



First English Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

May 2026



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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Pastor Cheryl's Office Hours: Mon 10-4, Tues (at Zion) 10- 4, Wed 10-3:30, Thur. 10-4
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](https://www.facebook.com/FirstEnglishLutheranChurchOrtonvilleMN)

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





Notes from Pastor Cheryl



April 29, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

April has come and gone so fast that it seemed to make my head spin. Easter has passed almost a whole month already and May will be here as you read this.

The sounds of the cheering crowds are hardly behind us as Jesus rode into Jerusalem where the cries suddenly changed from Hosanna to crucify Him. How can a week change the opinions of people so quickly? Why do people become so easily swayed? What makes people change to self-interest rather than others? How can a few move so many, even to such a murderous tone?

Many saw the crucifixion of Christ as a stumbling block.

Paul writes, ¹⁸ *For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.* (1Co 1:18)

Many still do.

²¹ *For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.* ²² *For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,* ²³ *but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,* (1 Co 1:21-23)

It took me a long time to understand what that meant and why they saw Jesus taking our sins to the cross and dying for you and me, as a stumbling block. How can the good news of the gospel not be a benefit, an advantage, in fact a blessing?

It's not easy to understand, although it should be. But we are human, and Satan loves to place questions and doubts, confusion and self-centered ideas in our mind. Perhaps the problem is, it's just too simple and we tend to trust ourselves rather than accept what we don't understand.

God sent His Son into the world to do the one thing we could not, to suffer in our place by taking our sins to the cross and dying a horrendous death. The punishment you and I deserve, Jesus paid in full.

But their foolishness, the stumbling block, is the people saw Jesus' death as a failure, as weakness, not at all the warrior King they wanted to come and defeat the Romans for them. They were short-sighted. They could only see what was happening in the here and now. They didn't understand this world was not the ultimate place of creation and look past it to see the glory of paradise or our heavenly home God was offering.

Their wisdom was in this world. Their self-seeking worldly wisdom was really their foolishness.

They even taunted Him saying, ⁴² *He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him.* ⁴³ *He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'* (Mat 27:42-43)

But He did not come down. He voluntarily hung there, for our sake, because of the love He has for you and me... and ALL people. It was not scandalous. It was victorious.

Jesus' obedience saved us through their foolishness of crucifying an innocent man. Jesus brought about our salvation, not with a list of good deed we must accomplish. Not by keeping the law of Moses better than anyone else. But only through grace, which is believing that He is the Son of God and died on the cross for you and me.

In God's mercy, He then rose Jesus from the dead and promises He will do the same for all who believe in Christ. Through scripture, you will find God keeps His promises. Through scripture, you will learn to trust in Him. Through scripture you will come to know the love of Christ and the glorious grace of God given for you in Holy Communion. There is no stumbling block for those who regularly hear the word and keep it. It's more of a springboard to stand on to take us into the next life with Christ.

The stumbling block is for those who do not understand His death was necessary for you and I to be saved. We are the stumbling block when we cling to self-centeredness. So, Jesus did what we could not do and saved us from ourselves.

Gratefully Rejoicing in Christ for You!

~ Pastor Cheryl

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARD MEETING

Council Minutes April 8th, 2026 (not yet approved)

Members present: Jon Anderson (president), Darin Ehrenberg - *Stewardship*, Beth Fladhammer - *Christian Education*, Archer Dorry - *Youth & Family*, Cody Backstrand - *Lay Ministry*, Paula Reisdorph - *Evangelism*, Dale Price - *Church Properties*, Barbara Wegner - *Secretary*, and Pastor Cheryl.

Meeting was called to order by President Jon Anderson at 6:03 pm and Pastor Cheryl led with a devotion.

Approval of March Minutes as presented - Paula, Darin **MSP**.

Approval of Treasurer's Report - Behind where we were last year. Darin, Cody **MSP**.

Board of Lay Ministry - Cody Backstrand reported - The board approved the Endowment report. The board is still working on getting employee contracts updated with normal working hours added to them and still working on getting

the updated 2026 job descriptions signed. The board is still looking for a lay leader for the May 10th service (Ellie has since volunteered to lead it). The board will need 6 acolyte gifts with the addition of Kirby Olson. The board will contact Liz about the engraved crosses as gifts from last year.

