



# *First English Lutheran Church*

## NEWSLETTER

July 2025



### 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.

Rev. Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett  
*Pastor*

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson,  
*Missionaries/Tanzania*

Barbara Wegner, *Parish Secretary*

Liz Ketz, *Financial Secretary*

Kaitlyn Burdorf. *Jr/Sr High Youth Leader*

Office: 839-2527  
Fax: 839-3319  
Email: felcort@firstenglish.net  
Website: www.firstenglish.net

Pastor Cheryl's Summer Office Hours: Mon 9-3, Tues (at Zion) 11- 5, Wed 11-5, Thur. 9-3  
Secretary Summer Office Hours: M/TH 8:00 am-3:00 pm, T/W/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 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Ortonville, MN 56278





## Notes from Pastor Cheryl



June 25, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for the vote to call me to First English and Zion Lutheran. I am honored to serve you and reminded in 2 Timothy 1 which tells us *"relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup> who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,"*

A couple weeks ago I was asked to answer some questions about what I had done in my life – which I did and was shared in a Good News article. When I look back over my life, I see all those things leading me to my call into ministry. It has been a fascinating journey so far and I am excited to see what God has in store for us as we go forward.

Jeremiah writes, *"<sup>11</sup> For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup> Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup> When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, <sup>14</sup> I will let you find me, says the LORD,"* (29)

Our Lord has plans for us, for First English and Zion Lutheran. We don't know what those plans are of course. But we do know what His commission is and the teachings He has given us while He was with us on earth. Scripture will guide us in all things as we read in Proverbs 19, *"<sup>21</sup> The human mind may devise many plans, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will be established."*

There may be changes – there already have been since I've been with you.

There will be challenges – there already have been since I've been with you.

Just like our weather lately, life can be difficult. One day it is beautiful and warm and perfect. The next, the humidity comes pouring down rain causing flooding... or in winter, a full-blown blizzard sweeps down on us with wind blowing snow around your face so intensely you can hardly breathe. It's easy to live in the sunny days, but much more difficult to understand those days that wear you down and become obstacles challenging the very road you must walk.

God has given us His words to help us through those times. The words written in scripture are useful for our lives as they tell us a story very much like our own story in life. The struggles we go through with our families, the difficulties we endure in our work and farming, and the human desires that pull us away, filling us with doubt and wonder.

As Timothy says, His words are to equip you for these life events. And Jesus spoke into all those difficulties to give you hope for a reason, because of His love for You!

So do not give up hope or be discouraged when there are challenges or changes. Understand God's plans may serve as opportunities for growth and the spiritual benefit of others in the diverse life we live in.

We are reminded of how Paul prayed for relief from his "thorn in the flesh" but was told *"My grace is sufficient for you."* and instead of removing the obstacle, gave him strength to endure for there is power in weakness. The weakness that reminds us to turn to God and His will for us, even when our desire is for the "thorn" to be removed.

I have no idea who was strengthened through Paul's suffering, but God's ways are not our ways so we offer thanks and praise to God in all things and remember the Apostle's encouragement in Philippians 4:13: *"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."* And so we can.

Gratefully Rejoicing in Christ for You!

~ Pastor Cheryl

### FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING

#### Council Minutes June 4, 2025 (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*, Dale Price – *Church Properties*, Paula Reisdorph – *Evangelism*, Michelle Bauer – *Lay Ministry*, Pastor Cheryl – interim pastor, & Barbara Wegner – secretary. Meeting was called to order by President Jon Anderson at 7:38 pm.

Pastor Cheryl started with a prayer.

**Approval of May Council Minutes** as presented – Darin, Michele **MSP**.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report** – We are \$2,500 down from what we were last May. Expenses were up. We have more expenses this year, seeing as how we're paying for a pastor, and the dip in donations from summer has already started. We still took in more than we spent. Our operating reserve is growing and our designated funds are up to over \$100,000. Ellie, Paula **MSP**.

**Board of Lay Ministry** – Michelle Bauer Reported – The board’s preference for a council meeting time was Wednesday at 6 pm. The board recommends combining the Thanksgiving service with Zion on Monday, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>. The board did not want the Options for Women to speak during church. The board liked the way God’s Work Our Hands (GWOH) operated last year with each activity having one leader, instead of one over-all director, so they recommend that again and fewer activities. The Board of Lay Ministry said it would be okay if someone wanted to vote at the council meeting via Zoom and wants the church to have a paid Zoom plan. It was discussed that we already do have a paid plan which is always available for individual boards to use if need be. Our share for paying for a youth director with more hours as proposed would be a little over \$20,000 a year. The board wanted someone to have a conversation with Kaitlyn about this. Lay Ministry believes that the senior gift should *not* come from their board moving forward, and the gift should not be based on participation and there should not be scholarships from the board of Youth & Family. They believe that there should be one Senior Gift from the congregation with the Board of Youth & Family taking over that gift procurement & giving since they deal with the older youth. The WAM job description was approved as it was written up. There was a discussion about whether or not the scholarships from the board of Youth & Family were given consistently. Some believed that teens who should’ve gotten one did not, so it’s better to scrap the scholarship based on youth attending youth group.

