



First English Lutheran Church NEWSLETTER

November 2023

There's  *always*
 **SOMETHING**
to be
THANKFUL 
 *for*

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*

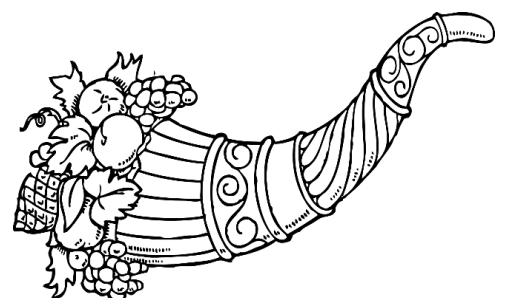
Liz Ketz, *Financial Secretary*

Kaitlyn Burdorf, *Jr/Sr High Youth Leader*

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First English Lutheran Church
9 NW 3rd Street
Ortonville, MN 56278



HELLO NOVEMBER!



From the Pastor



Grace and peace, beloved, from our God who walks besides us in all the seasons of life.

A well-known verse from the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes states matter-of-factly, for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

We so vividly experience the change of summer to fall here: fields are harvested, hunting season is in full swing, plants are dying off, tree leaves are vibrant in their dying as they prepare for the long winter ahead.

Leaves can teach us much about beauty in each stage of life. Beginning with the bright green of sprouting, the deep lush greens of summer, the golden and red hues of fall, to the sparkly frost of winter. In each stage of life for creation, and for us, God is walking with us through the seasons of change.

For some time now, people have been concerned about the life of the church. Many have said it is dying, it is approaching the winter season and it appears to struggle to see a clear path towards a future.

While things change, and may look different, and have different leaders, church in general and First English Lutheran in particular, we continue to have a purpose and a beauty.

Look at the beauty of the faces of the children receiving their own Bibles and their backpacks blessed. Gaze at the smiles of parents and children as their infants are baptized. Know that even though you could not see all the lives that were impacted by your gifts of yourselves for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, you brought beauty and joy to many people.

No matter the season, we can trust God to be with us, as proven in the past, right now in the present, and in the future. Though anger and resentment is living in the past, and anxiety is living in the future, peace is living in today. Jesus has promised to give us his peace. I have great trust in our Savior and Redeemer Jesus, the unchanging and foundational Rock of our faith, to lead us into the future as "He's got the whole world in His hands."

I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. Ecclesiastes 3:14

I'm grateful and full of hope as we gather together as a congregation each Sunday in gratitude and praise. Keep showing up, keep inviting and welcoming, keep being generous, and with God's help, this current season can spring First English Lutheran into new life in its next season.

In Christ,

Pastor Denise



FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING Council Minutes – October 2, 2023 (not yet approved)

Members present: Pastor Denise Fossen, Kristi Ehrenberg (president), Becky Parker (treasurer) *and Stewardship*, Julie Schneider- *Stewardship*, Kayla Minder (née Teske) - *Christian Ed*, Gayla Athey- *Youth & Family*, Marge Dragseth - *Evangelism*, Marilyn Chindvall- *Lay Ministry*, Brent Zahrbock- *Lay Ministry*, Dale Price- *Church Properties*, and Barbara Wegner- *Secretary*.

Meeting was called to order by President Kristi Ehrenberg at 8:17 pm.

Approval of September Minutes. Julie & Kayla **MSP**.

Approval of August Treasurer's Report – It was a light month, but we didn't have to go through the reserves in Sept. The reason we have extra money is because cut the giving amount to the Synod in half. Brent, Marge **MSP**.

