



# First English News

www.felc.com

We are People of God who Gather to Worship, Grow in Faith and Give to Others.

JANUARY 2009

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## Join the conversation: Open the Book of Faith!

In 2009, we will join the ELCA Book of Faith initiative, which invites us to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of the Bible. As Lutherans, we believe that the Bible is the “only rule and norm for faith and life.” Martin Luther said that it contains all we need for life, and that it is “the cradle that holds the Christ child.”

Since we believe the Bible reveals the foundations of our faith in Christ, reading the Bible daily is one of the disciplines to which we commit ourselves as followers of Christ. In the new year, First English wants to help you read and study the Bible regularly.

Following are Bible studies and resources:

- What:** Sunday Adult Learning Time
- Downtown Site:** Starting Jan. 11, meet at 9:15 a.m. in Room 221 at the Downtown Site.
- North Site:** Starting Jan. 11, meet at 9:35 a.m. in the North Site Office.
- Info:** Join the discussion based on the Sunday lectionary texts each week.

**What:** Opening the Book of Faith Study

**When & Where:**

Wednesdays from Jan. 21-Feb. 18

- 4:30-5:30 p.m. - Library
- 6:15 p.m. - Lounge

**Facilitator:** Pastor Bauer

**Info:** Learn how to live our calling as people of Christ by exploring Scripture.

**What:** Thursday Bible Study

**When:** 9-10:30 a.m. starting Jan. 8

**Where:** Lounge, Downtown Site

**Info:** Look at how we respond to God’s call. Study the response of several Biblical characters, including Rahab, Joshua and Samson’s mother. Child care is available with advance RSVP to Anita Damon in the church office. Barb Mattheis is the facilitator.

**What:** Men’s Bible study

**When:** Tuesdays and Fridays 6:30 a.m. - North Site Office

• Tuesdays and Wednesdays 7 p.m. - Downtown Site office workroom

• Sundays at 9:15 a.m. - Downtown Site Office workroom.

**Info:** Theme-based studies.



## book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

**What:** Wednesday Bible Study

**When:** Noon on Wednesdays

**Where:** Lounge, Downtown Site

**Info:** Overview of the books of the Old Testament. Facilitated by Pastor Detweiler

Other resources

- “Taking Faith Home” resource with daily Bible readings surrounded by prayers and daily faith practices for the home are available on the Learning bulletin board each month or subscribe to the First English Family CONNECT in the “What’s New” column at www.felc.com.
- Free daily devotional books, “Christ in Our Home” and “Portals of Prayer” are in the Gathering Areas.
- “The Book of Faith 40-Day Lenten Journey,” a devotional resource structured around seven petitions of The Lord’s Prayer.

See **BOOK**, Page 2

### Congregational Growth



#### Next New Member Session set for Feb. 4, 11 and 18

If you would like to join First English, you are invited to attend a three-part New Member Session from 6 to 7:15 p.m. in the second-floor Choir Room at the Downtown Site:

The first part will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 4; the second part will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 11; and the third part will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 18.

If you have been worshipping at the Downtown Site or the North Site and are interested in joining First English, we look forward to seeing you at all three sessions. Please call Kristy Howard in the church office if you plan to attend and to RSVP for child care.

## Daily Bible reading helps us grow in faith

**BOOK**, From Page 1

- In March, a new Lutheran Study Bible will be released. Watch for more details next month.
- Daily Bible reading: Read the entire Bible in one year using the schedule on the Learning bulletin board.

Or receive a daily Bible reading in your e-mail by subscribing at [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org).

Reading the Bible daily helps us grow in faith. In this new year, let us nourish that growth with regular reading and study of the Bible!

In Christ,  
Pastor Detweiler

## FELC to support Fox Valley Warming Shelter

**A** new area of outreach this year will be the Fox Valley Warming Shelter, which will use the North Site Activity Center the week of Feb. 22.