There was discussion on why the board of Lay Ministry was involved in getting a Senior Gift. Years ago they gave gifts to those who acolyte because the Board of Lay Ministry is in charge of the acolyting program as part of the worship service. It was suggested that if the senior gift is not going to be based on participation then it doesn’t make sense for it to come from Lay Ministry any longer. The clarification note on Senior Gifts listed what happened in years past: Christian Education gave gifts to the youth who attended Sunday School, Lay Ministry gave gifts to the seniors who continued to acolyte, and Youth & Family gave scholarships to the seniors who continued to attend youth group. A couple of years ago the boards of Christian Ed & Lay Ministry combined theirs into one gift with no regard to participation. It was noted that the board of Youth & Family believes there is value in giving a gift/scholarship based off each youth’s participation even after it’s no longer required of them as a sign of appreciation. It was brought up to ask Liz to look at who got scholarships & revisit this issue. The idea of a senior gift for everyone (not based on participation) *and* a scholarship based off of participation was floated. It was mentioned that youth group has had some issues which could have deterred youth from attending which may not be fair if they miss out on the scholarship because of that. There was a discussion on what fund the scholarships are coming from and suggested it be reflected in the budget somewhere. The Senior Gift issue will need to be revisited.

**Board of Evangelism** – Paula Reisdorph Reported – The ballot is good. The board suggested the councils meet on Wednesday nights 5:45-6:45 pm. The board approved of combining FELC & Zion’s Thanksgiving service and suggested Tuesday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>. The board reviewed Pastor Cheryl’s annual planning schedule and believes it looks good. The board votes not to have the Options for Women speaker. The board came up with some names of people who might be good God’s Work Our Hands leaders and will discuss this further. The board likes the idea of council members being able to vote via Zoom and discussed the idea of Pastor Cheryl greeting members as they come to the church service since she can’t visit with people afterward. She has been trying to go to the back of the sanctuary and greet a bit before church already. In the fall, the board would like to try having a pot of coffee in the Narthex with cups with covers. There were no transfer in/out this month. There are a number of possible new members. The board discussed having forms for prospective members to fill out if they want to become members. We have these forms already. They are in the board of Evangelism’s cabinet in the pickup room. Some will be put out into the Narthex. Pastor Cheryl has started a draft pamphlet for Spanish-speaking individuals that can explain that they are welcome here, the purpose of the friendship pads, and that they are welcome to communion, etc. These can be passed out to people who may be a Spanish-speaker, or perhaps be left in the pews. This idea started because an individual came into church and didn’t speak English very well, and didn’t take communion. He was invited to (in English) but perhaps did not understand. New Member Sunday will be October 5<sup>th</sup>. The board of Evangelism wants to give solar lights to the Father’s on Father’s Day with a gift tag attached that says, “Let Your Light Shine.” Extra solar lights can be given to new members on New Member Sunday. The summer Hymn Sings at Fairway View will be at 2:00 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month after the communion service and coffee. The board decided to not have adult games the same night as the Zion Youth Nights. Adult board game nights will be held in January and March of 2026. The board is planning a FELC-Zion Pool Party on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 8-10 pm with a backup date of August 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be multi-generational. Bring your floatie. There will be root beer floats as well. Board Members for 25-26 will be Jane Debner, Marla Strei, Marge Dragseth, Deb Henningson, & Paula Reisdorph. The board is working on a Selfie BINGO plan as well. The board discussed making “Thanks for Popping In” welcome gifts for visiting or new members attending church service. Those would be microwave popcorn gifts. There was also a discussion on getting magnets for Rally Sunday.

**Board of Christian Education** – no Christian Ed report was available at the council meeting – At the council meeting there was discussion about whether or not Ashley Hanson & Kaitlyn Burdorf would continue to be on the board going forward and the need to get the board’s minutes from them. Pastor Cheryl had been at the VBS training and shared that there were 61 children planning to attend VBS this year. Last year it was 80. They may get more at the last minute. They are doing pretty well on volunteers.

