amount will be given as a loan to be repaid by payroll deduction over the next 3 months. This is an interest-free loan, and the Finance Committee will prepare a document for signature to authorize the deductions. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**
 - See the recommendation in tonight's Finance report for further action on this item.
- Committee reports (2024) for the Annual Meeting are due to the church office the first week of April.

- The Nominating Committee has begun their work in preparation for the May Congregational Meeting.
- **RECOMMENDATION:** Approval of the updated job description for the Director of Young Adult Ministries. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.** **Director of Young Adult Ministries Job Description.docx.pdf**
- We have to stay aware of potential changes to the federal grant and funding programs.

Church Council Group 1 (Financial/Property):

Property Committee, Mike Anderson:

From the *December* committee meeting:

- Bob Spears from Bo Lacey Construction was present to give us the quotes for both the Men's and Ladies' Bathrooms in the Undercroft. He gave us 2 quotes:
 - 1. Drywall Repairs, Flooring-Ceramic Tile, 12" x 12" Wall tile, Transition molding, Finish Plumbing Toilets, Ceramic Sink-Wall Mount-18" x 24", Vanity Faucet & supply lines, install Mirror - 24" x 36", Install ADA blocking and grab bar, Trim Paint, Privacy Partitions, and in the mens room floor mounted urinals. This quote came in at \$149,487.96 for both the Men's & Ladies' Bathrooms. If we decide to do only 1 bathroom it will be half of that amount.
 - 2. The second quote is for all the same items except for doing the walls with ceramic tile, FRP Wall Boards will be used in their place. This quote came in at \$99,546.46 for both bathrooms, again if only one bathroom is done it will be half of that total.
 - The Property Committee voted on and passed the motion to hire Bo Lacey to do both bathrooms with the FRP Wall Boards upon the approval of the expenditure at the Congregational meeting.
- Other items discussed:
 - Andy is still working on changing all the light fixtures to the new LED Fixtures.
 - The Chapel still needs to be done. The second floor is 50 % done. The third floor is 75% done.
 - Trees at the Retreat Center have been cut down. Charley Cordrey and James Murphy will be cutting them up.
 - Air Conditioning for the Emmaus Room is being installed this week by Standard Plumbing.
 - Andy is still getting quotes from Brotherhood Mutual and Church Mutual on coverage of insurance for the church. We should know soon which way we will be going on this issue.
 - Discussed about the hiring of a Commercial Cleaning company to help Dave keep the church clean. Andy spoke with Commercial Cleaning Enterprises and they gave him a quote of \$971.43/quarter to give substantial aid to Dave to keep the church clean. The Property Committee voted on and passed a motion to hire them on a trial basis to accomplish this goal.

Finance Committee, Lu Blankenship:

FELC (including the Early Learning Center) ended 2024 with total expenses of \$916,820, which was \$207,146 more than total income of \$709,675. Thankfully, withdrawals of \$173,630 from the General Endowment Fund and \$22,350 from the Major Capital Improvement Endowment Fund, along with the carryover of \$51,601, allowed us to meet expenses.

Our total offerings for the year were \$284,717, which resulted in Benevolence giving of \$28,472. We paid benevolences quarterly to the NALC, the NALC Seminary, NALC Disaster Response, the North Central Ohio Mission District, Malawi Orphan Care, Go Missions (Krafts), and the World Mission Prayer League (Sorges).

Offerings in 2024 were 10.3% higher than in 2023. Offerings have increased 16.2% over the past five years.

The General Endowment Fund ended 2024 with a balance of \$2,539,991, compared to the Year-End 2023 balance of \$2,243,323.

The Major Capital Improvements Endowment Fund ended 2024 with a balance of \$314,954, compared to the Year-End 2023 balance of \$273,899. At the January meeting, the Congregation approved the withdrawal of up to \$125,000 from this fund to renovate the restrooms in the Undercroft. Also, \$25,000 from this fund was committed to the antiphonal organ project, which will begin this year.

The New Ministries and Missions Endowment Fund ended the year with a balance of \$486,252. We did not take a draw from this Endowment Fund in 2024. There is also a New Ministries and Missions Fund (not an endowment fund) that carries a current balance of \$17,019. This fund and allowed withdrawals from the New Ministries and Missions Endowment Fund will pay for the new Director of Youth and Young Adult position for the next couple years.