Board of Lay Ministry – Marilyn Chindvall – Accepted September WAM report. The board members were assigned to a staff member for October interviews. Accepted WAM's suggestion of the 7 o'clock Thanksgiving Eve Service time. Gayla is going off of the Endowment Committee and will need to be replaced. Dick Strei will be asked if he wants to serve another term. The board looked at WAM's suggestions for paying the choir director and pianists. The board will

look at that when discussing the budget for the staff. Effective January 1, 2024, Minnesota employers with one or more employees are required to provide paid earned sick and safe leave (ESSL) to all employees who work for the employer within the state at least 80 hours during the year. Employees accrue one hour of ESSL for every 30 hours worked up to 48 hours per year. This means our handbook will need to be updated as it applies to all of our employees, whether they're full or part-time or casual, fill-in, or salaried. We have to figure out what to do with our fill-in, casual, and part-time staff. No final decisions were made, the board mostly learned about the new law at this meeting. Whether or not the hours will carry over or can be paid out will have to be decided on at a later date. New employees are not allowed to use the ESSL until they've worked 80 hours in that year. We will have to keep track of hours in order to figure this out for each employee and it will be reported on their pay stub as well. The board is not ready to establish a transition team. The Synod knows and we will hear from Pastor Heather November 2nd. The board decided on 5 years for the external audit.

Board of Evangelism – Marge Dragseth – Marge motioned to transfer in Daniel Bartels, seconded by Becky. **Passed.** Evangelism held a couple temple talks and will start officially taking photos for the directory October 8th. Although a few ladies dressed up and wanted their pictures taken earlier than that. Barbara printed off the photo directory informational sheets that will be filled out by members. The board will pass them out this upcoming Sunday. The board didn't discuss Mission Emphasis Sunday.

Christian Education – Kayla Minder (née Teske) – To incorporate the theme into Christian Ed, the children will learn a song that the Praise team will sing on Contemporary services. So, they will sing with the Praise Team on November 19th and starting in February they will potentially sing once a month. Carmen is looking for a camp-style song that will fit the theme also. Christian Ed believes we can do the audit this year because who knows what our finances will look like in a year or two. Christian Ed says to hold off on kid's club and youth group until we get a youth director. The board believes we should still be advertising for a youth director. Kristi mentioned that Kaityln Burdorf is willing to have a more formal meeting concerning the position.

Youth & Family – Gayla Athey – The board thought we should wait 5 years for the external audit to save money. The board didn't vote to hire the last Youth Director applicant and suggested waiting until the new year to advertise the youth position. Liz is working on the safety training and background checks. There was a meeting on 9-24 to discuss the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in summer of 2024. Kids need to be signed up by October 13th and then the board will nail down fundraising plans. Covenant night is on hold. The board plans to have the children meet for a Youth Night once a month with the Zion and Baptist church youth. The board is working on getting chaperones for the Synod Junior High Gathering in November in Willmar. Kelsey said she would be willing to go and will look for others.

Stewardship – Julie Schneider – Board stuffed Stewardship Drive envelopes and decided to do the temple talk on November 12th. Whatever envelopes aren't picked up on the 12th will be mailed out. Board suggested 5 years for the audit.

Church Properties – Dale Price – Becky Parker shared an update on the roofing bill. The south side of the roof was quoted to be almost \$42,000 so the insurance paid almost \$41,000 and the actual cost from Nobel ended up being \$30,655.10. Matt told Becky they screwed up on how they bid for the repair, so it was much less than expected. We're not with the same insurance company that paid this out. Brent said he wouldn't worry about them coming back later asking for a refund. Because of this, Becky made a motion to pay the bills for the north and south sides. We currently have the bill for the north side (\$54,432.36). And we should pay the south side bill when we receive it. The total would be \$85,087.46 which would save us approximately \$11,000. In Capital Improvement right now we have \$107,000. Dale seconded the motion to pay both bills. **Motion Passed.** Nelson Electric repaired the SS door exterior light and emergency lights. We still need to receive a final bid package for the water fountain that includes the electrical work. We are waiting for a good freeze so there won't be wasps or bees so we can get a better idea of what technically needs to be done to fix the bells. Then we will need a temple talk to help pay for it. The board wants to get the cross back up, but for this winter we need to cap what is up there, so we don't get snow and ice damage to the roof. There is an ongoing wish list for other projects. It's been about 20 years since the Sanctuary was painted. The fire extinguishers were taken care of last month. The heat tape is done. *(A couple days after council Dean said that the heat tape and exit signs are not yet done).* Someone will have to meet next month with Ronglien about snow removal for the winter months. Dean told the board we have raised concrete (on the front platform & sidewalk) that will need to be ground down because it's a safety hazard. It's been repaired before but it's shifting. There was no preference on the audit. The tech desk is sitting against the pews with open wires. We should cover those cords because it is a safety issue.