**The Board of Christian Education has since uploaded their June minutes** and the following information came from those: The Board of Ed would 100% like to see Zoom offered as an option to attend the council meetings and would like earlier meeting times as well. The board is fine with combining the Thanksgiving service with Zion and would prefer having it on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. They are happy with the changing of the Christmas service to December 14<sup>th</sup> on the annual planning schedule. The Board would rather not do a fundraiser but would be open to the Options for Women coming to speak to let the congregation know what is all offered. Possibly open to doing an offering and put towards this 1-2 times a year. No one from the board is interesting in coordinating God’s Work Our Hands due to availability issues. As of their meeting, they were still needing a few volunteers for VBS. The Board of Ed would like to see VBS moved to the week directly following when school is let out vs. waiting 2 full weeks. They wrote that this would help

with volunteers and not conflicting with summer rec. Concerning the Senior Gifts, they questioned, “Can all 3 boards just join together and do one gift and order these gifts in bulk and store them at the church in the room where the baptism chests are stored?” Christian Ed would like an answer re: confirmands/mentee required to help with one SS class they can start planning. They will also look at what Zion is doing for Sunday School. Ashley Hanson & Kaitlyn Burdorf will no longer be on the board of Christian Education.

**Youth & Family** – Kari Dorry Reported – It is very hard for families to participate in the council on Monday nights due to school events. The board recommends that the meeting be on Wednesday nights as there are no school events that night of the week. The Board didn’t want the Options for Women speaker. If we want to support babies we can do a diaper fundraiser and take them to the food shelf ourselves. The board said that allowing Zoom is a good idea but complicated.

**Some people had different ideas of what was being asked re: Zoom.** There was consensus from the council that voting via Zoom (if someone on the council wants to hold up their phone with you Zooming in, etc) that would be okay to get votes from those who can’t make it if we need a quorum. But the consensus was that the board does not want to provide a Zoom link each meeting because it means having to set up a laptop/camera/ and microphone every month. It’s complicated, a lot more work is involved, there can be technical issues, and people cannot have good discussions that way. The board thought that Senior Recognition went well and that each board should decide individually how they want to honor seniors. Youth & Family liked the idea of scholarships being given but after discussion, they would like to revisit that at another meeting. As for summer events, there are youth campfires planned. There are 17 youth signed up to go to Green Lake Bible Camp this summer. As costs are increasing greatly the board needs to increase the parental costs moving forward. The board would like to follow Liz’s recommendation of where to pull money from this year to help pay for those. The board would like to move away from blanketly giving every child a scholarship to camp. They would like to change the default to the church not paying for camp, unless a family asks for a scholarship, and maybe then doing a sliding scale based on the need. The cost is about \$900 right now for non-supported payments, *(but our youth register under supported payments and that is \$730)*. We’re only asking for \$150 from the parents *(and the endowment contributed \$100 per student, which leaves about \$480 per child times 17 children that the church covers)*. The board would like to ask parents to provide more if they’re able. If they’re not able, the board believes that helping to cover the cost of the camp for them is worth it. The board is full and was unsure if Ashleigh wanted to be on the board next year. Barbara will e-mail her to find out once a new council meeting night is picked.

**Stewardship** – Darin Ehrenberg Reported – The board is okay with fixing the microphones. Some Thrivent funds may be available to help. Henry may be of help. There is a handheld wireless microphone making noise, and we may want to upgrade the wired microphones for picking up more wide-range audio. As for Thanksgiving, the board recommends combining the service with Zion on Monday, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>. They didn’t want to do it on Sunday because that would be two different services on the same day. The board said “No” to the fundraiser talk and want individual leaders for GWOH Sunday. Deciding on the new Youth Director should be added to the New Business of the Annual Election meeting. The board was looking at having the council on Tuesday evenings, but Wednesday will work. The Good News for June would revisit our church year’s theme and be about calling Pastor Cheryl. The June one would be the last one.

**Church Properties** – Dale Price Reported – The board of Properties wanted the council to meet on Monday nights because the building will be very occupied on Wednesdays. There was a change to Minnesota law and although the elevator is working well with no issues, the state says we have to make safety upgrades within the next 5 years. We have had 3 different companies give us bids. The high for a complete electrical revamp is about \$80k and the lower, complete upgrade bid was about \$58-\$61k. The Board of Church properties would recommend that at the Annual Election Meeting of the Congregation, the congregation be made aware of this and would request that a fund to help pay for this upgrade be started.

There is an ongoing issue with a damaged window which should be fixed sometime this summer. All the beautiful work done last year in the bell tower is becoming damaged in the back hallway due to leaks. We have someone coming to look at it so we figure out what the issue is and fix it. Pastor Cheryl has been using a too-tall and too-small platform during services. The board of Church Properties will look into getting a larger, shorter platform for her. The Board of Properties will look into the microphone issue as well. When the handheld microphone was used during Lent, horrible noises were made, even if the microphone was turned off. So, the channel on the sound board had to be turned off as well. There is a need to look into the make/model and contact someone who would know more about it, like a manufacturer or distributor. We don’t have air conditioning for the church right now. Someone is supposed to be looking at it tomorrow. It was recharged yesterday and they found another leak. It’s the oldest and most expensive system we have. The lines for the freon and everything are underground, so we’re hoping the issue is above ground.