FELC is very blessed indeed to have Endowment Funds and other funds that have come to us from generous members over time. Without our endowment funds, we would be unable to meet expenses.

The Finance Committee **RECOMMENDS** the forgiveness of the loan given to the pastor last month in the amount of \$1,483.73. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**

The Finance Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the benevolence in 2025 be divided as follows:

- 25% NALC (combining NALC and the seminary because it is part of the NALC budget)
- 5% North Central Ohio Mission District
- 20% NALC Disaster Relief
- 10% Go Missions (Krafts)
- 10% World Mission Prayer League (Sorges)
- 10% Malawi Orphan Care Ministry Food Program
- 10% The New Store
- 10% Richland Pregnancy Services

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED .

| A | C | D | E | F | G |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| Fund Balances as of 12-31-2024 | | | | | |
| | General Endowment Fund Balance | | | | 2,700,901.15 |
| | Total General Endowment Fund Balance | | | | \$2,700,901.15 |
| | <i>see back pages for additional information on how these funds are used</i> | | | | |
| | CDS Endowment Fund Bal (For ELC Use Only) | | | | 28,159.57 |
| | James M Dickson Endow Fund Bal (For Community Only) | | | | 161,637.46 |
| | Peyton Endowment Fund Balance (FELC Members to Seminary) | | | | 131,009.05 |
| | Major Cap Imp Endow Fund Bal | | | | 314,954.41 |
| | New Min & Miss Endow Fund Bal | | | | 486,251.90 |
| | Total Other Endowment Funds | | | | \$1,122,012.39 |
| | General Operating Fund Balance | | | | 42,226.21 |
| | Columbarium Fund Balance | | | | 14,728.07 |
| | FELC Maintenance Fund Balance | | | | 1,418.06 |
| | Memorial Fund Balance (Undesignated) | | | | 2,382.28 |
| | Organ Maintenance Fund Balance | | | | 36,961.27 |
| | M & W Music Ministry (Pittman) Balance | | | | 5,037.19 |
| | RGH Fund Balance (For Kitchen ONLY) | | | | 2,307.40 |
| | ELC Fund Balance | | | | 13,340.28 |
| | Youth Fund Balance | | | | 12,534.51 |
| | Wednesday Noon Lunch Fund Balance | | | | 4,921.39 |
| | Emma L. & Glenn O. Gamber Fund Bal (Christian Education) | | | | 9,498.55 |
| | New Ministries & Missions Fund Balance | | | | 17,018.84 |
| | Women of FELC Fund Balance | | | | 1,063.73 |
| | Total Other Funds | | | | \$163,437.78 |
| | Total Fund Balance | | | | \$3,986,351.32 |

Stewardship Committee, Sandie Volz: No report

Church Council Group 2 (Internal/External Ministries):

Evangelism Committee, Alicia Schulz: No report.

Social Ministry Committee, Gary Lane: No report.

Global Missions Committee:

- Malawi
 - \$1800 has been donated so far by friends and family to MOCP in memory of Lowell Weeks.
 - Westwood Community Church has granted \$10,000 to begin building the fence around the Girls' Rescue Center. They are asking for continued prayers for the fund-raising efforts they will be doing to get all of the fence constructed.
- Peru
 - The Krafts' son is now a college graduate! He was able to spend quality time with them as they brought Christ's Word to many groups. He will be coming back to the U.S. in hopes to find a job.
 - An entire bus load of young people went to Bolivia to help the missionaries there spread God's Word.
 - The Advent offering of \$1545 was sent in addition to the benevolence we sent for the 4th quarter.
- Sri Lanka
 - Continued prayers that God will open more hearts to come to Jesus through the efforts of Brian and Barb Sorge..

Church Council Group 3 (Education):

Christian Education Committee, James Murphy: No report.

Youth Committee, Ted Ellis:

- 14 youth and 4 adults attended Quake in early January in Cincinnati.
- The conference was closed one hour early on Sunday because of the threat of a large snow event. Our youth again demonstrated their good behavior and their willingness to join in all activities. We should be proud of them along with the chaperones that attended.