Kristi asked about the safety handbook. Marilyn said she would like us to have an informational meeting about the safety procedures, perhaps combining it with the children's fire drill. It would be good for the ushers to all be at this meeting. It would take place during coffee fellowship.

PASTOR'S REPORT – Pastor Denise – **Worship** – Communion services were September 3rd & 10th and October 1st. The first Sundays of the month I lead the service at Fairway View; the second Sunday is lay-led communion service. Rev. Rick Hoyme led the service on the 3rd as I recovered from a tooth extraction. We had a shortened service on September 10th for the God's Work Our Hands Sunday, a fantastic day of projects reaching out to our local and global communities. Thanks for all your hard work! September 17th, we welcomed two families as they joined our congregation. Three-year-olds and third graders received Bibles on the 24th. October will have a different service each Sunday: October 1st was baptism and Holy Communion; 8th will be Communion; 15th is contemporary; the 22nd Service of the Word; and 29th Affirmation of Baptism. Thanks to Barbara and the organists for their flexibility. November 5th is All Saints Sunday where we remember those saints that have died in the past year and remember the new saints that we welcomed through baptism. November 12th begins the extended Advent season.

Pastoral care - Baptism of David Bartels 10/1/23 during the morning church service. In the afternoon was the graveside service and burial for Howard Janssen.

September 5th Bible study at Fairway View was cancelled due to Covid; we met all other Tuesdays.

Youth - Confirmation classes started September 5th. We have fifteen 7-8th grade students and four 9th graders. We meet every Wednesday; except we will not have class on October 18th due to MEA.

Upcoming - Rachel Mork and Jordan Thorson wedding rehearsal and wedding (October 5-6). Bishop's Fall Theological event (required) in Sioux Falls begins the evening of October 8th and goes through early afternoon on the 10th. The Lac Qui Parle conference meeting will be at Maynard Lutheran on October 26th. FELC hosted the September meeting. Thanks for the hospitality shown. At WAM's request, the Thanksgiving Eve service will have three people from the congregation share what they are grateful for. I'm grateful for Liz putting together a list of past Thanksgiving Talkers, so we can get new speakers this year.

Pastor Denise was excused from the council meeting for the night.

5 years for an external audit was decided as it had more support than the other options. We must have at least 1 audit a year, usually done with an in-house lay audit committee. The decision was on paying an external auditor.

The Church Council formalized the vote to accept Pastor Denise's second option for her resignation, which means she will be here for the whole of December, and we will pay her 2 extra weeks' vacation.

Next council meeting will be on November 6th at 7:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn - Marge, Gayla **MSP**.

Closed with Lord's Prayer at 9:26 pm.

YOUTH NEWS NOVEMBER 2023

Thank you to all the people that have provided snacks for Confirmation. The youth really appreciate the treats.

Sunday school has been going great! Thank you to all the volunteers! A good time was had down at the Refuge and special thanks goes to Simply Coffee, who supplied the coffee, hot chocolate, and chocolate chip cookies for the scavenger hunt.

Congratulations to Mason, Rylie, Archer, Mikaela, and Ashton on their Confirmation.

Several of our youth and a couple adults attended the youth get-together that was held at Zion Lutheran Church. There will be another opportunity in November to attend a gathering and First English will be hosting the December gathering. We would like to try to get a few more of our youth involved!!! Be watching for more information as it becomes available.

Thank you to everyone that completed the child safety training. I know it was new to many of you this year, but I appreciate your commitment and concern for the children of First English Lutheran in completing it. A few people still need to get this done and I hope you will find the time to do it soon. If the time expires, I will be sending it to you again as we really need to have it completed. The video and quiz take approximately ½ hour and the results of the quiz at the end are automatically sent to us here at the church.

We have 7 youth and 3 adults signed up for the New Orleans Youth Gathering this July. Be watching for fundraising events that they will be planning to help them raise the funds they need to make this exciting trip a reality.

We are happy to announce that Kaitlyn Burdorf accepted the Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group leader position. Youth Group starts November 1st.

