



First English Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

November 2025

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.

Rev. Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, *Pastor*

Barbara Wegner, *Parish Secretary*

Liz Ketz, *Financial Secretary*

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Secretary Office Hours: M-Thurs 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





October 28, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I'm writing this while Hurricane Melissa is attacking Jamaica and is now one of the most powerful Category 5 hurricanes of the Atlantic. We can only imagine all the devastation there will be once it moves past.

We are lucky in the Midwest we don't have hurricanes. But of course, we contend with our tornadoes and hurricane force winds during blizzards. Either way, we can be so very thankful when a storm misses us, devastation misses us, or whenever a storm causes little damage.

November is the month of Thanksgiving and a time to reflect on all the blessings we have received through the Not's:

We did Not get hit by a tornado.

We did Not have excessive rainfall continue the flooding so there was no harvest.

We did Not have to end faith formation for young people for lack of a leader.

We did Not have to eliminate Sunday school for lack of teachers.

We did Not have to close the doors of the church because of a pandemic.

My mom used to say when something devastating would happen, "*But for the grace of God go I.*" That has always been in the back of my mind reminding me to thank God for all the things He blesses us with, but also the dreadful things that did Not happen to us.

So while we reflect on the many dreadful things that did Not happen to our congregations this year, let's turn our thoughts around and look at all the blessings we have received. The extended time of beautiful fall weather we've been having. The beautiful quilts by the Day of Love group. The awesome musicians who are preparing for the coming Christmas Cantata. The amazing youth we have at our churches making their affirmation of faith this past Sunday. The many children that come up for the children's message and go off to Sunday school. The many who attended youth nights this past summer. The Jr High students who will attend the SW MN Synod Youth Gathering in November and the Sr High youth planning a mission trip next summer.

We have MUCH to be thankful for this Thanksgiving, and in fact every day.

God gives us so many gifts that we often take them for granted. 1 Peter 4:10 reminds us of the importance of using our blessings and gifts to serve others as a reflection of God's grace writing: "*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.*"

Being in God's beautiful creation is one thing that the Lord gave us to be stewards of. Stewardship is careful and responsible management of something entrusted to you. Jesus taught about this in Matthew 25: 14-30 in the Parable of the Talents when the servants had the responsibility to care for the master's property and did not. Stewards don't own the property but are expected to manage it wisely and are accountable for it to the master.

Our churches have been entrusted to us by God. The building is just a building, but it is also a place for the faith family to come together for worship and share each other's joys and sorrow, as we did on Affirmation of Baptism last Sunday.

Members of the church family are stewards of the church that God has blessed us with. Stewards who are to manage this gift through a variety of ways using our time, talents and resources to care for and support it for His glory and serve Him by serving others.

Luke reminds us: "*To whom much is given, much will be required.*" (12:48) We are not all stewards in the same way or at the same point of our potential generosity, but we can give to the church in thanksgiving for what we have received and in celebration of how God has chosen you to be among this faithful family. For this blessing, Proverbs 3:9-10 says we are to "*Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty*".

November is the month of Thanksgiving, and it is Stewardship month, a time when we are accountable to the master. For each to answer to God with thanksgiving how we have cared and managed the gifts He has entrusted to us.

The Apostle Paul emphasized this attitude of generosity and the importance of giving willingly writing: "*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*" (2 Corinthians 9:7)

As you think of the many wonderful blessings God has given to each and every one of you, take time to prioritizing God's gift in your lives by honoring the Lord for His blessings upon you.



Gratefully Rejoicing in Christ for You!

~ Pastor Cheryl



FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING Council Minutes – October 8, 2025 (not yet approved)

Members present: Jon Anderson (president), Ellie Helgeson (vice president) and Lay Ministry, Becky Parker (treasurer) and Stewardship, Julie Schneider - Stewardship, Archer Dorry - Youth & Family, Kandra Kellen - Christian Education, Paula Reisdorph - Evangelism, Dale Price - Church Properties, Barbara Wegner - Secretary, & Pastor Cheryl.

Meeting was called to order by president Jon Anderson at 6:03 pm.

Pastor Cheryl led the group in a devotion and prayer.

Approval of September Minutes as presented – Julie, Dale **MSP**.

There was no treasurer's report due to the financial secretary's vacation resulting in no financial reports.