Board of Evangelism – Paula Reisdorph reported – The board of Evangelism wants to transfer in John, Carrie, Sawyer, Carly & Kirby Olson. Marge has put together some new member packets for anyone interested in joining. For Mother's Day the board is going to pass out cupcakes instead of carnations. The summer Hymn Sings at FWV will be the 3rd Wednesdays (June 17, July 15, and Aug. 19) at 4:00 pm. The board will table the pool party planning until May. Coffee fellowship will start up again this Sunday. There will be a pot of coffee made for the Recognition of New Members Sunday, but the next week there will be Keurig pods available for individual coffee cups. Evangelism will meet again May 5th at 3:30 pm.

Christian Education – Beth Fladhammer reported – The board thought first communion went well. Some parents thought their children singing with Sunday School kids didn't know the words too well, but that's every special music with kids. VBS is May 31st to June 4th. There will be a joint worship at Zion Church at 9 am. They are still looking for VBS teachers. The movie lock-in watching "David" went really well, and Sunday School will focus on studying David's life. Milestones are touched on, but it is difficult to do while all the various age groups are together. The leaders/praise band for the Summer Worship at Zion June 17th, July 15th, August 5th will be Zupfers, Liv Wollschlager, Ellie Helgeson, and Amanda Stattelmann. Those are the same nights of Youth Group's summer fun nights. Sara Tollakson and Kristin Haggerty will be the Zion contacts. There will be a meal. There will be a 2nd collection for Bible Camp scholarships in April. Not many people responded when asked to provide testimonials, but there were 3 textual responses. Those will be shown as slides as someone talks about Camp during our service. Beth said she would talk about it and her son, Jacob, could.

Youth & Family – Archer Dorry reported – The Easter breakfast served around 115 people and raised over \$900, while spending around \$200 on groceries. There are 9 youth attending the Senior High Youth Gathering in Redwood falls this weekend, 2 are not with the church but are part of the board. Pastor Cheryl is chaperoning. The Hire-a-youth fundraiser for the GA Mission trip is going really well. The board wants to reach out to Liz and Pastor Cheryl to compile a list of the juniors and seniors to plan for the Senior Recognition service. The board would like to recognize Ronda who has volunteered with the youth group with a gift card. The board believes the summer Youth Campfire Fun Nights at Zion are a great idea and thank Zion for hosting. The board likes the idea of a summer 1-day mission trip and will work with Pastor Cheryl to hopefully make that work. The board discussed ideas about gifts for seniors. An idea discussed was to place bibles in the Narthex for a few weeks to allow members to highlight their favorite verses and then after the bibles have been highlighted, present them to the seniors on Senior Recognition Sunday. The board would like to give \$100 scholarship money to the three seniors who regularly attended youth group: Archer Dorry, Kirby Olson, and Ashton Sletten.

Stewardship – Darin Ehrenberg reported – Mark was in touch with someone who completed their second auction. It looks like it takes about 3 months to get it all set up (items coming in, putting the list together, and getting them listed for sale). Since it will take longer, the auction time frame will be more in late August-early September. Darin may talk during the announcements, asking for people to write down what they might want to donate and bring that paper to the church office. There was an idea of selling larger items on consignment, where the church would get a 10% cut of the profits. This idea may bring in larger ticket items that may have more demand, helping both the seller and the church. Smaller donated items would come to the church and be placed out for view during an open-house. Larger items would need to be photographed and sent to the board of Stewardship to be provided to Zielsdorf.

Church Properties – Dale Price reported – The Spring Cleanup Day will be at 6 pm May 4th, with May 11th as the backup date. The board asked for approval to get quotes to re-seal the parking lot area and to fix the sidewalk. Church council consensus approval. TKE (elevator company) has been back multiple times to check the elevator. Some minor adjustments have been made.. The Board of Properties has requested the tech people to give their input on the 3 electrical switches that would be put in, and the board is working on creating a platform for that tech desk area. There is a clipboard at the tech desk for requests. Any special requests will be considered. We have already had a few requests, one to switch to a wireless mouse, which has been done. The second request is to lower the monitor so the tech workers can see over it easier. The board is satisfied with their plumber and is awaiting weather for a bell tower update, and are hoping that Gunner comes in and holds to the previous estimate. The damper units have been ordered for the AC & furnace and will hopefully arrive before we switch over to air conditioning.