#### **Council Items**

**Approval of combining FELC’s Thanksgiving service** with Zion on Monday night (when they usually have it) Monday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Ellie, Becky **MSP**.

There was consensus in the council that a Youth Director working 20 hours/week is very important, regardless if we have the money from donations to pay for it right now. There was some discussion on whether or not the youth director could help with Sunday School. Zion would pay for 25% of the pay for a Youth Director. FELC would cover the other 75% which would be about \$23k a year more than what we’ve been doing. If every FELC family gave about \$10-15/a month more we’d easily be able to cover this.

**Approval of considering going into reserve funds to pay for a Youth Director.** Becky, Kari **MSP**

As far as filling this role, Kaitlyn can apply. Although we looked for one for a long time in the past, our circumstances have changed, in that we now have a pastor, and other people may have moved into the community or a new position in life where they are now available and interested.

There was a discussion about maybe voting in the annual meeting on whether or not to stop our KDIO broadcasts as they are making it more difficult for us to be flexible with service times which interferes with the congregation getting to know the Pastor after service. But that was decided against at this point considering we have enough things to vote

on at the annual meeting and our partnership agreement spells out our times for another year and a half. That can go on the agenda in January.

The annual election meeting in June will ask for input from the congregation on the elevator costs, Youth Director position, and calling Pastor Cheryl.

There was a consensus that the council will not provide a Zoom link. However if a quorum is needed, someone can pull out a phone and let another person Zoom in their vote.

Pastor Cheryl left before the discussion on calling her.

**Approval of sending the Call Committee's Pastoral choice to the congregation for a vote.** Ellie, Darin **MSP**.

**Pastor's Report** – Pastor Cheryl presented her report (via email) to the council detailing her activities, such as May baptisms, FWV visits, meetings, and having pizza on the last day of confirmation. June will be busy for her as she plans to go to the Synod Assembly, participate in VBS, hold a FWV communion service, plan a Father's Day service, perform a committal service for Norma Buhault at Eidskog, go to Zion & FELCs individual Evangelism & Outreach meetings and council meetings, hold Youth Night at Zion June 18<sup>th</sup>, perform three funeral services for FELC (Hasslen 6/20, Verheul 6/21, & Morrill 6/28), and go to the FELC-Zion Twins Game on the 26<sup>th</sup>. She has created a draft confirmation schedule for the '25-'26 school year. She thanks you all for the Sunday off saying she had a great weekend with her family. She hopes the mentors will attend the youth nights with their mentees. She plans to take off August 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> (a memorial weekend for her son, Joe), and tentatively may take off October 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> during MEA when kids are off of confirmation. She's not sure which Sunday yet. Please remember to communicate with the pastor to coordinate between the congregations. Committees are encouraged to include/meet with Pastor. Parish nurses brought their lunch and met with Pastor at the office one day – that worked.

**President Jon Anderson Adjourned the meeting** at 8:50 pm.

Next council meeting will be on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

## ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING June 22, 2025

The Annual Election Meeting of First English Lutheran Church was held on June 22, 2025. President Jon Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M. It was established that a quorum was present at the meeting. President Anderson led the meeting with an opening prayer.

The Ballot for 2025 was presented by President Anderson. He proceeded to ask if there were any additional nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Liz Ketz, seconded by Amanda Stattelman that a unanimous ballot be cast. Motion carried.

President Anderson welcomed the newly elected officers and board members.