Board of Lay Ministry – Ellie Helgeson reported – There were no WAM or Financial reports to approve. The board approved the Endowment Report. The board has assigned members to interview the church staff. There will be a joint Thanksgiving service at Zion on Monday, Nov. 24th 6:30 pm. Nov. 30th will be our Hanging of the Greens service. The Altar Guild should coordinate with Pastor Cheryl in setting up the trees. There will be a Blue Christmas service at 4 pm

Dec. 20th. Our Christmas Eve services will be at 2:30 & 6:30 pm with Zion having one at 4:30 pm. Ellie will meet with Liz and Becky to begin 2026 budget planning. The FELC Choir will be at the Abbey of the Hills on Dec. 6-7th for the annual cantata. Marina resigned from her tech desk duties. Barbara has learned EasyWorship and is putting together the screens now. There was consensus that FELC should share EasyWorship files with Zion to free up Pastor Cheryl's time.

Board of Evangelism – Paula Reisdorph reported – The board tabled the Lenten meals with a suggestion that the council boards take a turn providing the meal during the Lenten season. The coffee fellowship before service will continue through October for sure, and perhaps November, depending on attendance. Any member of FELC is encouraged to hand out a Thanks-For-Popping-In popcorn gift to any visitors. It looks like at least 2 of them have been taken so far. The pictures of the new members are now in the online church directory. There were no new transfers in/out. The board will have their mission emphasis talk (with Day of Love ladies and quilts) on Nov. 9th. The Just for the Love of It meal will be Feb. 11th. Marge will promote it, and Deb & Jane will co-chair. The board will look into reaching out to the Hispanic community to encourage them to come to FELC if they don't have a church. The giving tree will go up Nov. 25th. **E-mailed notes:** There will be a donation basket devoted to Day of Love offerings on Nov. 9th, with Paula standing by that morning.

Christian Education – Kandra Kellen reported – The board meets the Sunday before the Wednesday council meeting each month. The next meeting is Nov. 9th. The year's theme will be incorporated in the Feb. 22nd Sunday School lesson. The board suggested having a coffee bar with hot chocolate, marshmallows, and a donation basket in the Narthex before service. The next joint VBS will be May 31st to June 4th. The board believes the new Sunday School format is going great for everyone. Someone should be taking photos of Sunday School activities and sharing them in the Youth Facebook page. The Sunday School kids will sing "He is Jesus" during the Oct 12th service. Christmas Program practice starts Nov. 2nd. The older kids will practice scripts. The younger kids will do crafts (like clothespin angels). The board was planning on having a Roller-skating event Jan. 11th from 11 am to 1:00 pm, but this is at the same time as Zion's church service, so it may be later. The board knows the rink will be open on the 11th from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. There are also plans to go to Unity Square February 8th (Superbowl Sunday) from 1-3:00 pm, Milbank Movie Theater for a family movie March 8th (Time TBD), and a Family Fun for ALL at Lakeside Park April 26th (Time TBD) with pulled pork, bouncy house, games, playground, etc. There is a backup open gym for that date as well.

Youth & Family – Archer Dorry reported – The board is tabling the discussion of Bible Camp fees until they can speak with Paul Hanson (from Green Lake) who is coming to speak at FELC November 16th. Someone will reach out to Liz to look at confirmation gift costs in the past before purchasing gifts, and Barbara was asked to get confirmation cake for Oct. 26th. This means there will not just be coffee fellowship *before* the service, but also *after* service that day. The Synod Jr High Youth Gathering (7-9th graders) is Nov. 21st – 22nd in Wilmar. Signup has begun. The signup sheets for watching the youth and snacks is pretty bare. Hopefully more parents and church members will sign up. Archer was approached by Immanuel Lutheran Church in Atwater for a mission trip for grades 10-12th in Georgia next summer. There are no dates yet. Around 15 kids from FELC are interested. Zion is also invited. Fundraising planning will begin when they know more about dates and the cost. The board recommends the confirmation students, Amelia Zinski, Justice Wittnebel, Chase Lovgren, James Hodenfield, Lexi Kaye, Cameron Anderson, Meadow Schablin be confirmed.