Young Adult Ministries, Kayla McFadden:

- Created and managed an Instagram account for the youth group.
- Created and managed an Instagram account and Facebook page for the young adult group
 - Pastor Jay and Angie Mullins both have the login information for the account
- Initiated a young adult group and started planning and reaching out to young adults
- Planned and executed a young adult game night at the church on Jan 16.
 - 8 individuals attended.
- Attended a meeting with Pastor, members of youth committee, and other involved individuals to develop vision and need for the youth program.
- Started young adult Bible study.
 - 10 individuals attended.
 - We studied 1 Corinthians 12 and Acts 2 and discussed Christian community.

Other Church Council Committees/Reports:

Music & Worship Committee, Jan Fisher:

- Due to extreme weather we had to postpone our meeting until February 4, but here are some of the items we were going to present to our committee:
 - A new plan and name for Fastnacht
 - Plans for Ash Wednesday and Lent
 - Lilies for Easter celebration
 - Adding various 'teaching' to Sunday Sermons
 - Safety Team items
 - Congo-Life: five Sundays in March; pot-luck on March 30
 - Discuss Holy Communion
- There were 97 people in attendance at our combined Thanksgiving service. We enjoyed donuts and spiced cider during fellowship following the worship service. Canned food donations went to the Salvation Army. There were a few monetary donations as well.

Women's Ministry, Jan Fisher:

- We continue to make fleece prayer blankets so that we have them ready to give for various celebrations. Several of us do this without actually coming out for an onsite meeting.
- The Women's Ministry is presently sending out Valentine gift cards to all undergraduate college students as well as our young people serving in the military. This is customary as we recently did this before Christmas as well.
- Women's Bible Study continues to meet on the second Monday of each month at 1:00 PM in the Emmaus Room. All women are welcome to join and build up their spiritual journey of faith.
- Luther Fellowship will meet on February 17 at 2:00 PM. Program yet to be announced. Meeting bi-monthly now.
- Arts and Crafts night was held on January 27. We made handmade Valentines cards to be sent to our home bound members.

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

From Becky:

- The ELC is currently learning 'love songs' about Jesus. We will be taking our music out into the community on Tuesday, February 11th and singing for the residents at Wedgewood Estates and Primrose.
- Our January Bible verse is "love is patient, love is kind." 1 Corinthians 13
- Becky is now leading weekly music with our school-age children, (Tuesdays at 4:00). They are currently using recorders and Boomwhackers, and they are also learning the Old Testament books of the Bible and the 10 Commandments via song.

From Angie:

- We have 9 full-time staff and 8 part-time staff. 3 will be returning from college in the summer.
- 53 children are under the age of 5 and 18 school-age children.
- Are you interested in sitting on our ELC board? We meet 4-5 times a year. Contact Angie Murphy or Mrs. C.
- We are taking 40 summer camp children this summer. We will start enrollment in March.
- March 4th, we will be inviting ELC to Pancakes and Jazz!
- Summer is coming up fast. We have some changes for this year. There will be a \$50 registration fee for each camper, full time enrollment, and more activities.
- We are looking for those interested in teaching a talent, skill, or donating the items to help with an event. Some ideas are Archery, soccer skills, football punting, pickleball, kayaking, track events, golf and maybe even horseback riding.
- **RECOMMENDATION:**

- We would like to hire La'Dayla Emerson. She will be part-time starting in March. She is a new mom. Her siblings came through the ELC.
- We would like to hire Emma McDowell. Emma is a senior at Ontario going through Pioneer teaching classes. She is also employed at Apple Hill Orchard. She will be part-time.
- RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**
- ELC was closed January 20th for Martin Luther King Jr. day.
- On February 14th we will have our valentine party and dance in the undercroft.
- **RECOMMENDATION:**
 - ELC would like to sell butter braid breads and cookies from February 19th-March 10th. All proceeds will go to help offset summer camp expenses. **RECOMMENDATION APPROVED.**
- ELC received a \$2000 grant from Richland County Women's fund. These funds are being used to create a STEAM room. This will be located outside the ELC office.
- We are also applying for a \$2500 summertime kids grant. This is also through the Richland County Foundation. We are applying for a Drama Club grant. We are Looking at the musical 'Matilda'.
-

"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said. "it is more blessed to give than to receive". Acts 20:35

Personnel Committee, Teri Brenkus: No report.