President Anderson read the "Resolution of Thanksgiving for Gift of Service" thanking the following people for their service as officers or board members: Kristi Ehrenberg, Kaitlyn Burdorf, Ashley Hanson and Kari Dorry 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. The Resolution carried by a vote of acclamation.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) None brought before the meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **FUNDS FOR ELEVATOR UPGRADE** – President Anderson reported that our elevator does not meet the mandates as set forth by the Requirements and Codes of the State of Minnesota. In order for us to use our elevator, it is necessary that we make the necessary changes as required. Bids have been received, and are between \$60,000.00 - \$80,000.00. The question then presented to the attending members was how do we pay for it. President Anderson stated that we have an Investment Fund entitled Legacy Fund which could be used. The monies in this fund consist of funds received from the sale of the parsonage and legacy funds which are funds that have been received from individuals and/or funds received from bequests. After much discussion, a motion was made by Ellie Helgeson, seconded by Nancy Nolop that we use only the legacy funds and not the parsonage funds that are in the Legacy Fund at our church for the payment of said upgrading. Motion carried.
- 2) **SEEKING YOUTH DIRECTOR** – President Anderson explained the need for a part-time Youth Director. This would be offered as a 20 hour per/week position. After much discussion, Jim Schmeichel made a motion, seconded by Ron Athey that we consent to the hiring of a Youth Director for 20 hours per/week contingent on Zion Lutheran's decision made at their meeting. Motion carried.
- 3) **CLEARANCE OF LAND TITLE** – President Anderson reported that over 50 years ago First English Lutheran Church was bequeathed a parcel of real estate in the City of Appleton, Minnesota. First English Lutheran Church sold the property in 1974. The present owners are now selling the property and the title company has found a discrepancy in the legal description. A motion was made by Ethel Swenson, seconded by Amanda Stattelman that our officers sign a Quit Claim Deed on behalf of First English Lutheran Church conveying any and all interest in and to said real estate in question to the present owners, thereby clearing any discrepancies in said title. Motion carried.
- 4) **CALL COMMITTEE** – Kristi Ehrenberg, on behalf of the Call Committee spoke to the voting members and reported on the Call Committee's unanimous decision to place a Call to Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett. After some discussion, Kristi Ehrenberg made a motion, seconded by Nancy Nolop, that we proceed to vote by ballot on the candidate that has been presented to our congregational members by our Call Committee. Motion carried.  
Ballots were distributed to the voting members. President Anderson asked each member to mark their ballot given to them. A YES vote signified that you vote yes to proceeding with making a formal call to Ministry to Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett. A NO vote signifies that you **DO NOT** approve of proceeding with making a formal Call of Ministry to Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett. Ballots were collected and counted.  
President Anderson announced that the ballots were tabulated with **51 voting YES** that we make a formal call to Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett and **One voting NO** signifying they did not approve proceeding with making the Call.  
President Anderson stated that with the outcome of the vote by ballot, **we would move forward with the process of extending a formal call of Ministry to Pastor Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, pending the outcome of the voting process at Zion Lutheran Church.** If both First English Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church have agreed to making a Call, they will proceed to obtain the approval of the Synod.  
A thank you was extended to the members of the Call Committee for their work.



- 5) **OTHER** – President Anderson reported that we are presently working on the problems with the air conditioner that is 65 years old and continue to address the issues of the roof leak in the bell tower.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted – Ethel E. Swenson, Secretary

## JULY NEWS FROM THE YOUTH



A great time was had during the Wonder Junction VBS program that was held the week of June 8-12<sup>th</sup> at Zion Lutheran Church. There were approximately 71 youth that participated in the event, and we had several helpers from FELC. Thanks to Ashley Hanson for being the FELC point of contact and to everyone that helped in any way to make this event a reality.



A great time was had by the youth that attended the 1<sup>st</sup> youth get together held at Zion. There are two more chances to get in on all the fun this summer. July 16<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup>.

## JULY EVENTS:



July 16<sup>th</sup>: 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer Youth Gathering at Zion Lutheran Church from 6:30 PM - 11:00 PM. All youth that finished 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend.



July 20<sup>th</sup> - July 24<sup>th</sup>: Green Lake Bible Camp participants: Vayda Backstrand, Hartley Neuman, Kimberly Neuman, Landri Wollschlager, and Livia Wollschlager.



July 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>: Green Lake Bible Camp participants: Jacob Fladhammer and Baylor Kellen.

Thanks to the following people for their donation: Jim & Neva Foster *in memory of Greta Yaeger*, and Erllys Sis *in memory of JoAnn Hasslen*.

## Part-Time Church Youth Director Wanted!

Are you passionate about helping young people grow in their faith and discover their unique gifts? Do you love creating fun, engaging environments where youth feel seen, heard, and valued?

The First English and Zion Lutheran Church partnership of Ortonville, MN is seeking a dynamic and dedicated Part-Time Youth Director to lead our vibrant youth ministry. We're looking for someone who can connect with middle and high school students, build strong relationships, and guide them on their spiritual journey.

In this role, you'll have the opportunity to:

- Develop and implement exciting youth programs, events, and service projects.
- Mentor and disciple students, helping them deepen their relationship with Christ.
- Foster a welcoming and inclusive community where all youth belong.
- Collaborate with church leadership, parents, and volunteers.

If you're a self-starter with a heart for youth ministry and a desire to make a lasting impact, we want to hear from you! Lutheran background preferred, but not required for the right candidate.

Hours: 20 hours per week (includes Wednesday evening and Sunday)

Ready to make a difference? Send your resume and 3 references by July 21, 2025, to [Pastor@firstenglish.net](mailto:Pastor@firstenglish.net). Or drop off at 9 Third Street NW, Ortonville, MN. We can't wait to meet you!

### Parish Nurse Article for July - *Experiencing the Love of Jesus*



God took the penalty of your sin because of His love for you.  
Nothing will ever be able to separate you from the love of God.  
Receiving God's love makes it possible for you to love & forgive others.  
God's love can fill you and leave you with a love worth giving.  
There is nothing that can make God stop loving you.