Stewardship – Julie Schneider reported – The Stewardship board plans to have a screen with the monthly logo and "Your Stewardship Pledge – to lead as you follow, with your time, talents, and financial resources." The logo is also on the letter that will be sent out to each member. On Nov. 2nd and 9th the board will do Temple Talks. Brent Zahrbock has agreed to do the audit this year and said he will find another person. The missionaries that we supported through the ELCA, Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, resigned effective Oct. 31st. Right now the church gives 4% to Missionaries. Nov. 1st that should change to 2% with another 2% now being given to the Food Shelf. The board of Stewardship revised the Opportunity Sheets that will go out with the pledges in November. The Opportunity Sheets now have places to volunteer to be an auditor or volunteer driver. The pledge dedication will be January 4th. The auction fundraiser for the elevator was tabled. The Stewardship Webinar mentioned that the majority of people (especially younger people) want to see where their donations go. All boards should consider sharing information about what they're doing so the congregation can see where their donations go. Everyone is invited to provide newsletter information and pictures to the church office so those can be included in the monthly newsletter.

Church Properties – Dale Price reported – Someone from TKE came in to survey the elevator, Oct 8th, and told Dean & Dale about some extra costs due to regulations. He said that they may be able to do this around January-February. It could take up to 2 weeks or less. The bid for the insulation has been accepted; we're just waiting for Larry's to install that. There was a suggestion to possibly switch from physical eternal candles to an electric candle to save costs in the long run. The board can look into getting a quote for that and ask the congregation their thoughts. The board is still waiting for a bill from our summer air conditioner repair job. We have a contract with Gunner to hopefully stop the bell tower roof leaks. Pastor Cheryl has been working on the sound system. American Lutheran Church donated a nice fairly new sound system mixer board (about 40.5 inches) and a camera controller. We would still need to buy an amplifier.

Pastor's Report – Everyone received a copy of the Pastor's Report. Pastor is working to get applications for the Jr. High Synod Gathering before the deadline and is excited to work with Archer on the mission trip. There are 7 confirmands up for confirmation Oct. 26th. Pastor has been having interviews for the past few weeks, and attended to SW MN Synod Fall conference Oct. 5-7th. They encouraged congregations to consider Spanish-speaking people. Pastor Cheryl has previously done such work as providing translated bulletins & screens. There is a stereotype that Spanish speakers are Roman Catholic, but a large majority are not or don't want to remain with the Catholic Church; they may be interested in Lutheran Church. Pastor Cheryl has been leading the youth activities with Ronda's help and for this council meeting, the youth group went over to Zion Church for a meal. Pastor Cheryl expressed appreciation that in the two weeks she did the PowerPoint screens for FELC, Barbara learned how to use EasyWorship and has now taken that over. Pastor has created a step-by-step instructional sheet for the tech desk, which will be updated and will continue to work on making the tech desk more user-friendly to encourage more volunteers.

COUNCIL ACTIONS:

- Motion by Ellie/Paula **MSP** to approve of Pastor continuing as youth leader & pursuing another person to help with visitations.
- Motion by Ellie/Julie **MSP** to approve the Select CoPay 2000 as our Portico Enrollment for 2026.
- Motion by Ellie/Dale **MSP** to accept Marina Thomson’s resignation from the Tech Desk (*Marina will continue with her older custodial duties*).
- Motion by Julie/Elle **MSP** to change the Benevolence percentage given to the Missionaries down to 2%, with 2% now going to the food shelf.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Next Council Meeting scheduled for: Wednesday, November 12th at 5:30 PM.

FELC-ZION PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING
Council Minutes – October 7, 2025 (not yet approved)

Attendance: Pr. Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Jerry Reupke, Jon Anderson, Becky Parker

Pastor led the group in prayer to open the meeting.

Pr. Cheryl indicates she needs to choose a Medicare Supplement provider but has not received the information to make decision. FELC Lay Ministry Board will choose an alternate health insurance plan in the event we would need a different pastor. (hopefully just a formality).

Budget negotiations that affect the Partnership will be discussed at our next meeting.

Jerry brought to the council Julia Brown’s desire to volunteer at the church. Since First English has scheduled staff to oversee her work, Pastor is going to check with Barbara and Dean to see if we could create a volunteer plan for her to help at the church. She could possibly do custodial and office work.

The youth candidate that came forward does not look like it will work out. Pastor proposed we pull the employment ad and she will continue to do the youth leadership. To help with her time, she proposed we hire a pastor or individual to do visitation as she does not have enough time to do both. She would talk to Pastor David Tonn to see if he would be interested in helping our congregations in this way. Our council attendees were very supportive of this strategy.

Tech streaming is being worked on at both congregations. To help Pastor with time constraints we recommended that First English share the deck that Barbara creates each week for Zion to use. This way Pastor does not have to create a separate one for Zion.