Coming up for November:

Several youth did indicate an interest in going to the Junior High Youth gathering but we have, since posting, learned that this is the weekend of the school play so it looks like we will not be able to participate in this event. But we will check with our new youth leader and let you know if there's a change.

There is no Sunday School on the 26th due to Thanksgiving weekend. Each of the other weeks in this month will be spent on preparing the Christmas Program. Although there is not a need for teachers these days, it would be helpful if a few parents could stick around each week to help supervise the students in the church. We thank Marilyn Chindvall for coordinating the program.

- Sunday School Dates: November 5th, 12th, and 19th. Christmas Program Practices
- Confirmation & Youth Group Dates: November 1st, 8th, 15th, and 29th.



Blessings to all this coming month and
Happy Thanksgiving!!

REMINDER that God's Creation Calendars are available for \$8.00. You can stop and pick one up in the office. We will be selling them in the Narthex beginning in November following the church services.



Parish Nurse Article for November

This month's name for God is Yatsar, The Potter.



Isaiah 64:8 "We are like clay and you are the potter, your hands made us all." God is committed to shaping our lives into our best life, we need to follow his lead and not think that we always know best for ourselves.

CHURCH NEWS

We are pleased to announce that we have hired Kaitlyn Burdorf as our new Youth Leader for the Junior and Senior High programs. She will lead her first youth group session on Wednesday, November 1st with the continued voluntary support of Ronda Thielke. Kaitlyn was a former student in the FELC Youth Program, and she is a current member of our Board of Youth and Family.

We are still seeking a candidate to work 5-10 hours per week as a Youth Leader for the grade school activities including Sunday School oversight, leading the Kids Club program, assisting with VBS planning, and helping kids to sign up for summer camp opportunities. Contact Barbara at the Church office, email - secretary@firstenglish.net, if you would like further information or to apply for this position.

The Church Photo Directory has been coming along nicely. Thank you to all who have come to church to have their picture taken! If you haven't had your picture taken and would like to upload your own photo (and you have given us your email address) then you can go to instantchurchdirectory.com and click on "create login" to set up an account to view the directory on their website and in their app (available on Android & Apple devices). Your email must match with a member in our directory, if you have any problems gaining access, contact Barbara in the office. Once you have logged in, you can click on "Edit My Family" (found by clicking the hamburger ☰ icon in the app; or the top right menu on the website). Then click "import image" to add a photo. If you need to change any of the information, like your address, you can do that too.



Instant Church Directory
Communication Resources, Inc.

Volunteers needed for Thanksgiving Eve services, November 22nd at 7 pm. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping. We need acolytes, greeters, sound tech support, and ushers for the service. We also need some family volunteers for lighting candles and scripture reading for our Out of Time Advent services. We need families for November 12th, November 26th, and December 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th (9AM).

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.



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS TO

.... **Jordan & Rachel (Mork) Thorson** on their marriage October 7th!

.... **Andrea & Daniel Bartels** as we welcomed their son, David John Bartels, into the Lord's family through Holy Baptism October 1st. His sponsors were Emily & Cass Sigler, and Allyson Lindahl.

...**Kyle & Courtney Giese** as we welcomed their daughter, Sunny Margo Giese, into the Lord's family through Holy Baptism October 22nd. Her sponsors were Austin & Shelby Schoon.

....**our confirmands** Mason Nathaniel Block, son of Mark & Amy Block; his mentor was Dan Berdan; Rylie Paige Conroy, daughter of Scott & Lorraine Conroy, her mentor was Nikki Evje; Archer Henning Dorry, son of Chris & Kari Dorry, his mentor was Brent Zahrbock; Mikaela Rae Johnson, daughter of Alex Johnson & Brittany Folk, her mentor was Sara Mattison; and Ashton Timothy Sletten, son of Tim & Melissa Sletten, his mentor was Keven Berdan.

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Dinner Theater will run December 7-10th at Green Lake Bible Camp. A limited number of tickets are available (\$80 per person). To order tickets call 320-796-2181 or visit GLLM.org/dinner-theater. This year's Theater is called The Last Resort, with all music and lyrics by Dave Eliason & Brian Pearson.