During that week, the shelter staff will set up sleeping mats and transport homeless people from downtown Appleton to the North Site about 8:30 p.m. They will be

given a simple meal and a place to sleep. The next morning they will be transported back to downtown Appleton.

The shelter has been operating this revolving overnight shelter system for several months now and have had very positive experiences as they live out our Lord's command to care for the poor.

## Tables of Eight

### WE WANT YOU FOR THE 2009 TABLES OF EIGHT!

Are you looking for a chance to get to know more friends at First English? If enough interest is shown, Sarah Miles is willing to help coordinate Tables of Eight for 2009. This is the perfect opportunity for you to get to know other members of First English and enjoy fellowship. To participate, simply show up with an appetite, a dish to pass and a willingness to meet others!

Those interested in Tables of 8 will be placed on a 2009 schedule. Hosts will be assigned and asked to contact others on their list to meet sometime within a 3-month window (Jan./Feb./March, April/May/June and Sept./Oct./Nov.) Guests will bring a dish to share. Hosts don't need formal china or a big house - paper plates and a barbecue are just fine! Meeting for Sunday brunch is another option.

Schedules will be distributed in January and there will be three Table of Eight meals scheduled throughout the year. You will host once in a calendar year.

**Complete the registration form below and place it in the offering plate or forward it to the church office.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Best time to call: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



Questions? Contact Sarah Miles at 920- 993-0525 or [wildfans3@yahoo.com](mailto:wildfans3@yahoo.com)



## Congregational Life



### Scrapbooking on Jan. 9

Exercise your creativity at the next free scrapbooking and stamping session that will be held from 6 to 11 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9, in Room 110 at the Downtown Site.

Bring a nonperishable food item for a local charity.

RSVP to Cindy at 920-836-3008 or rcbutke@earthlink.net.

### Jump-start your morning with the Early Risers

The Women's Thursday Early Riser Study will meet from 6 to 7 a.m. on Thursdays, beginning Jan. 15, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site, for coffee, study and fellowship. Annette Ford is the facilitator.

### Grief support available in confidential setting

The Grief Support Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site. Sue Heenan and Jeff Cieslik will be available to offer caring, compassionate support in a confidential setting to those dealing with grief issues.

### Attend the next On the Way Retreat at Monte Alverno

The next On the Way Retreat will be held Jan. 9-11 at Monte Alverno Retreat Center.

**What:** "Christ on the Way" On the Way Retreat

**When:** Jan. 9-11

**Where:** Monte Alverno Retreat Center, 1000 N. Ballard Road, Appleton

**Cost:** \$150 (Financial assistance is available.)

**Info:** [www.onthewayretreats.org](http://www.onthewayretreats.org)

## Prayer shawl ministry group to gather Jan. 7

The next prayer shawl ministry meeting will be held from 9 to 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 7, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site.

There will be discussion on promoting and expanding this popular ministry.

Anyone can bring a prayer shawl to a family member, friend or co-worker: Stop at the church office to receive or donate a shawl.



Completed prayer shawls that are brought to the church office are dedicated monthly during worship.

## 50+ ministry offers fellowship activities

**What:** Senior Ecumenical Potluck

**When:** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15

**Where:** Downtown Site, Fellowship Hall

**Who:** Open to the community

**Program:** Outagamie County Sheriff's Dept. representative is presenting a program on identity theft. Please bring a dish to pass.  
**Registration:** Sign up on the posters in Gathering Areas by Jan. 12.

**What:** 50+ Easy Exercise Programs

**When:** Wed. Jan. 28, 1 p.m.

**Where:** Activity Center, North Site

**Who:** Anyone in the community age 50 and over

**Info:** Explore a variety of exercise programs as demonstrated by Wendy Hauser and Karen Herbrich. Dress in comfortable clothing and tennis shoes. Reserve your spot by signing up in the Gathering Areas or by calling the church office.

**Questions:** Contact Karen Herbrich in the church office.



**What:** Soup buffet

**When:** Noon, Thursday, