

First English Lutheran Church NEWSLETTER

September 2024



<u>FELC</u> <u>Mission Statement</u>

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. 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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Office hours: M-TH 8:00 am—3:00 pm, F 8:00-12:00 noon Building hours: M-F 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Sat. & Sun. 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Facebook: @FirstEnglishLutheranChurchOrtonvilleMN

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





Shared Pastor Information



Our Ministry Site Profile is up and live on the website now, so we have started the Pastoral call process. We are looking forward to getting responses to it. Members from FELC and Zion have had conversations with a pastor, Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, who is willing to provide shared pastoral duties with our two churches starting in September and through the end of the year to provide half-time (24 hrs./week) ministry. She would conduct services for each congregation every other week so we would only have to fill every other Sunday with pulpit supply. She will have set hours at Zion church and set hours here at FELC. She will be at Zion on Tuesdays. She will be at FELC on Wednesday (preparing for and teaching both congregations confirmation classes), and Thursdays. Our first service with her will be on September 15th. The agreement with Pastor Cheryl is through the end of December. There will be monthly joint meetings (ZION & FELC) with her to see how things are going. If we do not have a called minister by the beginning of the new year, hopefully we will be able to extend the contract with her until we do get a full-time pastor.







FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING

Council Minutes – August 5th, 2024 (not yet approved)

Members present: Jon Anderson (president), Ellie Helgeson (vice president) and Lay Ministry, Becky Parker (treasurer) and Stewardship, Darin Ehrenberg - Stewardship, Kari Dorry- Youth & Family, Kaitlyn Burdorf- Christian Education, Marge Dragseth - Evangelism, Michelle Bauer - Lay Ministry, Cody Backstrand - Lay Ministry, Emily Sigler - Lay Ministry, Glenn Henningson - Church Properties, and Barbara Wegner- Secretary.

Meeting was called to order by President Jon Anderson at 7:53 pm.

Approval of June & July Minutes as presented - Kari, Ellie MSP.

Approval of Treasurer's Report – We're slowly building a cash balance due to not paying for a pastor, but we are down about \$11k year-to-date from last year. We haven't taken from the operating reserve this year. – Darin, Michelle **MSP.**

Appointment of Call Committee - The synod has our Ministry Site Profile (MSP). It's technically "in review" waiting for Zion to finish theirs before they will post ours. Jon is thinking about calling Bishop Dee Pederson about approving ours, regardless of Zion's not being finished yet. One of the things we have to do is have a call committee. Then the Synod will hold an orientation of the call committee. (Appointed Jon Anderson, Deb Henningson, Archer Dorry, Ethel Swenson, Josh Wollschlager, & Kristi Ehrenberg to the call committee) – Becky, Michelle **MSP.**

Discussion & unanimous Approval on the parameters of our partnering agreement – The executive boards from Zion & FELC met with Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett and agree it would be good to have her helping us (Zion & FELC) as an interim pastor. She would also teach our confirmation classes. The plan through the end of the year, would be to split the cost of the part-time (24 hours/week) pastor salary with Zion 50/50. We would like a formal agreement to be made by December 1st. The ratio of the split may change in the new year. Pastor Cheryl used to teach and would like the parents to take turns showing up in confirmation classes, which may help students to behave & learn better. Everyone approved. Board of Lay Ministry – Michelle Bauer – Ellie Helgeson will be the chair. The council directory information & board job descriptions are good. The board was wondering when the confirmation interviews are. No one knew. There were no WAM, Endowment, or finance reports to approve. Melissa Gall will be our pulpit supply on October 6th and December 1st. The board members will call people to fill in the missing Sundays. October 27th is one of the dates when Pastor Cheryl would be here, so she can handle that. The board approved the request for Pastor David Tonn to perform a baptism during our service on October 6th. Rev. Melissa Gall will be informed that she does not have to perform that section of the service. Because FELC is already paying for pulpit supply that day, the family will be in charge of paying David Tonn for his time & service.

Confirmation Interview Discussion – Last year interviews were in late August, on open house at the school, which caused some issues. Usually the pastor leads the interviews. It was decided to this later so Pastor Cheryl could help. Zion would have kids coming to FELC for confirmation classes and they have two being confirmed (at Zion) this year. On Reformation Sunday (Oct. 27th) Zion will want to have service at a different time that day to also have Pastor Cheryl do their confirmation at their church. The confirmation interviews at First English will be tentatively set for September 11th with the confirmation classes starting September 18th. These dates won't go on the calendar until we hear that Pastor Cheryl agrees.