At fall conference, Pastor reported on a presenter about multi-lingual services for churches. Pastor discussed this with the FELC Evangelism board and they are going to check at the school and in other areas to see what kind of need there may be for this type of service.

The next meeting of the Partnership Council will be Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 5:30 pm at Zion.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Parker, Secretary

First English/Zion Partnership Council

YOUTH NEWS NOVEMBER

Thank you to all the people that have provided snacks for Confirmation. The youth really appreciate the treats. If you have not signed up for a time, please check the sign-up sheet that is on the board on the way to the youth room. Classes are off to a great start.

A reminder to the parents of the 7th-8th graders to please sign up for a time to sit in on the class and this is open to any other adults in the congregation that would be willing to help. There are sign-up sheets in the hallway on the way to the youth room for all these opportunities.

Youth group is also off and running. There is a need for meal providers beginning in December. If this is something that you could do, please take a look at the sign-up sheets hanging in the hall. You would be preparing for approximately 25 people.

Congratulations to Cameron, James, Lexi, Chase, Meadow, Justice, and Amelia on their Confirmation that was held on Sunday, October 26th. We also would like to thank the following who served as mentors to these youth: Mike Lovgren, Darin Ehrenberg, Marge Dragseth, Andy Strei, Kaitlyn Burdorf, Sandy Brown, and Lynne Giese.

We are excited to have 14 youth and 3 adults attending the SW MN Synod Junior High Youth Gathering.

This is a YOUTH LED event that is planned by the Southwestern Minnesota Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Board. Archer and Bryson are a part of this board.

Location: Willmar Conference Center & Best Western Plus/Holiday Inn Express, Willmar, MN

Dates: Friday, November 21 – Saturday, November 22, 2025

2025 theme: “Strengthened by Faith,” based on Isaiah 41:10.

Please add the following youth to your prayers for this event: Bennett, Mya W, Alexis, Olivia, Maci, Lola, Kim, Hartley, Dawson, Katelyn, Liv, Kenedee, Nash, and Jace. In addition, add Archer, Byson, Kirsten, Sara, and Alan.



- **Plans are being made for a Senior High** Youth Mission Trip to Savannah, GA in 2026. Current youth in 10th thru 12th grades from Zion or First English Lutheran need to express their interest in going to Pastor Cheryl or Archer Dorry no later than November 12th. An organization and planning meeting will be held on Monday, November 17th at 6 pm at First English for those students and their parents. A tentative date for the trip will be June 22 through July 1st but may be longer to make additional stops going and returning. The group will be going with Immanuel Lutheran of Atwater, MN and possibly youth from two other congregations. Additional information will be made available by November 17th.
- **God's Creation calendars** will be available following the church services on November 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd. We will see if we sell all of them out or if we will continue into December. If you want to stop in at the office to purchase one, that is also an option. They cost \$8.00.
- **Sunday School Dates:** November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and December 7th will be Christmas Program Practices. The program will be held on December 14th. There is no Sunday School on November 30th due to Thanksgiving weekend.
- **Confirmation & Youth Group Dates:** November 5th, 12th, 19th. Thanksgiving Break will be on the 26th, so no activity.



Blessings to all this coming month and Happy Thanksgiving!!



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.

November 2025

Designated Funds

Building (please specify) \$ _____
Operating Fund \$ _____
Other GWOH / Service Projects \$ _____

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

Parish Nurse Article for November

"Experiencing the Hope of Jesus"



The return of Christ is a day to be anticipated. Jesus has prepared a place for you in his Father's house. Jesus has assured you that he will come back. Don't become complacent as you wait for Jesus' return. Lead a holy and God-honoring life as you wait. You will be amazed at Jesus when you see him at his return. When you see Christ; you will see the perfect priest, sinless perfection, absolute strength.

Romans 15:13- May the God of hope fill you with all the joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Church & Community News

We got a new student from Mission of Hope, Ycherson Ysmorin Moh-Titanyen Soh, and we have added him to our prayer list.



There are signup sheets in the Office hallway for volunteers to help with the confirmation & youth. Even if you are a not a parent, but would like to support the youth of the congregation, we would appreciate your help if you can make it one of these days.

Church members can now request access to the “First English Lutheran Youth-Ortonville MN” group on Facebook.

Because of the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend, the November 30th bulletins will be printed earlier, on Wednesday, November 26th, not Friday. Please keep this in mind if you want to put an announcement in that bulletin. Please let Barbara or someone in the office know ahead of time.