*"May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to fully understand. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God" Ephesians 3:19*

## 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.

July 2025

Designated Funds

Building (please specify) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Operating Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Families in Need \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

January ..... Technology 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

## Church & Community News

**On June 29<sup>th</sup> the newly elected council members were installed during our church service.** Our new members voted in are Kirsten Karels (Lay Ministry); Beth Fladhammer (Christian Education); Ashleigh Neuman, Lorainne Conroy, Mari Athey, & Jennifer Angerhofer-Anderson (Youth & Family); and Deb Henningson (Evangelism).

**The Big Stone Legion Auxilliary will be having a spaghetti supper** Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 - 7:00 pm at the Big Stone Community Center. There will also be a 50/50 drawing.

**The Endowment meeting will be July 6<sup>th</sup>.** If you have any requests for funds please be sure to fill out a request form and place it in their box in the library by Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July being a Friday, the bulletins for Sun. July 6<sup>th</sup> will be printed early.** If you have any announcements that you want in them, please get those to the office by Wed. the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**If you missed our June '25 Good News Newsletter, it's full of information on Pastor Cheryl** so you can get to know her a bit better. It's available around the church and on our website.

**WANTED: The Day of Love is in need of old CLEAN, UNSTAINED COTTON DENIM JEANS.** These jeans will be used for the graduation quilts that are made for our senior youth each year. If you have old worn CLEAN UNSTAINED jeans that you would like to donate, please leave them in the Pick-up room next to the office.



**FELC & Zion MEMBERS: Come one, come all (ages 0-110 welcome) to the FELC Summer Pool Party** at the Ortonville Swimming Pool on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 8-10 pm. Free admission. Ice cream floats and fun provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Floaties are welcome! See you there! Alternate weather date is August 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8-10 pm.



**The 41st annual Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Quilt Auction** will take place Friday, July 11 and Saturday, July 12 at the Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer! Visit Green Lake Bible Camp to see over 200 handmade quilts, enjoy quilting demonstrations and live music, shop in the Makers Market for your next crafting supplies, enjoy a hotdish supper or pulled pork lunch, a silent auction, concert, and so much more! Events take place 3:00-8:00 PM on Friday, and 9:00-11:00 AM Saturday, and the live auction starts at 12:00 PM! All proceeds benefit the ministry happening at camp. For more info & event schedule, visit [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org)!

**Zion Lutheran Church invites you to their Pie & Ice Cream Social** on August 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00-7:00 pm. The menu includes Bar-B-Que, Hot Dogs, Chips, Homemade Pie, Ice Cream, Pop & Coffee. 100% of proceeds to go to Big Stone Lake Area Food Shelf & Trojan Take Out.



### KDIO BROADCASTS

.... (June 1<sup>st</sup>) was sponsored by your gifts to the Endowment Fund.

.... (June 8<sup>th</sup>) was sponsored by your gifts to the Endowment Fund.

.... (June 15<sup>th</sup>) was sponsored in honor of Curtis Hormann and Douglas Fraasch and in memory of Ray Hormann from Penny and the Hormann family.

.... (June 22<sup>nd</sup>) was sponsored in memory of Mark Block by Terry & family.

.... (June 29<sup>th</sup>) was sponsored in memory of Marianne Morrill by her family.

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT** for Angie Aschwege, Arlen LaCombe, Gail Olson, Harris Selvig, Beth Swanson, Brandi Tweeter, Jean Zielike; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman, Rosie Frank, Larry Helgeson, Natalie Henneberg, McCoy Jipson, Janice Redfield, David Scholberg, and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Ricky Anderson, Arvilla Bergseth, Adeline Burgess, Jim Hipple, Vivian Janssen, Nola Lockwood, Roger Nornes; Aletta Simonitch; and Mary Lou Olson in Madison. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict, and South African students Sanelisiwe Dlamini and Andiswa Mbatha. If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.





# Gifts & Memorials (March 29<sup>th</sup> – June 26<sup>th</sup>)

## **ALTAR GUILD**

Jim & Julie Hipple *in memory of Norma Buholz*; and Anthony & Jocelyn Showalter.

## **CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT**

Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg.

## **COFFEE FUND**

Dave & Debbie Ellingson *in memory of Larry Dahle*.

## **DAY OF LOVE**

Jyla Dahle *in memory of JoAnne Hasslen, Dick Verheul, and Marianne Morrill*; Erlys Sis *in memory of Greta Yaeger*; Richard & Marla Strei *in memory of Larry Dahle*.