Pastor's Report – Everyone received a copy of the Pastor's Report. It's also available on our website. The confirmation classes will be done on May 6th if the children behave. There were 9 kids receiving first communion. The Fairway View live worship services on the second Wednesdays will be changed from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Pastor Cheryl is chaperoning the Sr. Youth Trip this weekend.

COUNCIL ACTIONS:

- Transfers in / out as Evangelism Board presented. Paula, Archer **MSP**.
- Approval of setting the Annual Meeting date to June 14th with a council consensus to have the backup date and installation date be June 21st (Father's Day). Darin, Paula, **MSP**.
- Approval of \$400 per person (7 people) to be taken out of the Ameriprise account to be used for the Mission Trip to Savannah, GA. Archer, Darin **MSP**.
- Approval of distributing \$100 to Archer Dorry, Kirby Olson, and Ashton Sletten for being active youth group members. A motion was made due to Archer recusing himself due to the conflict of interest. Beth, Darin **MSP**.
- Council Consensus to have the Executive Board come up with guidelines for the distribution of the youth portion of the Ameriprise funds.
- Council Consensus for Board of Properties to get quotes for re-sealing the parking lot and fixing sidewalk cracks.

Next Council Meeting scheduled for: Wednesday, May 13th, at 5:30 PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm Dale, Archer **MSP**.

Summer Worship meeting notes for April 20, 2026

1. Meeting held at First English and led by Pastor Cheryl
2. Summer Worship dates and times were reviewed:
 - a. June 17, July 15, August 5
 - b. 5:30 pm Worship service
 - c. 6 pm Meal
 - d. 6:30 pm Youth Fun Night for youth 7th – 12th
3. The formation of a Summer Joint Worship Committee for two members from each congregation was reviewed
 - a. Zion members are: Kristin Haggerty,
 - i. Absent: Sandy Helgeson, Jeremy Tollakson
 - ii. Also attending: Tonya Barnhardt, Sara Tollakson (in Jeremy's place)
 - b. First English: Carmen Zupfer, Beth Fladhammer, attending
 - i. Attending on speaker phone: Amanda Stattelman, Sara Wollschlager
 - ii. Absent: Kayla Teske, Kandra Murray
4. Summer worship adult volunteer workers/supervisors:
 - a. Set up games: Sara & Jeremy, Beth
 - b. Meal Oversight: June – Kathy Haukos; July - Beth; August – open.
 - i. Main meal will be made
 - ii. Attendees will be asked to bring a side or desert
 - iii. Requestion will be made for donations and Thrivent cards
 - c. Sign up Genius will be created by Carmen for workers/donations from both congregations to:
 - i. set up youth volley ball and other games
 - ii. bring food/donations for food
 - iii. help set up meal
 - iv. help clean up meal
 - v. take children 6th grade and under to park or games for them
 - vi. ushers for worship
 - vii. wood for campfire/wood
 - viii. other
5. Worship service
 - a. Pastor has the June 17 service bulletin done
 - b. decided NOT to have communion during these services
 - c. services will not be streamed or recorded
 - d. Carmen has music/ Zion has praise band music
 - i. Carmen, Tonya, Kristin & Pastor to meet April 28 on music
 - ii. Musicians will set up for their own needs
 - iii. Zion & Pastor have additional sound equipment for outside
 - iv. Praise band: Liv, Elli, Carmen, Amanda, Pete
 1. Others are being contacted
 2. Others interested are welcome to let Carmen know
 - e. Service will be held on new patio in back of the church
 - i. Attendees bring lawn chairs or blanket for the lawn
 - ii. Kristin will speak with council about picnic tables
 - iii. In case of rain – we'll move inside
6. Offering – discussion
 - a. Decided an offering will be taken
 - b. Consider giving to Katie's Kicks; Trojan Take-out; and the Backpack program
 - c. Recommendations will be taken to June 9 Joint Partnership meeting
7. Date to verify commitments for workers/donations are due by June 10th - by email.
8. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer



MAY YOUTH NEWSLETTER

Thanks to everyone who attended the Easter Breakfast. Your support to the Youth is much appreciated. Your generous donations raised \$737.00.