TEMPLE TALKS IN NOVEMBER: The board of Stewardship will be giving a temple talk on November 2nd & 9th.

Mission Emphasis is on Day of Love



The Board of Evangelism is happy to announce that Mission Emphasis Sunday will be held on Sunday, November 9 at FELC. This year, we have selected The Day of Love as our local mission emphasis. This dedicated group of volunteers does multiple outreach projects each week at our church on Tuesday mornings. We look forward to hearing more about Day of Love during the service on November 9 and also seeing some of the beautiful work they do. The outreach they do means so much to people. There will be a special offering opportunity available in the narthex after services to help continue the Day of Love mission work. Thank you for supporting this event!


KDIO BROADCASTS

- ... (October 5th) was sponsored by Rita Verheul in honor of her son, Matt, who turned 50 last Monday.
- ... (October 12th) was sponsored by Melvin & Jackie Domine in celebration of Andrew Domine & Kiersten Rogness who were united in marriage October 4th.
- ... (October 19th) was sponsored by your gifts to the Endowment Fund.
- ... (October 26th) was sponsored by Mel & Jackie Domine in memory of Henry Domine whose 40th birthday would have been Oct. 29th.


PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Kelly Athey, Gail Olson, Nancy Pierzina, Harris Selvig, Beth Swanson, Brandi Tweeter, Jean Zielike; Bishop Craig Anderson, Monty Athey, Paul Erdman, Rosie Frank, Larry Helgeson, Natalie Henneberg, Linda Henningson, McCoy Jipson, Janice Redfield, David Scholberg, and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Ricky Anderson, Arvilla Bergseth, Adeline Burgess, Jim Hipple, Vivian Janssen, Arlen LaCombe, Nola Lockwood, Roger Nornes; Aletta Simonitch; and Mary Lou Olson in Madison. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict especially Jacob Hamann, Colin Hartman, Tyler Ruby, and Thomas Halverson; and our Haitian student, Ycherson Soh and South African students Sanelisiwe Dlamini and Andiswa Mbatha. If you would like a name to be added/removed, please contact the church office.



From Bishop Dee Anderson: The Hallelujahs were loud and long and beautiful as we welcomed and prayed for our new Presiding Bishop, Rev. Yehiel Curry on October 4, 2025, at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. If you would like to see the celebration, you can view the it at YouTube - Installation of ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry | October 4, 2025. Do so, and you will be inspired! We continue to pray: "Strengthen and sustain your bishop Yehiel, that with patience and understanding he may follow Jesus Christ in this new ministry as presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America."



CIRCLE FOUR

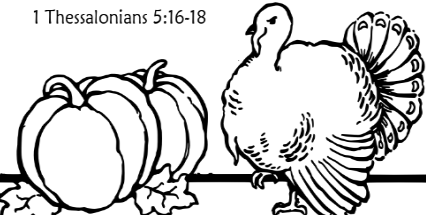


Meets in the Church Lounge on
Wed., November 5th at 9:00 am.
Hostess: Ev Johnson
Lesson: Carol Newman



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



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDING

FALL BACK

REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR NOV. 1st-2nd for Daylight Saving Time.



All Saints Sunday, November 2nd

Come join us at 9:00 am for our All Saints Sunday Service. All Saints Sunday is a special day on which we rejoice in the many ways so many people have let Christ's light shine through them and give thanks to God for the saints we have been blessed to know. As a part of this service, not only do we name the people dear to us who have died in the last year and light a candle in honor of each one, we also remember the newly baptized as part of the community of saints on earth.



INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY - Your Most up-to-date Church Directory

NEW MEMBERS ADDED!

On Sunday, October 5th we welcomed in our new members Jackson & Taylor Athey and their children Reagan, Lincoln, and Cohen; and Betty Williamson. Their photos were placed in the Narthex that morning, but they were also added to our Instant Church Directory app/website directory.



If you rely solely on one of our printed directories, some of the information in it is outdated as some members have moved, phone numbers may have changed, and we have added new members. Our firstenglish.net website has a link to our up-to-date *online* Church Photo Directory in the menu on top and also a button on our main page. You will need your email address to sign up and log in.

Your e-mail must already be associated with your directory profile. This helps us to protect the directory from other non-members. If you have previously given someone in the office your e-mail address, then you should be able to set up an account and log in at any time. If you have trouble logging in to the directory, please contact someone in the office.