Old Business: None

New Business:

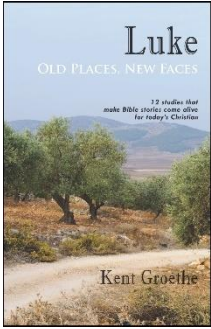
- **MOTION** (James/Chad) to have the Young Adult Ministries director pursue information/funding/planning for a potential mission trip to Winnipeg this summer 2025. **MOTION APPROVED.**
- February Devotional/Coffee Fellowship: Stewardship
- The next Council Meeting is Tuesday, February 25 at 7:00 PM.

MOTION (Chris C./Jan) to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Kaschube, FELC Church Council Secretary

Sunday School



On Sunday, February 16th we will be starting a new Bible Study, *Luke (Old Places, New Faces)* by Kent Groethe. Join us in this Bible Study that looks at the old places from the New Testament stories and gives relevant and faith-stimulating messages for new faces — today's believers.

If you'd like to donate to the books, they are \$10.

Women's Ministry

A little “wrap up” concerning the funeral meal for Lowell Weeks: Women's Ministry says a big “Thank You” to the 16 ladies who so willingly helped prepare and serve the funeral meal following Lowell's celebration of life on January 16, 2025. One hundred and five guests attended the funeral service and most folks stayed to express their condolences and enjoy the light lunch. We have decided that a great way to do these meals is to hold them in the Narthex. This is a very successful approach.

Barb Coon, Karen Ellis, Lu Blankenship and Ila Kershaw formed the funeral squad. Great job, Ladies!



Luther Fellowship

Luther Fellowship, which is now open to all retirees, will meet on February 17th at 2pm. Keep an eye out for our activity.

Service Ministry

On January 28 we distributed 100 Senior Boxes plus fresh produce and boxes of cheese. Due to the cold weather we reduced the number of boxes in the distribution.

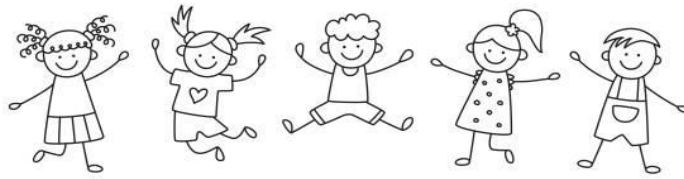


Arts and Crafts



Eight ladies met on Monday evening, January 27 to make a huge number of Valentines for our home-bound friends as well as for Children's Services foster kids. We all got creative with lots of “hearts” ideas. It was a fun evening. Stay tuned for the next “crafts” night!





ELC Little People BIG News

Flashback into January

January was a nice laid-back month for ELC. We celebrated our 100th day of school dressed as 100-year-olds. We were also blessed with a \$2000 grant from Richland County Women's Fund!



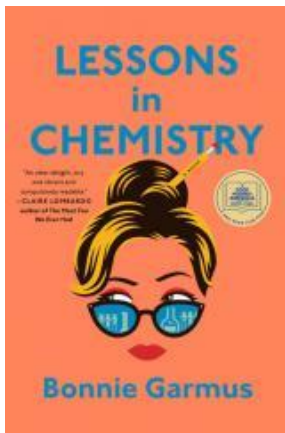
A peek in February

On February 19th ELC will begin a fundraiser selling butter braid breads and cookies as we have in the past. Be on the lookout for flyers if you are interested in these yummy goodies!



BOOK CLUB NEWS!

For the month of February we will be meeting on February 9, 2025 reading and discussing, *Lesson in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.



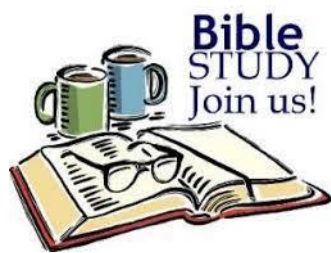
Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an *average* woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.

We will be meeting at Judy Santoro's home on February 9, 2025 at 2:30 PM. Looking forward to another good discussion. Everyone welcome!

Thank you so much for all your support!
Judy Santoro



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 Monday, February 10 at 1:00 PM. All women are encouraged to attend.

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 February we will offer communion at Wedgewood Estates and Arbors at Mifflin on Wednesday, February 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

FELC, Our family was so blessed by your thoughtful and generous gift to our family, after Hurricane Helene. Thank you so much. God bless you! Love the Hubbard family.

Ladies Ministry, Please excuse my tardiness in sending you my thanks for the lovely quilt. I have enjoyed its warmth and the lovely colors. Thank you so much and God bless you and the work you do. Elaine Browning (Pat Heichel's sister)

FELC, Thank you for your donation of \$343 that helped so many. In the midst of this busy holiday season, thank you for taking time to think of others. It was Christ who set the example of caring for those who are less fortunate. Your contribution will allow The Salvation Army to follow His example by ministering to those in need. Blessings, Majors Robert & Karen Bender (Corps Officers)

Note to Women's Ministry From Gail Elder: Thank you for sending the many wishes for Blessings of Good Health in the New Year. The cards are beautiful. (Chris Mayglothling sends out beautiful cards monthly to our list of home-bound members.)

Dear Women of FELC, Thank you so much for sending me and Anna the Chick-fil-A gift card (for Christmas). It proved to be a FANTASTIC dinner on our date night. It makes me feel so loved to know you are all still thinking of me in my old state. Love, Mitchell and Anna Pittman



Memorial Donations

- Malawi Orphan Care Project
 - *In memory of Lowell Weeks*

Given by: Christine Cichanowicz, Mark Sheridan, Mary Schwartz, Rob & Susan Hogsette, Ken & Deborah Suzuki, Greg & Linda Hughes, Dan & Lisa Peterson, Jean Bernhoft, John & Pat Fraifogl, Lana Conry, The Shupp Family, Suzanne Rippel, Jan Fisher, Martha DeMiro



Lowell Weeks

January 5, 2025

Daphne Filkins

January 23, 2025

(granddaughter of Pastor Jay and Angie Jackson)

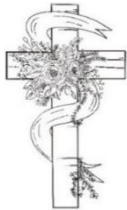
Daniel Potter

January 23, 2025

(father of Allison Weeks)

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



Pastor Jay Jackson officiated at the funeral service for Lowell Weeks on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at First English Lutheran Church. Interment followed in the FELC Columbarium.

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.

❖ **2/9/2025**

❖ **2/16/2025**

❖ **3/2/2025**

❖ **3/9/2025** **LENT – NO FLOWERS-First Sunday**

❖ **3/16/2025** **LENT – NO FLOWERS-Second Sunday**

❖ **3/23/2025** **LENT – NO FLOWERS-Third Sunday**

❖ **3/30/2025** **LENT – NO FLOWERS-Fourth Sunday**

February 2025 Volunteers

Sunday 10AM Worship (Nave)

ACOLYTES

February 2: TBD
February 9: TBD
February 16: TBD
February 23: TBD

ALTAR WORKERS

Scott and Jodi Mumaw

ASSISTING MINISTER

Chris Kaschube

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Stewardship

GREETER

Ken & Debbi Suzuki

COMMUNION PREPARERS

February 2: Mary Schwartz

COMMUNION SERVERS

February 2:
Wine West: Kevin Zehe
Wine East: Toni Zehe
Intinction : Lu Blankenship

LAY READERS

February 2: Pat Heichel
February 9: Shirley Lane
February 16: Anita Nehr Korn
February 23: Chris Kaschube

PRAYER PARTNERS

Chris Cichanowicz
Mary Schwartz
Jan Fisher

ATTENDANCE SHEETS

February 2: Stacey Crall
February 9: Lana Conry
February 16: Chris Mayglothling
February 23: Vicki Kern

SLIDES

February 2: Peyton McFadden
February 9: Teri Brenkus
February 16: Cindy Russell
February 23: Allison Weeks

LIVESTREAM

February 2: Suzanne Rippel
February 9: Tom Sarbach
February 16: Todd Heichel
February 23: Suzanne Rippel

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

February 2: Tricia Volz
February 9: Tyler Crall
February 16: James Murphy
February 23: Lu Blankenship

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST:

February 2: Debra Riei
February 9: Amy Skropits
February 16: Angie Murphy
February 23: Becky Faith

USHERS NAVE

Tyler Crall & Mike Anderson
James & Angie Murphy
Alternate: Anita Nehr Korn

FUNERAL MEALS

Karen Ellis, Barb Coon
Lu Blankenship, and Ila Kershaw

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

March 2025 Visitor Newsletter Deadline:

Monday, March 24, 2025.

Assembled and mailed: Wednesday, March 26, 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

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

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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:
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globalmissions@felc-mansfield.org

Finance: Lu Blankenship
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Evangelism: Alicia Schulz
evangelism@felc-mansfield.org

Personnel: Teri Brenkus
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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.