



First English Lutheran Church NEWSLETTER

August 2023



FELC Mission Statement

By the grace of God First English Lutheran Church will grow as one family of faith, secure in the knowledge of Christ's gift of salvation, proclaiming God's love for all.

Pastor Denise Fossen

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson,
Missionaries/Tanzania

Barbara Wegner, *Parish Secretary*

Liz Ketz, *Financial Secretary*

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Building hours: M/F 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Sat. & Sun. 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
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First English Lutheran Church
9 NW 3rd Street
Ortonville, MN 56278



Hello
August!



From the Pastor



Summer Sabbath

¹The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³he restores my soul. Psalm 23

We are so fortunate to live near or on water. Watching and listening to water is relaxing and calming. Listening to the song, “Slow Me Down” reminds me of the need for rest from our busyness, to slow down, to be comforted by the Shepherd, to dwell in his peace.

Read the lyrics to “Slow Me Down” written by Sandra McCracken, Jon Guerra, Leslie Jordan, Wendell Kimbrough, Kate Bluett, Matthew Kaemingk:

O good shepherd, would you teach me how to rest
I'm rushing on, will you make me to lie down
Will you build a fold by the waters that refresh
Will you call my name and lead me safely out?

From my anxious drive to labor on and on
From the restless grind that has put my mind to sleep
Will you call me back and gently slow me down
Will you show me now what to lose and what to keep

O Good Shepherd, O Good friend slow me down.

When my table's bent with only greed and gold
And my grasping hands are afraid you won't provide
Will you pour the wine that loosens up my hold
Set your table here with what truly satisfies

On the busy streets trying to make myself a name
If the work is yours, there is nothing I can claim
Will you home to the pastures of your peace
The house is yours, I'm sitting at your feet.

Praying you can find rest in the Good Shepherd in these last lazy days of summer. We are busy planning for fall and the start of confirmation, Sunday School, backpack blessings, Bible presentations, God's Work Our Hands Sunday, and more! See the church calendar for dates. Details coming soon.

Resting in the peace of Jesus,

Pastor Denise



FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN ELECTION MEETING **Annual Election Minutes – June 25, 2023 (not yet approved)**

President Kristi Ehrenberg called the meeting to order at 10:27 a.m. declaring a quorum present.

Pastor Denise Fossen led us in an opening prayer.

Kristi offered the following resolution that was passed with applause.

Resolution of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Service: These people: Jennifer Anderson, Michelle Giese, Marilee Haukos, Deb Henningson, Kirsten Karels, Kelsey Henningson-Kaye, and Art Vollmer have graciously given of themselves for the sake of the work of Christ's Kingdom here at First English Lutheran Church serving as officers or board members. Therefore, be it resolved, that we as a congregation called First English Lutheran Church, do offer thanks and praise to God for the witness and service of these women and men who have now completed their terms as officers or board members of our congregation.

President Ehrenberg presented the ballot for the election of new officers and board members for the church. Motion by Neva Foster, second by Scott Schneider to cast a unanimous ballot for all listed. Motion passed unanimously. President Ehrenberg thanked those who agreed to serve. Installation of officers is set for the July 9 Sunday morning service.

There was no old business brought forward.

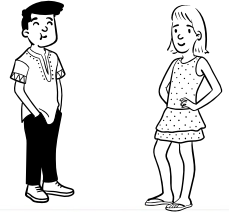
In new business, Art Vollmer updated the congregation on the roof improvements on the church building. The education wing was completed in 2021 and has been paid for. The south roof was damaged in 2022 along with the narthex. Insurance funds were received to cover this. The roof had been replaced in 1991 over 30 years ago, so the council voted to do the north side also. The total bill was approximately \$97,000 with the church needing to fund \$56,000. Motion by Becky Parker, second by Ron Athey to take the money from the investment account to pay this bill. This account is partially undesignated and includes the parsonage funds. Based on the capital improvement fund balance, we will need to use around \$50,000 of this money. Money will be removed with a recommendation from our investment advisor.

With there being no other business, Neva Foster motioned to close the meeting, second by Art Vollmer and it passed unanimously.

The meeting ended by saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Parker

Youth News August 2023



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



- A great time was held this last week of July with 48 students participating in our VBS program. Thanks to the following people for their help: Michelle Bauer, Carmen Zupfer, Kaitlyn Burdorf, Sara Wollschlager, Beth Fladhammer, Emily Sigler, Lexi Kaye, Amy and James Hodenfield, Gayle Anderson, Bryson Karels, Julia Wiik, Sandy Brown, Kelsey Henningson Kaye, Deb Henningson, Lori Strei, Dawn Barnhardt, Kathy Randall, Marilyn Chindvall, Ronda Thielke, Ashly Thielke, Anita Longnecker, Randy and Nicole Koch, Sara Mattison, Kristi Ehrenberg, Ethel Swenson, Kate Heinecke, Ann Mattison and Liz Ketz.
- Thanks to the Endowment Committee for their donation to the VBS Program.
- Thanks also to the anonymous Thrivent member who put in a request for a grant given in honor of Elizabeth Ketz. It was decided to use this grant, by Liz, to cover the cost of the VBS t-shirts for all the campers.



UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

- ☀ August 27th is the blessing of the backpacks so remember to bring your backpacks to church that day.
- ☀ August 30th acolyte training, Confirmation prep, and confirmation orientation begins. Please note the box below.
- ☀ We have not decided on anything for Kid's Club or Youth Group as of yet. We are still praying that someone steps forward to be our Youth Director. Please prayerfully consider this and ask God to provide us with a person to take on this position.
- ☀ Thank you to the following people for their donations to the Youth: in memory of Zachary Giese from Bruce and Evie Swigerd ; in memory of Mark Block from Lisa Wold, Ron and Ginger Athey, Jim and Ranet Schmeichel, Sharon Smith, Lois Bergeson, and Terry Block and family.


CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

AUGUST 30TH - ORIENTATION

- 3:30 pm is acolyte training and refresher for 7-10th graders.
 - New students will be measured for cassocks (robes).
- 5:00 pm 10th grade class meets to discuss confirmation rite.
- 6:30 pm 7-9th grade (with parents/guardians) orientation.
 - We'll go over expectations and schedule during the meeting.

SEPTEMBER 6TH - FIRST DAY OF CLASS

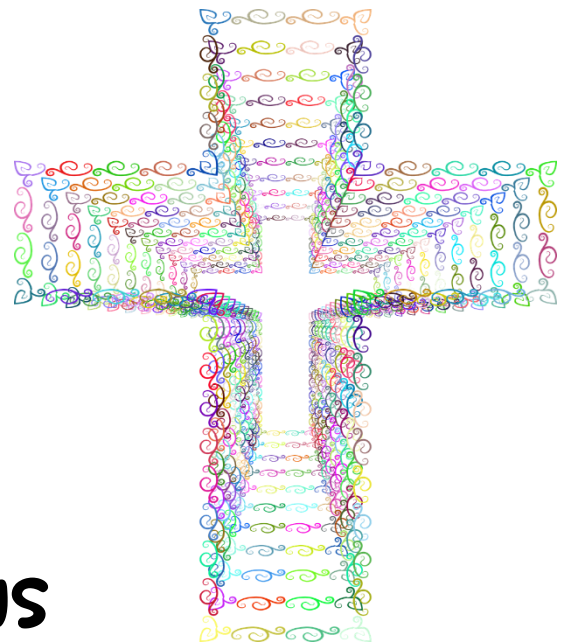
- 3:30 pm – 7th and 8th graders first class of the year
- 4:30 pm – 9th graders first class of the year



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Thanks to Pam Winn (See Matthew 4:6) 03-18-2005
THINGS EASED UP ON GUARDIAN ANGELS AFTER AIR BAGS WERE INVENTED




CHURCH NEWS

The LQP WELCA Fall Gathering for all women in our congregation will be held in Granite Falls on Tuesday, October 17th. You are all invited to gather and enjoy fellowship at the Fall Gathering OR perhaps you are someone who would like to become an active part of the LQP WELCA Board. If you are interested or have questions, please call Ethel at 320-305-0825 for more information.

Our Annual Backpack Blessing is August 27th – Let's send our congregation's kids into the new school year assured of God's promises and our loving support! Be sure to join us and to include all of our young people in your prayers as they go back to school. Children should bring along their school backpack for this special backpack blessing event. 

During the service, children will come forward for a special moment of prayer and blessing. **God's Work, Our Hands** will be on September 10th. Keep an eye on the bulletins for more information.

New Member Sunday is on September 17th. If you know of anyone interested in joining our congregation, please have them get in touch with someone in the church office.

We are looking for volunteers to prepare and serve coffee on Sundays going forward. Please contact the office if you are willing to help. If there is no one willing to help, we may not be able to hold coffee fellowship. 

We are seeking to fill the FELC Youth and Children Program Leader position. It will start at approx. 20-hours per week, Mon-Fri, plus limited evenings and weekend hours for youth ministry activities and chaperoning youth events and trips. There is potential for future growth in hours with program growth. If you or someone you know is interested, drop off your resume and references at the church office or e-mail it to pastor@firstenglish.net.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Ricky Anderson Jr., Carol Barrett; Glenn Berdan; Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Brandi Tweeter; Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Baby Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; Baby McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; Jerry Stotesbery; and Terry Ward. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; & Eleanor Nickolauson. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict. If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.



KDIO BROADCASTS

- (July 2nd) was sponsored by your gifts to the endowment fund.
- (July 9th) was sponsored by your gifts to the endowment fund.
- (July 16th) was sponsored by your gifts to the endowment fund.
- (July 23rd) was sponsored by your gifts to the endowment fund.
- (July 30th) was sponsored in honor of all the volunteers and students that made VBS a success by Liz Ketz.

THE PINK ENVELOPES

for each month are for designated funds. You may designate your extra gift to any fund you wish. Our Board of Stewardship also designates a special emphasis for each month of the year. September special gifts go to the Endowment Fund which helps cover the cost of the KDIO broadcasts when we do not have a weekly sponsorship.

Thank you for supporting FELC's giving emphasis!

August 2023

Designated Funds

Building (please specify) \$ _____

Operating Fund \$ _____

Other Baptism Chests \$ _____

Name _____

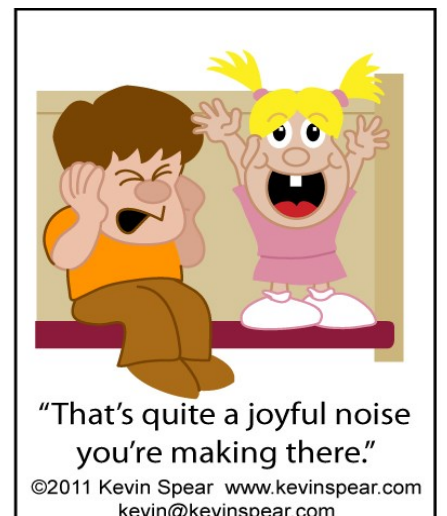
- JanuaryTechnology Fund
- February.....Service Trip Scholarship
- March..... Big Stone Lake Area Food
- April..... SWMN Funding Initiative
- May..Global Missions - Companion Synod South Africa
- June.....Someplace Safe
- July.....Families in Need
- August..... Baptism Chests**
- September.....Endowment Fund
- October.....Jaycees Project Christmas
- November....God's Work, Our Hands/Service Projects
- December.....ELCA Missionaries

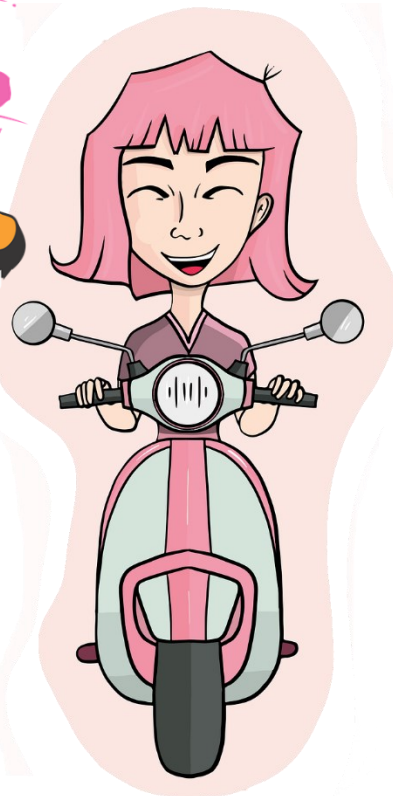
Parish Nurse Article for August

This month's name for God is **Yahweh**

Yahweh = I am, the self existent one. In Exodus 3: 14-15 "This is my name forever, the name I am to be remembered by from generation to generation."

Early scribes thought the name **Yahweh** too holy to even write in their text so they used dots or "the holy name" instead. God, **Yahweh**, knows our names and he knows our struggles, go to him in prayer.





SPIRIT RIDE & STRIDE August 17-21, 2023 - Camp House

This is the long weekend you've been waiting for! Mike & Jeannette Jacobson will lead motorcycle tours of the North Shore area each day, and evenings will be spent in the comforts of Camp House. This is a great opportunity for a relaxing weekend with enjoyable rides through some of God's beautiful creation. Spirit Ride is open to individuals, couples, and groups - with motorcycles, four wheelers, bicycles, or hiking, walking and running shoes! Visit GLLM.org to register for this retreat!

Upcoming Stonecroft Ministries Sponsored By Women's Connection

Tuesday, August 15th, at 5:30 pm at
Tabor Methodist Church.

The cost is \$6.00, and there is a
free nursery available by reservation.

Speaker: Bonnie Neissess of Milford, IA
"Treasures: Past, Present, and Future"

Special Feature: Kathleen Marihart
of Ortonville
Smallest Art Gallery & Studio

Music: Paul Hamann of Ortonville
Pianist & Vocalist

FOOD WILL BE SERVED & ALL ARE WELCOME!



Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The congregations and all the baptized who are the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are claimed by this mission: God places us in cities, farms and towns together under one prairie sky. The Risen Christ surprises us with opportunities to plant God's Word in the world.

Walking together in confidence, we cultivate life-giving congregations, nurture partner ministries, and cooperate in the life of the ELCA.