The Evangelism Board pays for our online directory. You will never be asked to pay in order to log into the directory. There are more directions (on how to log in to the directory) on our website.

You can use the directory on your computer via a web browser or you can download the Instant Church Directory app from the app store (available on both iOS and Android).



Once you are logged in, you can easily find addresses and phone numbers for other members, view activity pictures, birthdays, anniversaries, and update your own profile! You can add a photo or update your photo to include more family members if your family has grown or changed appearance, or if you just really like that new photo you took when you were all dressed up!

Adding photos can really help new members to feel more comfortable, like they're joining a family. So, please consider updating your profile and photos today!



Upcoming Stonecroft Ministries Sponsored By Women’s Connection

Tuesday, November 18th, 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: Lori Mayer, of St. Ansgar, IA
with a talk titled:

“What Are You Looking For”

~ Special Feature ~

St. Teresa Ann Wolf of Watertown, SD
discussing Human Trafficking.

Music: Dan Lindholm of Milbank, SD, Soloist w/guitar.

FOOD WILL BE SERVED &
ALL/WALK-INS ARE WELCOME!

For reservations call Paula Reisdorph (320) 760-9583



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.’

Prairie Five Hunger Calendar

As we enter the season of Thanksgiving, it's a perfect time to pause and count our many blessings—while remembering those in our community who struggle with hunger. To that end, Prairie Five has shared this Hunger Calendar, a simple, meaningful activity to foster gratitude and generosity in our homes.

- Before you begin:
- Read through the calendar to get a feel for what you are counting. Add your children’s or your own ideas to the appropriate boxes.
 - Set an extra place at your table with an empty bowl to remind your family of those who go without nutritious food. As you work through the calendar, put coins in the bowl.

1 Count how many pairs of shoes you have in your closet.	2 Count how many times you eat today (meals & snacks).	3 Count how many items are on your top refrigerator shelf.	4 Count how many boxes of cereal (or breakfast bars) you have.	5 Count how many spoons are in your silverware drawer.
6 <i>Add your own!</i>	7 Count how many pairs of pants you have.	8 Count how many rooms you have in your home.	9 Count how many shelves of food you have in your home.	10 Count how many minutes you bathe or shower each week.
11 Count how many stuffed animals you own.	12 <i>Add your own!</i>	13 Count how many pieces of candy you have in your home.	14 Count how many cans of food you have in your home.	15 Count how many pieces of fresh fruit are in your home.
16 Count how many food items are in your refrigerator door.	17 Count how many shirts you have.	18 <i>Add your own!</i>	19 Count how many times you throw food away in a week.	20 Count how many closets are in your home.
21 Count how many books you have in your bedroom.	22 Count how many tires are on your vehicles, trailers, and bicycles.	23 Count how many pairs of socks are in your drawer.	24 <i>Add your own!</i>	25 Count how many loads of laundry your family does each week.
26 Count how many remote controls are in your home.	27 Count how many coats you have.	28 Count how many movies you own.	29 Count the number of times you go grocery shopping each month.	30 <i>Add your own!</i>

- To discuss:
- Why is it hard to picture what it’s like to be hungry when you always have plenty to eat?
 - Why do you think some people don’t have enough nutritious food?
 - Why is it important to help people who don’t have enough nutritious food?
 - When we donate our money, how do you think the organization uses it to help hungry people?
 - What else can we do to help people who are hungry?

When the month is over: donate the money collected or take your children shopping (with the money) to purchase items to donate to your local food shelf.

Adapted from *Doing Good Together: 101 Easy, Meaningful Service Projects for Families, Schools, and Communities* by Jenny Friedman, PH.D., and Jolene Roehlkepartain, copyright 2010. Free Spirit Publishing Inc., Minneapolis, MN; 800-735-7323; www.freespirit.com

ALTAR GUILD TEAMS – November

Sacristy, Sanctuary, Surplices:

Mary Weber & Jen Wiik

Banners:

Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter

Flower Committee:

Paula Reisdorph & Connie & Carol Newman



SCHEDULING

KEYBOARD/ORGANIST

Nov. 2: Marilyn Hanson
Nov. 9: Carol Ydstie
Nov. 12* (1 pm FWV): Amy Adelman
Nov. 16: Amy Adelman
Nov. 23: Lisa Berdan
Nov. 30: Kathy Haukos
Dec. 7: Kathy Haukos
Dec. 10* (1 pm FWV): Marilyn Hanson
Dec. 14: Amy Adelman
Dec. 21: Lisa Berdan
Dec. 24* (2:30 pm): Carol Ydstie
Dec. 24* (6:30 pm): Marilyn Hanson
Dec. 28: Amy Adelman