Board of Evangelism – Marge Dragseth – Marge will be the chair for their board. The Hymn sing at FWV went well with 30-40 people attending. There will be one more August 21st at 1:30 pm with donuts after the service. The board thanks the organists for their participation in this. The board members are willing to assist with confirmation interviews. The photo directories are ready and the distribution will start August 11th after the service. All photographed families will receive a complimentary directory and non-photographed members can purchase the directory for \$5. Paula will call for volunteers for our Sunday Fairway View services and let Barbara know. The board still needs to schedule a time for Mission and New Member Sunday.

The board asked if the council meetings could be moved from Monday evenings to Sunday after church services.

Mostly this idea was loved by people. The only problems would be that it's difficult for Barbara to be there to record (but someone else could record it & record who is motioning and seconding), and some parents may have children in Sunday School at that time. In this scenario, the various boards could have their own meetings on another day, like Saturday, and simply send one member to the Sunday Council Meeting or the boards could meet right after services and then come together for the council meeting after their individual board meetings. If it was going to be held on a Sunday, it would be best to have it on the 2nd Sunday of the month (due to financial reports). This proposal should be discussed with the full council next month.

Christian Education – Kaitlyn Burdorf – VBS was great with over 80 kids and the board plans to do a joint VBS with Zion next year as well. Kaitlyn cannot do Kid's Club for the fall, but will continue to do the youth group. Someone from the board will help with the confirmation interviews. Sunday School curriculum is the same as last year. Sara will talk to Carmen & Pete about dates when the Sunday School could sing in worship. The Christmas program will be December 15th. Sara Wollschlager will also be the board's chair. The bibles have been ordered. We just don't know the date of the presentation. Kaitlyn & Ronda will be discussing dates for youth group next week and will let Barbara know for the calendar

Youth & Family – Kari Dorry – Kari will be the board's chair. Kaitlyn said she will talk to Liz about Safe Haven training. The board thinks the plans with Zion sound great. Maybe someone from Zion would be willing to help with kid's club, perhaps someone from FELC could pair with another person to help lead it. The board thanks Kaitlyn & Ronda for being willing to help with the youth group this year. The National Youth Gathering was amazing. It was a very valuable experience for all. Thanks to everyone who made it possible! Kaitlyn will let the office know about Covenant Night once a plan is made. The Junior High Youth Gathering is November 22nd to 24th which may be when the school play is so that may be an issue. The Senior High Youth Gathering is April 4th to 5th.

Stewardship – Darin Ehrenberg – The Good News letter for July is about the kids who went on the trip to New Orleans and the Good News for August we're going to talk about the photo directory and mention the backpack blessing with that Faith-Hope-Love theme. We're also going to have information on the shared pastor idea and inform them that the Ministry Site Profile has been submitted. Giving is down from last July; cumulatively we're down by about \$15k. And some funds are going up, but that's because we have not been paying a pastor salary. Mark Block II's phone number was incorrect & will be changed.

Church Properties – Glenn Henningson – It looks like the bell tower leak may be fixed so we can get bids for the ceiling damage. Art Vollmer can do the ceilings & walls and will give us a price. We need to get a bid on the carpet damage and turn that into the insurance company as well. In the Narthex, by the stained glass windows leak, we have the money to fix it and will get someone to do that. Once we get the cross fixed, we will have to get someone and a lift to get it up to the tower.

God's Work, Our Hands Discussion – Kari worked at cleaning gravestones at the cemetery last year. She is willing to help with that this year. We need to put a notice on Facebook and in the bulletins to get help with this day's activities and buying supplies. We could have some making muffins to give out to local helpers. We could have someone coordinating a potluck meal. Some could make cards to bring up to Fairway View. Ellie volunteered to lead the short service that day and look into getting more shirts. They did birthday bags last year. It was a giftbag including a tin pan, cake mix, frosting, candles, and a birthday card made from First English. They took 12 birthday bags to the food shelf last year for those who don't have the money, so they could still celebrate a birthday with that gift. Someone would need to buy the supplies. Cody said he would coordinate the birthday bags. Kari will coordinate the cemetery cleaning. We still would like someone to coordinate the muffins, card-making, and potluck.