9 Youth, Archer, Madilyn, Kirby, Lexi, Ashton, Cameron, Brandon, James, and Bryson, along with Pastor Cheryl attended the Senior High Youth Gathering, "Refuge in the Chaos" on April 10th and 11th in Redwood Falls, MN. Congratulations to Archer who has been on the board for the past two years and will also be on the National Youth Gathering Planning Committee, to Bryson who was reelected to a 2nd term on the LYO board, and to James and Cameron who were newly elected to the LYO board. We also are very proud of Madilyn for running for this board, too. FELC has a lot of great youth!!!!

Thanks to the following youth who helped clean up after the Gala: Mia K, Nash, Jace, Martino, Mya W, Coby, Gibson, Lexi, Bryson, Dawson, Kirby, and Justice.



Things are slowly coming to an end for this school year's activities. We finished Sunday School classes with a party at Lakeside Park on April 26th. Confirmation will have their last scheduled class on May 6th, and the Youth Group's last day will be on May 6th as they complete the ditch clean up and have a pizza party to end this year. Thanks to everyone for the help and support throughout this past school year.



Thank you to our Sunday School teachers and to the Zupfers and Amy A for sharing their musical talents with the kids throughout the year.

Thanks to all who donated money to our Water's Edge fund throughout the year. After the special offering taken on April 12th, an additional \$639.00 was raised to help with the cost along with a generous donation to each camper from the Endowment Committee. We have 19 youth attending Water's Edge this coming summer and one who will be attending Camp For Christ. As their weeks come during the summer we will be posting that on the Facebook page so that we can have prayers for them during their week.

Coming up for May:

- 3rd** : Sunday Service with communion. Mentor Meeting following the service.
- 6th**: Confirmation Classes at their regular times. 3:30 & 4:30. This is the last scheduled day. Youth Group will be picking up trash and then having a pizza party for their last night.
- 10th**- Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers.
- 17th**: Today is Senior Recognition Sunday at church. We will be honoring Mason, Rylie, Archer, Mikaela, and Ashton today during the service. The juniors and their parents will be helping serve cake and coffee following the service.
- 24th**: Sunday Service with Noisy Offering. Ortonville High School Graduation at 2:00 pm. Best wishes to Mason, Rylie, Archer, Mikaela, and Ashton on their big day.
- 25th**: Memorial Day- Office is closed today.
- 31st**: Sunday Service at **ZION LUTHERAN** at 9:00 AM for the kickoff of Vacation Bible School.

LOOKING AHEAD



- Vacation Bible School will be held May 31st - June 4th from 6:30 PM - 8:45 PM at Zion Lutheran Church. We hope everyone plans on attending.
- There will again be three youth gatherings this summer up at Zion. The dates are: June 17th, July 15th, and August 5th. The time will be 6:30-10:30 PM.
- The Sr High Youth Trip to Savannah, GA will be June 24th- July 3rd. Archer. Brandon, Bryson, Cameron, James, Kirby, Lexi, along with Pastor Cheryl, Jennifer Anderson, and Alan Hodenfield will be attending. Thanks for all the support that the congregation has given these youth on this endeavor.
- There will also be a Mini Mission Trip to Churches United in Moorhead, MN on July 29th. We will need chaperones at a ratio of 1:6. After completing the service project for the day there will be time for a fun activity.

Thank you to these people for their generous donations to the youth.

Jerry & Kathy Longhenry and Jim & Ranet Schmeichel. In memory of Roger Nornes from Sharron Johnson, Joe & Cathy Scoblic, & Anonymous Donors.



If you do not have giving envelopes because you give electronically or by loose check, you can find generic pink Designated Funds envelopes in a basket in the Narthex.

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.

May 2026

Designated Funds

Building (please specify) \$ _____
Operating Fund \$ _____
Other Global Missions CS So. Africa \$ _____

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 May

Fear is one part of our Creator's loving provision for us. Fear protects us from harm and motivates us to protect ourselves. Although there is another kind of fear, an uncontrolled type of fear, that can put us in an emotional box. It can darken our lives and become an obstacle to our spiritual growth and take away the joyful happiness out of our lives.

We need to remind ourselves that everything touching us is filtered through God's wisdom and love. We can trust him for strength and protection from all our fears.

There is a good fear, The Fear of God- it means we look at God with awe, reverence, and obedience.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" Proverbs 9:10

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

Thank You! A Huge Thank-you to the confirmation students for serving the congregations during the Lenten services and Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. You all did a GREAT job and your brothers and sisters in Christ, young and older, all appreciate it so much. Thank you also to those who helped with the Easter services. The organist, the choir and the brass musicians sounded fantastic. What a wonderful gift you all are to First English. *Pastor Cheryl*

On April 12th we welcomed in our new members: Burt Pansch; Cody and Karley Teske and family: Wyatt, Leo, Brady, Henry; and John and Carrie and family: Sawyer, Carly & Kirby Olson.