## **EASTER**

Ricky & Jennifer Anderson; Ronald & Ginger Athey; Cody & Jennifer Backstrand; Kevin & Becky Backstrand; Mark & Amy Block; Terry Block; Sharon Carlson; Marilyn Chindvall; Ashton & Caiti Conroy; Scott Dahle; Melvin & Jackie Domine; Dave & Debbie Ellingson; Keith & Lynne Giese; Jim & Julie Hipple; Alex Johnson; Ev Johnson; Sharron Johnson; Liz Ketz; Arlen & Ardell LaCombe; Dean & Anita Longnecker; Larry & Shannon Millerbernd; Vernon Nickolauson; Nancy Nolop; Ray Ogdahl; Christie Petersen; Dale Price; Judith Roberts; Sharon Smith; Eugene & Marcella Stotesberry; Dean & Karen Strand; Steve & Lori Strei; Garry & Ethel Swenson; Rodney & Vicki Torgerson; Art & Arlene Vollmer; Jack & Mary Weber; Joseph & Jennifer Wiik; Jonathan & Carol Ydstie; and Clara Zeek.

## **ELCA SW MN SYNOD**

Marilyn Chindvall; Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg; Liz Ketz; and Sharon Smith.

## **FOOD SHELF**

Eldon & Carol Knutson; Erlys Sis; and Jack & Mary Weber.

## **GLOBAL MISSIONS**

Marilyn Chindvall; Melvin & Jackie Domine; Liz Ketz; Christie Petersen; and Sharon Smith.

## **GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS**

Sharron Johnson.

## **KDIO**

Terry Block and family *in memory of Mark Block*; Arlene Gustafson *in memory of Larry Dahle & Ruth Hansen*; Dean & Anita Longnecker *in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary*; Tom & Sandy Rice *in honor of their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary*; Richard & Marla Strei *in honor of Natalie (Strei) Haken*; Garry & Ethel Swenson *in memory of Garry's sister Jeanette Bergstad*; and Rita Verheul *in honor of her son Matt*.

## **LENT (FOOD SHELF)**

Jon & Kim Anderson; Kevin & Becky Backstrand; Lois Bergeson; Betty Casper; Marilyn Chindvall; Scott Dahle; Dave & Debbie Ellingson; James & Kate Heinecke; Jim & Julie Hipple; Evelyn Johnson; Sharron Johnson; Liz Ketz; Arlen & Ardell LaCombe; Dean & Anita Longnecker; Sara Mattison; Connie & Carol Newman; Judith Roberts; Sharon Smith; Dean & Karen Strand; Steve & Lori Strei; Garry & Ethel Swenson, and Jon & Carol Ydstie.

## **MN TWINS GAME TRANSPORTATION**

Richard & Marla Strei.

## **OPERATING**

Gayle Anderson; Ronald & Ginger Athey; Jyla Dahle; Randy & Jane Debner; Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg; Kris & Nikkie Evje; Arlene Gustafson *in memory of JoAnn Roelke Hasslen and Marianne Morrill*; Marilyn Hanson; Glenn & Deb Henningson; Evelyn Johnson; Eldon & Carol Knutson; Nancy Nolop; Judith Roberts, Garry & Ethel Swenson, Russ & Ronda Thielke; Art & Arlene Vollmer *in memory of Diane Schultz*; Jack & Mary Weber, Joseph & Jennifer Wiik *in memory of Ruth Hansen and Larry Dahle*; and Clara Zeek.

## **OUTDOOR DIGITAL SIGN**

James & Neva Foster *in memory of Dick Verheul*; Garry & Ethel Swenson *in memory of Larry Dahle*; Diane Schultz (*Lori Larson's sister*), and Greta Yaeger.

## **SENIOR CHOIR**

Lois Bergeson; Cheryl Carl *in memory of Larry Dahle, Diane Schultz, and Greta Yaeger*; and Marilyn Hanson.

## **SOMEPLACE SAFE**

Marilyn Chindvall; and Liz Ketz.

## **SPECIAL NEEDS**

Sharron Johnson.

## **SQUARES**

Jerry & Kathy Longhenry *in memory of Dick Verheul*.

## **YOUTH FUND**

Ronald & Ginger Athey; Terry Block *in memory of Kimberly Morten (Kevin's Sister)*; James & Neva Foster *in memory of Greta Yaeger*; Glenda Reiffenberger; James & Ranet Schmeichel *in memory of Ruth Hansen & David Gergenson*; and Erlys Sis *in memory of JoAnn Hasslen*.

Thank you for your gifts!



### **Upcoming Stonecroft Ministries Sponsored By Women's Connection**

Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 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 : Julie Couch, of Norfolk, NE**  
**“A Lost & Lonely Girl and Her  
Journey to find a Friend”**

**Special Feature & Music:** Julie Couch will be  
doing a mini music concert of classic country  
music with excerpts about how music affects the  
brain.