Green Lake Creative Souls Retreat November 17-19, 2023 - Whatever your hobby may be, bring your supplies and join us for a great weekend of crafting at Green Lake Bible Camp. You will enjoy fellowship, and a supportive Christian atmosphere in the company of other creative women. You will also have time for devotions, taking a walk, or even a nap. Register before the deadline - Tue, Nov 7! Visit gllm.org for more information and to register today!

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Ricky Anderson Jr., Carol Barrett; Marcus Hanson, Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Brandi Tweeter; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Baby Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; Baby McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; and Jerry Stotesbery. 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

... (October 1st) was sponsored by Jim & Ranet Schmeichel in memory of our parents Marvin Schmeichel, Marvis & Mike Northwick and for all of us who have loved and lost loved ones.

... (October 8th) was sponsored by your gifts to the Endowment Fund.

... (October 15th) was sponsored in honor of Ruth Hansen's 100th birthday on Oct. 18th by Anne & David.

... (October 22nd) was sponsored in memory of Leonard Olson who would have been 100 years old on the 29th from Evelyn Olson.

... (October 29th) was sponsored in honor of Mason Block and the 2023 Confirmation Class by Terry Block, Mark II, Jennifer and Matthew & families.

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!

November 2023

Designated Funds

Building (please specify) \$ _____

Operating Fund \$ _____

Other God's Work, Our Hands \$ _____

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



Lutheran Youth Organization

Worship band Application is Open!

LYO is bringing back the youth-led praise band to the SW MN Synod! High school musicians (current 9-12 graders) are able to apply to be part of this group, mentored by Rev. Hans Peterson of Dakota Road. The application process includes a short written application as well as a required audio sample. Applications will be open through November 30th. Final band selections will be announced in December. More information to come! This group will be the house band for all LYO Gatherings and the ELCA Gathering's "Synod Day" in New Orleans. All selected students will be required to attend the following: Overnight retreat in Spicer (January 19-20), Spring Rehearsal (tbd), Practice Worship Services (tbd), Senior High Gathering (March 7-10), ELCA Gathering (July 16-20, registration paid by LYO). You can apply at this link: https://swmnsynod.formstack.com/forms/lyo_worship_band

Upcoming Stonecroft Ministries Sponsored By Women's Connection

Tuesday, November 14th, at 5:30 pm at
Tabor Methodist Church.

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

Speaker: Joyce Buseman of Centerville, SD
"Insurance for a Secure Future"

Special Feature:

Hanne's sweater mittens, personal rings and things
of Sisseton, Sd.

Music: Wanda Berry of Ortonville
(Soloist accompanied by Lee Kanten)

FOOD WILL BE SERVED & ALL ARE WELCOME!



Southwestern Minnesota Synod

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Gracious God, the news of these days rips our hearts and tears our souls. Too many are walking through the valley of the shadow of death. In the depths of pain and anger, we come to you, our rock and our refuge. You know the depth of suffering and the grief of those who have only begun to mourn what they have lost. You are our only comfort. You are our only hope. Faithful God, surround this world with your everlasting arms. Hear the cries of despair, heed the calls for justice, and do not let your children lose hope. Bring peace in our world, peace in our homes, and peace in the hearts of all; through your Son, Jesus, our Savior, we pray. Amen.

(Adapted from Service After a Violent Event, All Creation Sings, p. 64).



QUILTS FOR VETERANS BLESSED

On October 8th, 2023, the Day of Love presented quilts to be blessed. These quilts were given to Veterans.



Dear First English Lutheran church,

October 2023

Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson
ELCA Global Personnel

It's that time of year again when the leaves are changing colors... and the Tiny Feet, Big Steps 2023 neonatology conference is coming up! This is the 3rd annual conference we have hosted in Arusha and every year it grows. Our title this year no longer refers to advancing care in "Tanzania" or "East Africa". Rather, it is "Tiny Feet, Big Steps-- Advancing Care of Critically Ill and Premature Babies in Africa". We are excited to have ~100 hospitals joining us from 15 African countries October 23-27!