LECTOR

Nov. 2: Sara Mattison
Nov. 9: Chris Petersen
Nov. 16: Terry Kalberg
Nov. 23: Ellie Helgeson
Nov. 30: Barb Wiese
Dec. 7: Kristi Ehrenberg
Dec. 14: Jon Ydstie
Dec. 21: Archer Dorry
Dec. 24* (2:30 pm): Archer Dorry
Dec. 24* (6:30 pm): NEED Volunteer
Dec. 28: Marge Dragseth

ACOLYTES

Nov. 2: Martino & Archer
Nov. 9: Rylie & Bailey
Nov. 16: Bennett & Bryson
Nov. 23: Jordan & Riley
Nov. 30: Madilyn & Ashton
Dec. 7: Meadow & Dylan
Dec. 14: Mya & Justice
Dec. 21: Jace & Lola
Dec. 24* (2:30 pm): NEED Volunteers
Dec. 24* (6:30 pm): NEED Volunteers
Dec. 28: Chase & Cameron

LAY ASSISTANTS

Nov. 2: Kari Dorry & Sara Wollschlager
Nov. 16: Amanda Stattelmann & Lori Larson
Dec. 7: Darin Ehrenberg & Marla Strei
Dec. 21: Sara Mattison & Terry Kalberg
Dec. 24* (2:30 pm): Archer Dorry, Kari Dorry, & NEED Volunteers
Dec. 24* (6:30 pm): NEED Volunteers

FWV Neighborhoods

Nov. 2: Marla & Dick Strei
Nov. 9: Jane Debner
Nov. 30: Marge Dragseth & Lexi Kaye
Dec. 7: TBD
Dec. 14: TBD

GREETERS

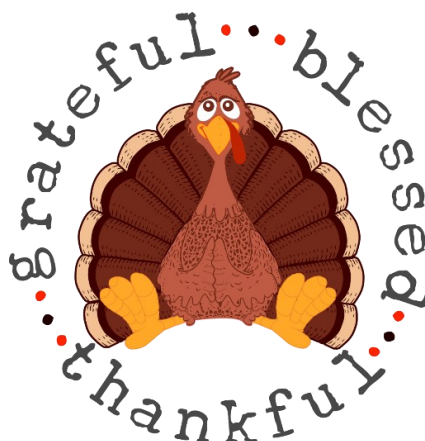
Nov. 2: Michelle Bauer & Katelyn Hodenfield
Nov. 9: Carol & Connie Newman + Gibson Evje
Nov. 16: Hartley Neuman & Amy Hodenfield
Nov. 23: Austin Schoon & Jace Athey
Nov. 30: Mya Wittnebel & Carol Knutson
Dec. 7: Emily Sigler & Riley Stattelmann
Dec. 14: Cody Backstrand & Jordan Stattelmann
Dec. 21: Oliver Zinski & Jim Schmeichel
Dec. 24* (2:30 pm): NEED Volunteers
Dec. 24* (6:30 pm): NEED Volunteers
Dec. 28: Connie & Carol Newman
& Tino Cochran

SOUND SYSTEM

Nov. 2: Marge Dragseth & Matt Karels
Nov. 9: Terry Kalberg & Liz Ketz
Nov. 16: Kim Anderson & Cody Backstrand
Nov. 23: Liz Ketz & Matt Karels
Nov. 30: David Ellingson & Kim Anderson
Dec. 7: Marge Dragseth & Cody Backstrand
Dec. 14: Kim Anderson & Liz Ketz
Dec. 21: Matt Karels & David Ellingson
Dec. 24* (2:30 pm): NEED VOLUNTEERS
Dec. 24* (6:30 pm): NEED VOLUNTEERS
Dec. 28: Liz Ketz & Cody Backstrand

USHERS

Nov. 2: Ev Johnson, Ron Athey, Jon & Kim Anderson
Nov. 9: Art Vollmer, Brent Zahrbock, Glenn & Deb Henningson
Nov. 16: Dean Longnecker, Josh Wollschlager, Jim Foster, & Dick Strei
Nov. 23: Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Mel & Jackie Domine
Nov. 30: Ev Johnson, Brent Zahrbock, Dick & Marla Strei
Dec. 7: Gale May, Dean Strand, Vern Nickolauson, & Dave Ellingson
Dec. 14: Darin Ehrenberg, Eldon Knutson, Ellie & Harley Helgeson
Dec. 21: Russ Thielke, Warren Wiese, Gale May, & Connie Newman
Dec. 24* (2:30 pm): NEED Volunteers
Dec. 24* (6:30 pm): NEED Volunteers
Dec. 28: Eugene Stotesbery, Jim Foster, Gale May, & Art Vollmer



* We have **TWO**
Christmas Eve services,
Wed. at 2:30 & 6:30 pm.