The FELC parish nurses held a Safety & Security Procedures Meeting after the April 19th church service with Sheriff Mark Brown discussing what to do in an active threat situation. The nurses shared a video and explained the AED device in the Narthex Kitchenette. We recorded this meeting and the video of it has been posted on our Facebook page, YouTube channel, and website. You are encouraged to watch it if you were unable to attend.

May 4th is the First English Spring Cleaning Day, with a backup date of May 11th. Please join us at 6:00 pm to help clean up the First English Lutheran Church grounds, flowerbeds, etc.

There will be a Community Meal Wednesday, May 13th put on by the St. Charles & Tabor Churches of Big Stone City. The meal will include Scalloped Potatoes with Ham, Cole Slaw, Salads, Bars, & Beverages with to-go boxes available. The meal will be from 5:00 – 6:30 pm. Free will donations.

Members of the congregation can highlight a favorite bible verse and write messages of encouragement into the bibles in the Narthex for our graduating seniors. These will be their senior gift on Senior Recognition Sunday, which is May 17th.

Camp House, Water's Edge Ministries' (formerly GLLM) most unique site, invites you to Ordinary Time. You'll experience community with our guest pastors, artists, and musicians, and each day you'll have opportunities for learning, creating, playing, and being. Devotions and worship are woven with times of conversation, education and artistic classes, reading on the beach, canoeing around Lake George, or exploring sights along the North Shore. Ordinary Time is happening from June 13- July 17 and August 13-16. You pick when to come and how long you stay - a few days, a full week, or perhaps for the whole month! gllm.org/ordinary-time.

CAMP HOUSE OPENING WEEKEND (May 15-17, 2026): Summer is coming and Camp House needs you! Be part of this important work weekend where we throw open the windows, sweep out the cobwebs, and get Camp House ready to welcome guests and participants for the summer. Tasks will include cleaning, setting up program areas, and some minor building maintenance. Meals are provided. There are projects for all ages, so bring your family, friends, or youth group and help us welcome summer and love on Camp House. Register online at GLLM.org by Tuesday, May 5th.



SENIOR RECOGNITION: Join us on Sunday, May 17th, during regular worship as we honor Mason Block, Archer Dorry, Ashton Sletten, Kirby Olson, Rylie Conroy, and Mikaela Johnson, who will be graduating this month. Thank you to the Day of Love for making the quilts which will be presented during the special blessing ceremony at the end of worship. Join us for cake at our coffee fellowship served by the Juniors and their parents following the church service. The Ortonville Commencement Ceremony is Sunday, May 24th at 2:00 pm.



Congratulations and God's Blessings to Cody & Karley Teske on the baptism of their sons, Brady, Leo, and Henry Teske on April 26th. Brady's sponsors are Ryan & Kjersti Merryman. Leo's sponsors are Kayla & Mack Minder. Henry's sponsors are Heather Rise and James Eckberg.

May the God of all consolation be with Terry Kalberg and his family on the death of his sister, Diane (Kalberg) Watson, passed away March 4th. Her memorial service was held on Sat., April 25th in Portland OR.

A celebration of Nola Lockwood's life will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the Mundwiler Funeral Home chapel in Milbank, SD. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. A time of food and fellowship will follow the service at the Big Stone City Community Center. Inurnment will be at Mound Cemetery in Ortonville.

KDIO BROADCASTS

... (April 5th) was sponsored by Pastor Cheryl in memory of Joe Rondeau (her son) who passed away April 6, 2015.

... (April 12th) was sponsored by your gifts to the Endowment Fund.

... (April 19th) was sponsored by your gifts to the Endowment Fund.

... (April 26th) was sponsored by Curt & Penny Hormann in honor of their wedding Anniversary.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Kelly Athey, Gail Olson, Monty Athey, Alvin Dexter, Dustin Hanson, Larry Helgeson, Katelyn Renne, and George Wegner. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Ricky Anderson, Arvilla Bergseth, Adeline Burgess, Jim Hipple, Vivian Janssen, Arlen LaCombe, Aletta Simonitch, Janice Redfield in Clinton and Mary Lou Olson in Madison. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict; 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.



Summer Youth Fun Nights planned

Plans are underway for Summer Youth Nights June 17, July 15, and August 5. The fun nights will be similar to those last year starting with a meal at 5:30 pm followed by fun games, and a firepit for the youth to gather afterwards and enjoy around a campfire.

The youth nights will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, 806 Highland Hwy, on Wednesday evenings for any youth and their friends, completing 7th thru 12th, to attend, even if they come after a ballgame. There is plenty of room on the big lawn at Zion for outdoor games including two volleyball courts.

Volunteers for the evening are always needed to bring food, and set up bean bag boards, volleyball nets, or other outdoor games. You can also bring your guitar to sit around the campfire and lead others in song. Everyone will need to bring their own lawn chair. More information will be available in the June newsletter. Contact Pastor Cheryl or the Zion office to volunteer.

2025
Pictures



CIRCLE FOUR



Meets in the Church Lounge on
Wed. May 6th at 9:00 am.
Lesson: Carol Newman
Hostess: Sharon Smith

Upcoming Stonecroft Ministries Sponsored By Women's Connection

Tuesday, May 19th 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: Jan Ostroot, of South Haven, MN
with a talk titled:

“Peace in any circumstances”

~ Special Feature ~

Joan Reiffenberger of Big Stone City

Remember – Celebrate – Believe “Abiding to purpose”
Music to compliment my talk will be provided by Amy A.

Music: Amy Adelman, pianist.

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

For reservations call Carol Karels (320) 487-2355



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.'



DAY OF LOVE



THANK YOU ...THANK YOU

The Day of Love has now completed 40 bright and cheery quilts for our youth to take on their Mission trip to Savannah, Georgia. Each quilt has been designed from fabric that has been turned into comfort, with a hug of warmth and hope that will wrap each recipient with God's love, leaving a message of hope and God's presence. We thank everyone who has so generously given monetary gifts so that we can continue to create quilts and carry on the mission of our church.

As a side note, a huge thank you to all who have donated their denim jeans which enables our group to continue with our jean quilt project. I appreciate each of you who have generously donated and continue to make sure I have cards for recycling which enables the creation of new cards to be sent weekly. Your monetary donations, denim jeans, and cards for recycling have been very much appreciated.

Thank you!!!! On behalf of Day of Love - Ethel

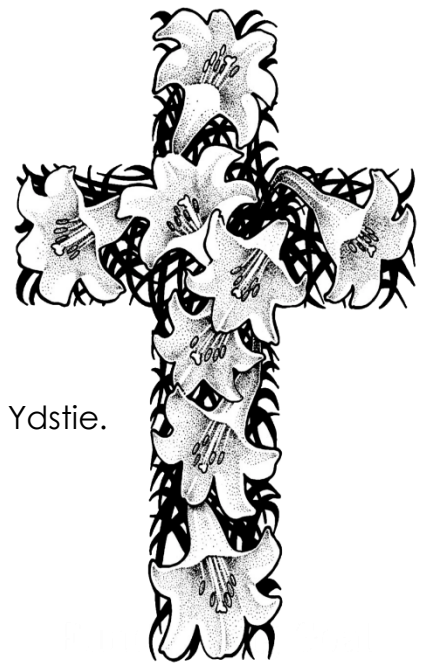
Easter Garden Provided:

In memory of:

Richard Janke by Pat Janke.
 Patrick Ketz and Donald and Corinne Tiegs from Liz Ketz and family.
 Flovis, Marvin & Joan from Russ, Ronda & family.
 Jerry and Katie Dragseth from the families of Jerry and Katie Dragseth.
 Herman & Alice Ellingson and Adeline Brown.
 from David & Debbie Ellingson and girls.
 Gary Johnson from Evelyn Johnson.
 Our parents and sisters Bonnie Hunt & Marlene Olsen from Jon & Carol Ydstie.
 Loved Ones from Glenda Reiffenberger and family.
 Loved Ones from Richard & Marla Strei & family.
 Loved Ones from Burton Pansch and Judy Beckman.
 Loved Ones from Marilyn Hanson.

In honor of:

our children and grandchildren from Anita and Dean Longnecker.