By God's grace, together we have what we need.

'As members of the ELCA, we believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. With our hands, we do God's work of restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus Christ's name throughout the world.'

ALTAR GUILD TEAMS – AUGUST

Sacristy, Sanctuary, Surplices:

Chelsy Stattelmann & Ginger Athey

Banners:

Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter

Flower Committee:

Kim Anderson & Kris Redfield

SCHEDULING

KEYBOARD/ORGANIST

Aug. 6: Kathy Haukos

Aug. 9*: Amy Adelman

Aug. 13: Carol Ydstie

Aug. 20: Marilyn Hanson

Aug. 27: Amy Adelman

Sept. 3: Kathy Haukos

Sept. 10: TBD

Sept. 17: TBD

Sept. 24: TBD

** Denotes Hymn Sing at FWV*

LECTOR

Aug. 6: Jim Schmeichel

Aug. 13: Marilyn Hanson

Aug. 20: Jim Foster

Aug. 27: Brent Zahrbock

Sept. 3: Kelsey Kaye

Sept. 10: Jon Ydstie

Sept. 17: Terry Kalberg

Sept. 24: Liv Wollschlager

ACOLYTES

Aug. 6: Eliot & Brandon

Aug. 13: Justice & Bryson

Aug. 20: Mason & Rylie

Aug. 27: Jaclyn & Raimi

Sept. 3: Archer & Meadow

Sept. 10: Amelia & Lexi

Sept. 17: Hannah & Brooke

Sept. 24: Cameron & Owen

LAY ASSISTANTS

Aug. 6: Becky Parker & Lori Larson

Aug. 13: Dave Ellingson & Brent Zahrbock

Sept. 3: Kirsten Karels & Marla Strei

Sept. 10: Jim & Ranet Schmeichel

FV Neighborhoods

Aug. 6: TBD

Aug. 13: Marge Dragseth & Brent Zahrbock

Sept. 3: TBD

Sept. 10: TBD

GREETERS

Aug. 6: Liz Ketz & Marge Dragseth

Aug. 13: Glenn & Deb Henningson

Aug. 20: Jim & Neva Foster

Aug. 27: Terry Kalberg & Kathy Randall

Sept. 3: David & Debbie Ellingson

Sept. 10: Sharon Carlson & Lois Bergeson

Sept. 17: Glenda Reiffenberger & Ev Johnson

Sept. 24: Josh, Sara, & Liv Wollschlager

SOUND SYSTEM

Aug. 6: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson

Aug. 13: Matt Karels & Marina Thomson

Aug. 20: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson

Aug. 27: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

Sept. 3: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson

Sept. 10: Matt Karels & Marina Thomson

Sept. 17: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson

Sept. 24: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

USHERS

Aug. 6: Brent Zahrbock, Dean Strand, Vern Nickolauson, & Dave Ellingson

Aug. 13: Liz Ketz, Eldon Knutson, Darin Ehrenberg, & Harley Helgeson

Aug. 20: Russel Thielke, Warren Wiese, Gale May, & Connie Newman

Aug. 27: Eugene Statesberry, Jim Foster, Gale May, & Keven Berdan.

Sept. 3: Ev Johnson, Kevin Fossen, Kim & Jon Anderson

Sept. 10: Glenn Henningson, Ron Athey, Art Vollmer, & Larry Dahle

Sept. 17: Dean Longnecker, Dick Strei, Josh Wollschlager, & Russ Thielke

Sept. 24: Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Jackie & Mel Domine



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
August 2023 † † † First English Lutheran Church			Daily Devotions are available @ www.firstenglish.net click on "Lutheran Faith" & "PRAYERS, STUDY, & DEVOTIONALS"			
		1 8:30 am Day of Love	2 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast	3 	4 9:00 am Bulletins Printed 	5 
6 9:00 am Worship – Communion – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Fairway View Worship LIVE	7 10:00 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Council Meeting 	8 8:30 am Day of Love 12:00 pm Executive Meeting 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	9 9:30 am TV Broadcast 4:00 pm Hymn Sing at Fairway View 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 	10 	11 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	12 
13 9:00 am Worship – Communion – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Fairway View Worship Pre-recorded	14 10:00 am Staff Meeting	15 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	16 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast	17 	18 9:00 am Bulletins Printed 	19
20 9:00 am Worship – Favorite Hymns – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship	21 10:00 am Staff Meeting	22 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	23 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm Confirmation Interviews NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 	24 	25 9:00 am Bulletins Printed 	26 
27 9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – Backpack Blessing – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:20 am WAM Meeting  	28 10:00 am Staff Meeting 	29 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV 	30 <u>CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION</u> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm 7-10 th gr. Acolyte Training 5:00 pm 10 th grade Conf. Rite mtg. 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 6:30 pm 7-9 th graders (with parents/guardians) Conf orientation.	31 		