Next council meeting will be on Monday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. Closed with Lord's Prayer at 8:42 p.m.

Parish Nurse Article for September

A Godly wife to Aquila. Together they were a powerful ministry team and generous to many. They lived, worked, and traveled with Paul.

Acts 18:24 Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. ²⁵He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. ²⁶He began to speak boldly in the synagogue; but when **Priscilla** and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately.

Romans 16:33 Greet **Prisca** and Aquila, who work with me in Christ Jesus

Priscilla



Priscilla illustration by Harold Copping, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

September 2024 Youth News

Our summer is quickly coming to an end, and I have to say that August was a fairly quiet month. Bring on the Fall!!!!

7th grade confirmation students will need to be thinking about who they are going to get as a mentor for their confirmation years. We have not set up anything as of the time that this has been written but be watching for more to come for that.



The same is true with the background checks and any training that will need to be completed. We are working on a transfer of who is doing this in the coming weeks, so please bear with us.

September:

- 2- Labor Day- Office closed
- 8- Gods Work. Our Hands.
- 11- Acolyte Training 3:30-4:30

Confirmation Interviews 4:30-6:30

Confirmation Meeting with confirmands and parents 6:30

- 15- Rally Sunday Students will meet while the parents fill out the paperwork that will be available
- 18- Confirmation Classes: 7th -8th 1:45-2:45 PM (Early Out times) 9th 2:45-3:45 PM
- 22- Bible distribution to 3-year-olds and 3rd graders during church 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15-11:00.
- 25- Confirmation Classes: 7th-8th 3:30-4:30 PM

9th 4:30-5:30 PM

Youth Group: 5:30 -7:00 PM for all 7th -12th graders.

29- Sunday School will be having their Scavenger Hunt down at the Refuge during Sunday School hour. 10:15-11 or so.



Coffee Fellowship needs volunteers to continue. Please contact the office or sign-up in the fellowship hall if you're willing to help to prepare & serve coffee. If no one volunteers to serve, we won't have coffee fellowship that Sunday.



Congratulations and God's blessings to:

.... Rachelle Muenchow and Oscar Gomez who were married June 21, 2024 in North Las Vegas.

.... Josh and Natalie Strei who were married August 17th.

May the God of All Consolation be with Mark & Amy Block and family on the death of their son, Max Weinke. The funeral service was held here at FELC on Friday, August 23rd.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Baxter (HWY 212 between Monte & Dawson) is having a Turkey Supper (\$15) on Wed. Sept 11th. Serving starts at 4:30 pm. Take outs are available.

Big Stone Memory Loss Connection presents "Aging, Dementia, Caregiving OH MY!" September 28th at the Clinton Memorial Building. There is no cost to attend. Please see the posted flyers for more information.

The picture directories are ready and can be picked up in the church office during the week, if you have not already done so. Each family photographed in the directory will be given one free directory. Members who were not photographed in the 2024 edition may purchase a directory for \$5. Thank you for your cooperation!

KDIO BROADCASTS

- (August 4th) was sponsored in memory of Larry Haukos by Kathy Haukos and family.
- (August 11th) was sponsored in honor of our residents of Fairway View from Anne & David Tonn.
- (August 18th) was sponsored by Richard & Marla Strei and family in celebration of Josh and Natalie (Strei) Haken's wedding yesterday, 8-17-24.
- (August 25th) was sponsored by Jim & Ranet Schmeichel in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary on 8/21.



PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT Carol Barrett; Jane Debner; Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Beth Swanson; Brandi Tweeter; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman; Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; McCoy Jipson; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Ricky Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Adeline Burgess; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; Roger Nornes; and Mary Lou Olson in Madison, ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict. If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.

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. If you do not receive personalized pink envelopes, there are generic ones in the Narthex for you to use.

Thank you for supporting FELC's giving emphasis!