The past few months were spent in MN and GA as we took care of dental and medical appointments (Caedmon had a repeat knee surgery), visited friends and family, and had important time with grandparents while working remotely. Emails and text messages kept Steve especially busy though there were times to relax and unwind away from everyday work in the hospital and regain some balance. It was so good to be near the lakes, to walk, swim and play with family and be encouraged by many.

Now that we have returned, we are in full motion. It is challenging to stay in a place of peace when the world around us and the daily challenges we face feel daunting. As we work, we remember Psalm 90:17, "...establish the work of our hands. Yes, establish the work of our hands." Our hearts and spirits are encouraged by our favorite artist, Steve Bell, to work in the world with kindness. He sings of God's work through us in the world in this way:

Ours are the hands through which he works. Ours are the feet on which he moves. Ours are the voices through which he speaks to this world with kindness. Through our touch, our smile, our listening ear, embodied in us, Jesus is living here. Let us go now, enspirited into this world with kindness.

That is our heart, our prayer.

NICU Conference

If you like numbers (which I do!!), here are a few...

- 109 doctors and 128 nurses registered to attend, all of whom work in NICUs
- 100 hospitals
- 15 African and 2 Asian countries
- 5 full days of teaching (and 1 evening banquet!)
- 52 lectures and 24 skills workshops, covering everything from the neonatology basics (thermoregulation, respiratory support, growth and nutrition, sepsis) to complex topics (neonatal seizures, insertion of chest tubes, advanced resuscitation in babies, etc).
- Instructors coming from 23 institutions including speakers from South Africa, Botswana, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya
- Special sessions on sharing difficult news to grieving parents and how to care for yourself after a death.

This conference has become the largest neonatology training conference hosted in East Africa. It has nearly doubled in size from our first conference in 2021. We are grateful for the sponsors and donors who helped us cover the \$100,000 budget, so that we could assist doctors and nurses in attending from across the continent.

Over the past years, I have had the great joy of working with some amazing Tanzanian doctors. Often discovered during their internship year, they have joined our team of pediatrics, and after a few years of mentorship are supported to go on for an additional 3 - 4 years of pediatric training outside of Tanzania.

This year we are supporting (through your donations):

Dr. Andrew Mwajonde (top), in his 2nd year of pediatric residency at Univ of Nairobi in Kenya

Dr. Deborah Mwaipopo (bottom left), now starting her 1st year of pediatric residency at Univ of Nairobi

Dr. Hilda Ruhimingunge (bottom right), who will start her residency at University of Stellenbosch in South Africa in Jan 2024. Hilda is a recipient of a generous ELCA scholarship!

All of these wonderful doctors are committed to returning to Arusha, and one day join our team of pediatricians! Nothing brings me more joy than mentoring them, and helping them pursue further training in pediatrics.

We would welcome your donation to help with the cost of the conference and the training of these pediatricians! The conference is subsidized through our Pediatric- NICU account to make it affordable for the nurses and doctors in the region. Some health care teams are sponsored by their hospitals, but many of them are not and would be unable to attend a conference like this without considerable help. It's a wonderful way to invest in global healthcare! Just click on the link below.

Let us go now, enspirited
Into this world with kindness.

Steve & Jodi

Care of hospitalized newborns and children, and training of doctors and nurses, is supported through your donations.

www.tanzanianchildren.com or <https://give.ghm.org/nicu>

TINY FEET, BIG STEPS NEONATOLOGY CONFERENCE 2023



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

CIRCLE FOUR

Meets in the Church Lounge on Wed.,
 November 1st at 9:00 am.
 Hostess: Carol Newman
 Lesson: Carol Bell

Grateful Giving November 2023

This November, our calendar focuses on being grateful, showing kindness to others, and collecting items for the food shelf. Read the calendar daily and follow through to brighten someone's day! Designate a box at home for food shelf items. At the end of the month, donate the accumulated items to the **Prairie Five/Big Stone Lake Area Food Shelf** (125 NW 2nd St., Ortonville, MN, 320-839-2111).