**FOOD WILL BE SERVED & ALL ARE WELCOME!**

For reservations call Paula Reisdorph  
(320) 760-9583



## ALTAR GUILD TEAMS – July

Sacristy, Sanctuary, Surplices:

Banners:

Flower Committee:

Mary Athey & Courtney Giese

Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter

Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter



### SCHEDULING

#### KEYBOARD/ORGANIST

July 6: Kathy Haukos

July 9\* (1 pm FWV): Carol Ydstie

July 13: Lisa Berdan

July 20: Kathy Haukos

July 27: Carol Ydstie

Aug. 3: Kathy Haukos

Aug. 10: Amy Adelman

Aug. 13 (1 pm FWV): Marilyn Hanson

Aug. 17: Carol Ydstie

Aug. 24: Kathy Haukos

Aug. 31: Amy Adelman



#### LECTOR

July 6: Kristi Ehrenberg

July 13: Barb Wiese

July 20: Brent Zahrbock

July 27: Ellie Helgeson

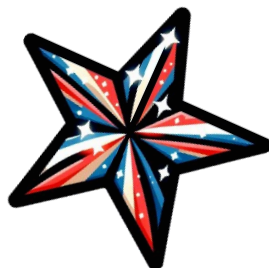
Aug. 3: Jim Schmeichel

Aug. 10: Marilyn Hanson

Aug. 17: Miley Block

Aug. 24: Marge Dragseth

Aug. 31: Kathy Randall



#### ACOLYTES

July 6: Oliver & Amelia

July 13: Martino & Jordan

July 20: Miley & Oliver

July 27: Bailey & Rylie

Aug. 3: Katelyn & James

Aug. 10: Bryson & Bennett

Aug. 17: Mya & Justice

Aug. 24: Archer & Lola

Aug. 31: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

#### LAY ASSISTANTS

July 6: David Ellingson & Archer Dorry

July 20: Kristi & Darin Ehrenberg

Aug. 3: Jim Foster & Amanda Stattelman

Aug. 17: Sara Mattison & Sara Wollschlager

#### FWV Neighborhoods

July 6: Jim & Neva Foster

July 13: Brent Zahrbock

Aug. 3: TBD

Aug. 10: TBD

Aug. 31: TBD



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













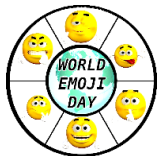
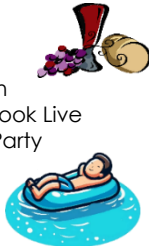




The congregations and all the baptized who are the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are claimed by this mission: God places us in cities, farms and towns together under one prairie sky. The Risen Christ surprises us with opportunities to plant God's Word in the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



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>July 2025</i> † † † <b>First English Lutheran Church</b> Pr. Cheryl is at Zion Tuesdays			Daily Devotions are available @ <a href="http://www.firstenglish.net">www.firstenglish.net</a> go to “Lutheran Faith” & then “Prayers, Study, & Devotionals.” Pastor Cheryl’s e-mail: <a href="mailto:CMQRondeau@outlook.com">CMQRondeau@outlook.com</a> cell # (605) 237-1501			
		<b>1</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie’s Diner (FWV) 	<b>2</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 	<b>3</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed Pr. Cheryl at home	<b>4</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:00 am Worship – Communion – Brewer Banks Adelman Baptism – KDIO Broadcast & Facebook Live 10:00 am Endowment Meeting 10:30 am Fairway View Pre-recorded 	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie’s Diner (FWV)  	<b>9</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 11:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Fairway View Worship (Pastor Cheryl Live w/communion) 2:00 pm Hymn Sing at FWV 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed 	<b>12</b> 
<b>13</b> 9:00 am Worship – KDIO Broadcast & Facebook Live 10:30 am Fairway View Pre-recorded	<b>14</b> 11 am Staff Meeting	<b>15</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie’s Diner (FWV) 	<b>16</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 6:30 pm – 11 pm Youth Night at Zion 	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:00 am Worship – Communion – KDIO Broadcast & Facebook Live 8:00-10:00 pm FELC-Zion Pool Party at Ortonville Swimming Pool 	<b>21</b> 11 am Staff Meeting <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>22</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie’s Diner (FWV) 	<b>23</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 9:00 am Bulletins Printed Apostle James Day 	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – Favorite Hymns – KDIO Broadcast & Facebook Live 	<b>28</b> 11 am Staff Meeting	<b>29</b> 8:30 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie’s Diner (FWV) 	<b>30</b> 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast	<b>31</b>	<b>Pastor Cheryl's <u>Summer</u> Hours:</b> Mondays (FELC Pastor Office 9 am to 3 pm), Tuesdays (Zion Lutheran 11 am to 5 pm), Wednesdays (FELC Pastor Office 11 am to 5 pm, & Thursdays (FELC Pastor Office 9 am – 3 pm), or by appointment. Contact her anytime via text (605-237-1501) or email at <a href="mailto:CMQRondeau@outlook.com">CMQRondeau@outlook.com</a> .	