September 2024 Designated Funds **Building (please specify) Operating Fund** Other <u>Endowment Fund</u> (helps KD10) Name

. 	,
January	Technology Fund
February	Service Trip Scholarship
March	Big Stone Lake Area Food
April	SWMN Funding Initiative
MayGlobal Missions - Cor	npanion Synod South Africa
June	Someplace Safe
July	Families in Need
August	Baptism Chests
September	Endowment Fund
October	Jaycees Project Christmas
NovemberGod's Work,	Our Hands/Service Projects
December	ELCA Missionaries



OFFICE HOURS UPDATE

The Church Office will be switching back from summer hours to normally scheduled hours.

> MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

FRIDAY 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM









Meets in the Church Lounge on Wed., September 4th at 9:00 am. Hostess: Sharon Smith

Lesson: Carol Newman

God's work. Our hands.



God's Work, Our Hands Is Coming Up!

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.



Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

This year, First English Lutheran Church in Ortonville will be honoring God's work, Our Hands on September 8th, through a variety of service acts and community gratitude recognition. We will be cleaning headstones at the cemetery, putting together birthday bags for the food shelf, making muffins, and making cards.



There will also be a potluck lunch back at the church at 11:00 am.







The Silence and the Sound

A Community Christmas Musical Experience

While we may not be ready to say goodbye to summer, the Christmas season is all too soon upon us! For many of us, this means a celebration of memorable music. Singers of all ages and instrumentalists are welcomed and invited to be a part of our 3rd community Christmas musical experience to be held this year in concerts on Dec 7th and 8th at the Abbey of the Hills Inn and Retreat Center.

The concerts will once again feature both small and large groups accompanied by talented musicians under the direction of Lisa Berdan.

Large group practices will typically be held at 4:00 pm on Sunday afternoons at FELC. Optional practices will typically be Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 7:30. New this year is an opportunity for children ages 5-12 to have a part specially designed for them! (Practice times for them will be determined as the group forms.)

An organizational meeting will be held Wednesday, August 28, 6:30 pm, at First English Lutheran Church Ortonville, MN.

If you cannot attend that meeting but still wish to be a part of this heartfelt event -- or if you have any questions -- please contact Lisa. Text 305-1123, call 273-2323, or email lisamberdan@gmail.com.

Upcoming Stonecroft Ministries Sponsored By Women's Connection

Tuesday, September 17th, at 5:30 pm at Big Stone Tabor Methodist Church. The cost is \$6.00, and there is a free nursery available by reservation.

Speaker: Karen Blankenship of Peculiar, MO.

"Write it Down:

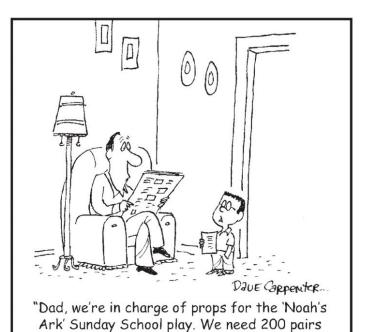
The Power of Journaling"

Special Feature: Silent Auction bring items to bid on like produce, baked goods, decorations, books, etc. etc. This is a fundraiser for Stonecroft Ministries.

Music: Susan Karels of Milbank, playing the piano.

FOOD WILL BE SERVED & ALL ARE WELCOME!





of animals by next Sunday."



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, reconciling we cultivate life-giving congregations, nurture partner ministries, and cooperate in the life of the ELCA. rame