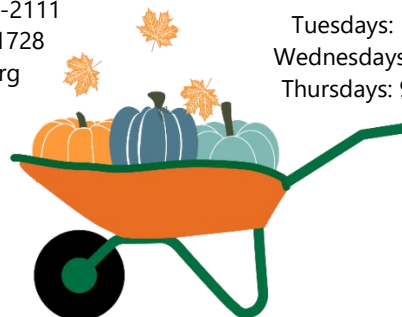
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Pick up any trash you see today.	3 Hygiene items are appreciated at the food shelf! Lotion, razors, shaving cream, and baby wipes are needed.	4 Do something kind for a family member.
5 Today I am grateful for:	6 There's nothing better than hot soup on a chilly day-donate a can of soup.	7 Compliment a stranger.	8 Donate a box of crackers to go with the soup.	9 Send a kind note to a family member or friend.	10 Hot beverages warm us up too. Donate coffee, tea, or hot chocolate!	11 Call a friend you haven't spoken to in a while.
12 Today I am grateful for:	13 Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Donate a box of cereal.	14 Remember to be grateful for each meal or snack you eat today.	15 How about some jam, jelly, or honey for toast? Donate your favorite toast topper!	16 Let someone go ahead of you in line.	17 Donate muffin mix, granola bars, nuts, or dried fruit.	18 Write a thank you note to someone.
19 Today I am grateful for:	20 Tis the season for baking. Donate a box of baking soda or powder, cornstarch, or a spice!	21 Donate clean, gently used clothing you no longer wear to a thrift shop.	22 Donate a can of pumpkin, pie filling, or chocolate chips.	Thanksgiving 23 Today I am especially grateful for:	24 Donate peanut butter, marshmallows, or another favorite baking item.	25 Call your family members to tell them you love them.
26 Today I am grateful for:	27 Are guests coming for the holidays? Donate cleaners, furniture polish, cleanser, etc	28 Take a plate of treats to a neighbor.	29 Paper products are appreciated. Donate a package of paper towels or a box of facial tissues.	30 Donate your collected items to a food pantry!		Thank you for participating in Grateful Giving 2023!

Big Stone Lake Area Food Shelf
 125 2nd Street NW
 Ortonville, MN 56278

Phone: 320-839-2111
 Fax: 844-273-1728
 prairiefive.org

OPEN:
 Tuesdays: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
 Wednesdays: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
 Thursdays: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Calendar idea originally received from Blue Earth County.



ALTAR GUILD TEAMS – NOVEMBER

Sacristy, Sanctuary, Surplices: Mari Athey & Courtney Giese
 Banners: Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter
 Flower Committee: Neva Foster & Ranet Schmeichel



SCHEDULING

KEYBOARD/ORGANIST

Nov. 5: Kathy Haukos
Nov. 12: Marilyn Hanson
Nov. 19: Lisa Berdan
Nov. 22*: Carol Ydstie
Nov. 26: Amy Adelman
Dec. 3: Lisa Berdan
Dec. 10: Amy Adelman
Dec. 17: Marilyn Hanson
Dec. 24 (9 AM): Kathy Haukos
Dec. 24 (2 & 4 PM): Carol Ydstie
Dec. 31: Kathy Haukos

LECTOR

Nov. 5: Sara Mattison
Nov. 12: Liz Ketz
Nov. 19: Kathy Randall
Nov. 22*: Kari Dorry
Nov. 26: Becky Parker
Dec. 3: Kristi Ehrenberg
Dec. 17: Lois Bergeson
Dec. 24 (9 AM): **NEED VOLUNTEER**
Dec. 24 (2/4 PM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 31: **NEED VOLUNTEER**

ACOLYTES

Nov. 5: Brandon & Nash
Nov. 12: Jaclyn & Lola
Nov. 19: Rylie & Bailey
Nov. 22*: **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Nov. 26: Owen & Cameron
Dec. 3: James & Brianna
Dec. 10: Eliot & Archer
Dec. 17: Miley & Mason
Dec. 24 (9 AM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 24 (2/4 PM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 31: **NEED VOLUNTEERS**

LAY ASSISTANTS

Nov. 5: Marilyn Chindvall & Liz Ketz
Nov. 12: Jim Foster & Lori Strei
Dec. 3: Sara Mattison & Brent Zahrbock
Dec. 24 (2/4 PM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**