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
November 2025 † † † First English Lutheran Church Pr. Cheryl is at Zion Tuesdays				Daily Devotions are available @ www.firstenglish.net go to "Lutheran Faith" & then "Prayers, Study, & Devotionals."		1 DST ENDS TONIGHT
2 ALL SAINT'S SUNDAY Stewardship Talk 8:15 am Coffee Fellowship in Narthex 9:00 am Worship – Stewardship Temple Talk – Communion – KDIO Broadcast & FB Live 9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday School Xmas Practice 10:30 am Fairway View Pre-recorded 4-6 pm Christmas Cantata Practice	3 11 am Staff Meeting	4 9:00 am Day of Love 3:30 pm Evangelism Mtg (Pastor Cheryl will attend) 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV)	5 9:00 am Circle 4 (Church Lounge) 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm Confirmation (grades 7-8) 4:30 pm Confirmation (grade 9) 5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12 th gr.) & TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	6	7 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	8
9 DAY OF LOVE Stewardship Talk & Mission Emphasis 8:15 am Coffee Fellowship in Narthex 9:00 am Worship – D.o.L. Mission Emphasis by Evangelism – Stewardship Temple Talk – KDIO Broadcast & Facebook Live 9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday School Xmas Practice Board of Christian Education Meeting 10:30 am Fairway View Pre-recorded 4-6 pm Christmas Cantata Practice	10 11 am Staff Meeting	11 9:00 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV) VETERAN'S DAY	12 9:30 am TV Broadcast 1:00 pm Fairway View Worship (Pastor Cheryl Live w/communion) 3:30 pm Confirmation (grades 7-8) 4:30 pm Confirmation (grade 9) 5:30 pm Youth Group (gr. 7-12) 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm Senior Choir COUNCIL MEETING	13	14 9:00 am Bulletins Printed	15
16 8:15 am Coffee Fellowship in Narthex 9:00 am Worship – GLLM Rep Speaking - Communion – KDIO Broadcast & FB Live 9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday School Xmas Practice 4-6 pm Christmas Cantata Practice	17 11 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Sr. Youth (10-12 th grade) Mission Trip Organizational Mtg.	18 9:00 am Day of Love 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV)	19 9:30 am TV Broadcast 3:30 pm Confirmation (grades 7-8) 4:30 pm Confirmation (grade 9) 5:30 pm Youth Group (gr. 7-12) 5:30 pm TV Broadcast 7:00 pm Senior Choir	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 9:00 am Bulletins Printed 4:00 pm Jr High Youth Gathering Starts in Wilmar Jr. High Youth Gathering	22 10/21 4pm – 10/22 Noon
23 CONTEMPORARY Christ the King 8:15 am Coffee Fellowship in Narthex 9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – KDIO Broadcast & FB Live 9:30 – 10:30 am SS Xmas Program Practice After Church Service - Giving Tree is Put Up 4-6 pm Christmas Cantata Practice	24 11 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Combined Thanksgiving Service at ZION CHURCH	25 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (FWV)	26 9:00 am Bulletins Printed Early 9:30 am TV Broadcast 5:30 pm TV Broadcast	27 Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 HANGING of the GREENS 8:15 am Coffee Fellowship in Narthex 9:00 am Worship - Giving Tree Temple Talk - KDIO & Facebook Live 10:30 am Fairway View Pre-recorded 4-6 pm Christmas Cantata Practice			Pastor Cheryl's Hours: Mondays (FELC Pastor Office 10 am to 4 pm), Tuesdays (Zion Lutheran 10 am to 4 pm), Wednesdays (FELC Pastor Office 10 am to 3:30 (and then teaching confirmation classes), & Thursdays (FELC Pastor Office 10 am – 4 pm (unless up at FWV/or visiting members) or by appointment. Contact her anytime via text (605-237-1501) or email at CMQRondeau@outlook.com .			