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 – September

Sacristy, Sanctuary, Surplices: Mary Weber & Lori Strei

Banners: Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter

Flower Committee: Ellie Karels



SCHEDULING

KEYBOARD/ORGANIST

Sept. 1: Kathy Haukos **Sept. 8:** Amy Adelman

Sept. 15: Lisa Berdan

Sept. 22: Carol Ydstie

Sept. 29: Marilyn Hanson

Oct. 6: TBD Oct. 13: TBD

Oct. 20: Lisa Berdan

Oct. 27: TBD

LECTOR

Sept. 1: Marilyn Hanson

Sept. 8: Kim Anderson

Sept. 15: Brent Zahrbock

Sept. 22: Jon Ydstie

Sept. 29: Kathy Randall

Oct. 6: Sara Mattison

Oct. 13: David Ellingson

Oct. 20: Chris Petersen

Oct. 27: Confirmands

ACOLYTES

Sept. 1: Bennett & Bryson

Sept. 8: Bailey & Rylie

Sept. 15: Liv & Miley

Sept. 22: Mikaela & Liam

Sept. 29: Jace & Archer

Oct. 6: Dawson & Bryson

Oct. 13: Katelyn & James

Oct. 20: Hartley & Hannah

Oct. 27: Jordan & Mason

LAY ASSISTANTS

Sept. 1: Jim Foster & Marge Dragseth

Sept. 8: Kirsten Karels & Marla Strei

Oct. 6: Brent Zahrbock & Becky Parker

Oct. 13: Jim Schmeichel & Kristi Ehrenberg

Oct. 27: Confirmands

FWV Neighborhoods

Sept. 1: Jim & Neva Foster

Sept. 8: Becky Parker & Brent Zahrbock

Sept. 29: Kristi & Darin Ehrenberg

Oct. 6: TBD Oct. 13: TBD

GREETERS

Sept. 1: Jim & Ranet Schmeichel

Sept. 8: Sandy & Tom Rice

Sept. 15: Sara Mattison & Lois Bergeson

Sept. 22: Glenn & Deb Henningson

Sept. 29: David & Debbie Ellingson

Oct. 6: Ethel & Garry Swenson

Oct. 13: Jim & Neva Foster

Oct. 20: Paula Reisdorph & Lori Larson

Oct. 27: Dick & Marla Strei

SOUND SYSTEM

Sept. 1: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson

Sept. 8: David Ellingson & Marina Thomson

Sept. 15: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson

Sept. 22: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

Sept. 29: David Ellingson & Marina Thomson

Oct. 6: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson

Oct. 13: David Ellingson & Marina Thomson

Oct. 20: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson

Oct. 27: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

USHERS

Sept. 1: Ev Johnson, Ron Athey, Marilyn

Chindvall, & Eldon Knutson

Sept. 8: Glenn Henningson, Art Vollmer, Scott &

Julie Schneider

Sept. 15: Dean Longnecker, Josh Wollschlager,

Rodney Torgerson, & Dick Strei

Sept. 22: Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall,

Jackie & Mel Domine

Sept. 29: Dick & Marla Strei and Scott & Julie Schneider

Schneider

Oct. 6: Brent Zahrbock, Dean Strand, Vern

Nickolauson, and Dave Ellingson

Oct. 13: Darin Ehrenberg, Eldon Knutson, Ellie &

Harley Helgeson

Oct. 20: Russ Thielke, Warren Wiese, Gale May,

& Connie Newman

Oct. 27: Gene Stotesbery, Jim Foster, Gale

May, & Keven Berdan



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
September 2024 🕆 🕆 🕆	First English Lu					
9:00 am Worship (w/ Bishop Craig Anderson) - Communion - KDIO & Facebook Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am Fairway View Worship - Pre-recorded	2 Office Closed LABOR DAY	8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV) 6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting	9:00 am Circle 4 (Church Lounge) 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	5	9:00 am Bulletins Printed	7
9:00 am Worship (w/Ellie Helgeson) - KDIO & Facebook Live 9:30 am Community Service Projects TBD am Board of Christian Ed Meeting 10:30 am Fairway View Worship - Pre-recorded 11:00 am Potluck Lunch at FELC "God's work. Our hands." Sunday	COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 pm Council Meeting	8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV)	CONFIRMATION Orientation & Interviews 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm Acolyte Training All 7th graders need to be here, others good refresher 4:30-6:30 pm Confirmation Interviews 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 6:30 pm 7-9th graders (with parents/guardians) Confirmation orientation 7:00 pm Senior Choir REMEMBRANCE DAY	12	9:00 am Bulletins Printed	14
9:00 am Rally Sunday Worship (w/Pastor Cheryl) – KDIO & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Rally Sunday Rally Sunday	16	8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV)	9:30 am TV Broadcast 1:45 pm Confirmation (7-8) 2:45 pm Confirmation (9) 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	19	9:00 am Bulletins Printed	21
9:00 am Worship (w/Jack Holmquest) – Bible Presentation – KDIO Broadcast & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship & Sunday School 1st Day of Autumn	23	8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV)	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	26	9:00 am Bulletins Printed	28
9:00 am Worship (w/Pastor Cheryl) – Noisy Offering – KDIO Broadcast & FB Live 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship SS. Scavenger Hunt at Wildlife Refuge 10:15 am WAM Meeting 10:30 am FWV Worship (pre-recorded)	30					