FV Neighborhoods

Nov. 5: Sara & Ann Mattison
Nov. 12: Marla Strei & Jane Debner
Dec. 3: Ranet and Jim Schmeichel
Dec. 10: Paula Reisdorph and Marge Dragseth
Dec. 31: TBD

GREETERS

Nov. 5: Madilyn Sletten & Dawn Barnhardt
Nov. 12: Kaitlyn Burdorf & Meadow Schablin
Nov. 19: Lynne Giese & Amelia Zinski
Nov. 22*: **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Nov. 26: Clara Zeek & Becky Parker
Dec. 3: **(Mentor/Mentee) TBD**
Dec. 10: **(Mentor/Mentee) TBD**
Dec. 17: **(Mentor/Mentee) TBD**
Dec. 24 (9 AM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 24 (2 PM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 24 (4 PM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 31: **NEED VOLUNTEERS**

SOUND SYSTEM

Nov. 5: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson
Nov. 12: Matt Karels & Marina Thomson
Nov. 19: David Ellingson & Marina Thomson
Nov. 22*: Marina Thomson & **VOLUNTEER**
Nov. 26: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson
Dec. 3: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson
Dec. 10: Matt Karels & Marina Thomson
Dec. 17: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson
Dec. 24 (9 AM): Marina Thomson & Terry Kalberg
Dec. 24 (2 PM): Marina Thomson & **VOLUNTEER**
Dec. 24 (4 PM): Marina Thomson & **VOLUNTEER**
Dec. 31: Becky Parker & Marina Thomson

USHERS

Nov. 5: Ev Johnson, Kevin Fossen, Kim & Jon Anderson
Nov. 12: Glenn Henningson, Ron Athey, Art Vollmer, and Larry Dahle
Nov. 19: Dean Longnecker, Josh Wollschlager, Russel Thielke, & Dick Strei
Nov. 22*: **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Nov. 26: Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Jackie & Mel Domine
Dec. 3: Brent Zahrbock, Dean Strand, Vern Nickolauson, & Larry Dahle
Dec. 10: Liz Ketz, Eldon Knutson, Darin Ehrenberg, & Harley Helgeson
Dec. 17: Russell Thielke, Warren Wiese, Gale May, & Connie Newman
Dec. 24 (9 AM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 24 (2 PM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 24 (4 PM): **NEED VOLUNTEERS**
Dec. 31: Rodney Torgerson, Liz Ketz, Rob Randall, & Josh Wollschlager






*November 22nd is Wednesday, **Thanksgiving Eve.**

*December 24th 9AM is **Advent Service.** The 2 & 4 PM services are **Christmas Eve Services.**

We're looking for a couple of family members to light candles & read scripture during Advent (11/12- Dec 24). [11/19 is taken]

Please contact the office if you would like to volunteer to help with these services. THANKS!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
November 2023 † † † First English Lutheran Church						
			Daily Devotions are available @ www.firstenglish.net click on "Lutheran Faith" & "PRAYERS, STUDY, & DEVOTIONALS"			
			1 9:00 am Circle 4 Bible Study 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8) 4:30 pm Confirmation (9) 5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12) & TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	2	3 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	4
5 ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY 9:00 am Worship – Communion - KDIO Broadcast & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School 10:30 am Fairway View Worship LIVE	6 10:00 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Council Meeting	7 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	8 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8) 4:30 pm Confirmation (9) 5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12) & TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	9	10 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	11 
12 Beginning of Advent  9:00 am Worship – Communion – Stewardship Emphasis – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School 10:30 am Fairway View Worship – Pre-recorded	13 10:00 am Staff Meeting	14 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	15 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8) 4:30 pm Confirmation (9) 5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12) & TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	16	17 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	18
19 9:00 am Worship – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School	20 10:00 am Staff Meeting NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	22 NO CONFIRMATION OR YOUTH GROUP 9:00 am Bulletins Printed 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	23  OFFICE CLOSED	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 CHRIST THE KING  9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:20 am WAM meeting 	27 10:00 am Staff Meeting	28 8:30 am Day of Love 12:00 pm Executive Meeting 4-5:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at FWV	29 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8) 4:30 pm Confirmation (9) 5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12) & TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	30		