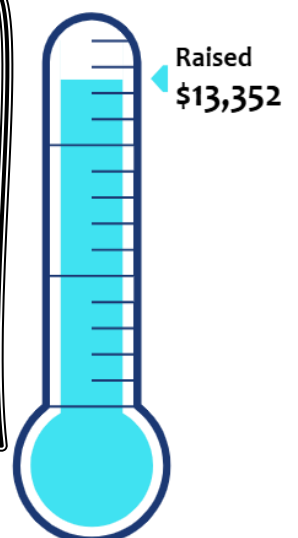


\$15,000



With \$13,352.25 donated to the Tech Upgrade Fund as of 4/28/26, we are 89% to the goal of \$15,000.

Thank you to everyone who has donated! Continued donations to this fund are appreciated.



ALTAR GUILD TEAMS – May

Sacristy, Sanctuary, Surplices:
Banners:
Flower Committee:

Mary Weber & Jen Wiik
Julie Hipple & Jocelyn Schowalter
Neva Foster & Ranet Schmeichel



SCHEDULING

KEYBOARD/ORGANIST

May 3: Kathy Haukos
May 10: Amy Adelman
May 17: Carol Ydstie
May 20* (1 pm FWV): Kathy Haukos
May 24: Kathy Haukos
June 7: TBD
June 10* (1 pm FWV): TBD
June 14: TBD
June 21: TBD
June 28: TBD

LECTOR

May 3: Brent Zahrbock
May 10: Betty Williamson
May 17: Terry Kalberg
May 24: Kathy Randall
June 7: Archer Dorry
June 14: Ellie Helgeson
June 21: Jim Schmeichel
June 28: Kim Anderson

ACOLYTES

May 3: Jordan & Riley S.
May 10: Mya & Justice
May 17: Liam & Bailey
May 24: Dawson & Gibson
June 7: Bennett & Bryson
June 14: Nash & Mia K.
June 21: Katelyn & James
June 28: Martino & Jace

LAY ASSISTANTS

May 3: Amanda Stattelma n & Sara Wollschlager
May 17: Archer Dorry & Kris Redfield
June 7: Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg
June 21: Jim Foster & Marla Strei

FWV Neighborhoods

May 3: Kim Anderson
May 10: Marge Dragseth
May 31: Brent Zahrbock
June 7: TBD
June 14: TBD

GREETERS

May 3: Glenn & Deb Henningson
May 10: Barb & Warren Wiese
May 17: David & Deb Ellingson
May 24: Marge Dragseth & Kirsten Karels
June 7: Dean & Anita Longnecker
June 14: Ann & Sara Mattison
June 21: Kim & Jon Anderson
June 28: Sharon Carlson & Marilee Haukos














SOUND SYSTEM

May 3: Matt & Bryson Karels
May 10: Kim Anderson & Marge Dragseth
May 17: Cody Backstrand & Cameron
May 24: Liz Ketz & James Hodenfield
June 7: Kim Anderson & Matt Karels
June 14: Liz Ketz and Liam & Drew Johnson
June 21: Cody Backstrand & Cameron Anderson
June 28: Marge Dragseth & James Hodenfield

USHERS

May 3: Jackie Domine, Ron Athey, Jon & Kim Anderson
May 10: Art Vollmer, Brent Zahrbock, Glenn & Deb Henningson
May 17: Dean Longnecker, Josh Wollschlager, Dick & Marla Strei
May 24: Tami Lundberg, Paula Reisdorph, Ev Johnson & Mel Domine
June 7: Gale May, Dean Strand, Vern Nickolauson, & Dave Ellingson
June 14: Darin Ehrenberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Ellie & Harley Helgeson
June 21: Gale May, Warren Wiese, Russ Thielke, & Connie Newman
June 28: Gale May, Jim Foster, Eugene Stotesbery, & Art Vollmer



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p><i>May 2026</i> † † †</p> <p>First English Lutheran Church</p> <p>Daily Devotions are available @ www.firstenglish.net go to "Lutheran Faith" & then "Prayers, Study, & Devotionals."</p>		<p>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.</p>			<p>9:00 am Bulletins Printed 1</p> <p>12:00 pm Kate Heinecke Visitation</p> <p>1:00 pm Kate Heinecke Memorial</p>		2
Pr. Cheryl is at Zion Tuesdays							
<p>Before Service Coffee Visit w/Pastor</p> <p>9:00 am Worship – Communion – Broadcast on KDIO & FB Live</p> <p>10:00 am Mentor/Mentee Mtg.</p> <p>10:30 am Fairway View Service (pre-recorded)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p> 	<p>10 am Bible Study w/Pr. Cheryl 4</p> <p>11 am Staff Meeting</p> <p>6 pm FELC Grounds Spring Cleaning</p>	<p>8:30 am Day of Love</p> <p>3:30 pm Evangelism Mtg (Pr. Cheryl Attending) 5</p> <p>4-5 pm Bible Study at FWV / Donnie's Diner</p> <p>5:30 pm Joint VBS Planning Mtg. at Zion</p>	<p>9:00 am Circle Four (church Lounge)</p> <p>9:30 am TV Broadcast</p> <p>3:30 pm Confirmation (grades 7-9th)</p> <p>5:00 pm Youth Group Ditch Walk</p> <p>5:30 pm TV Broadcast</p> <p>7:00 pm Senior Choir</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p> 	<p><i>National Day of Prayer</i></p> <p>7</p> 		<p>9:00 am Bulletins Printed 8</p>	9
Pastor Cheryl will take vacation May 7 th to May 14 th .							
<p>Mother's Day 10</p> <p>Before Service Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>9:00 am Worship (w/Ellie H. leading) – Broadcast on KDIO & FB Live</p> <p>10:30 am Fairway View Service (pre-recorded)</p> <p>1:30 – 4:00 pm Church Reserved</p>	11	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>8:30 am Day of Love</p> <p>4-5 pm Bible Study at FWV / Donnie's Diner</p>	<p>9:30 am TV Broadcast</p> <p>5:30 pm TV Broadcast</p> <p>5:30 Church Council Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">13</p> 	14	<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletins Printed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>Int'l Day of Living Together in Peace</p> 	
Pastor Cheryl will take vacation May 7 th to May 14 th .							
<p>Senior Recognition 17</p> <p>Before Service Coffee Visit w/Pastor</p> <p>9:00 am Worship – Communion – Broadcast on KDIO & FB Live</p> <p>10:00 am Graduation Cake Downstairs</p>  	<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p>10 am Bible Study w/Pr. Cheryl</p> <p>11 am Staff Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p>8:30 am Day of Love</p> <p>4-5 pm Bible Study at FWV / Donnie's Diner</p>	<p>9:30 am TV Broadcast</p> <p>2:00 pm Fairway View Worship (Pastor Cheryl Live w/communion) 20</p> <p>3:30 pm Confirmation (grades 7-8)</p> <p>4:30 pm Confirmation (grade 9)</p> <p>5:30 pm TV Broadcast</p>  	21	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletins Printed</p>	23 	
<p>Fav. Hymns 24</p> <p>Before Service Coffee Visit w/Pastor</p> <p>9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering</p> <p>Broadcast on KDIO & Facebook Live</p> <p>12:00 pm Neuman Baptism (Tentative)</p> <p>2:00 pm Ortonville HS Graduation</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p> Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 26</p> <p>8:30 am Day of Love</p> <p>4-5 pm Bible Study at FWV / Donnie's Diner</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>9:30 am TV Broadcast</p> <p>11:00 am Staff Meeting</p> <p>5:30 pm TV Broadcast</p> 	28	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletins Printed</p>	30	
<p>VBS KICK OFF AT ZION 31</p> <p>9:00 am Worship at Zion Church</p> <p>- Broadcast on KDIO & FB Live</p> <p>10:30 am Fairway View Service (pre-recorded)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:45 pm Vacation Bible School at Zion Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 1</p> <p>10 am Bible Study w/Pr. Cheryl</p> <p>6:30 – 8:45 pm Vacation Bible School at Zion Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 2</p> <p>8:30 am Day of Love</p> <p>4-5 pm Bible Study at FWV / Donnie's Diner</p> <p>6:30 – 8:45 pm Vacation Bible School at Zion Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 3</p> <p>9:30 am TV Broadcast</p> <p>5:30 pm TV Broadcast</p> <p>6:30 – 8:45 pm Vacation Bible School at Zion Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 4</p> <p>6:30 – 8:45 pm Vacation Bible School at Zion Church</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 5</p> <p>9:00 am Bulletins Printed</p> <p>ELCA SYNOD GATHERING</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 6</p> <p>ELCA SYNOD GATHERING</p>	
Pastor Cheryl at Synod Gathering							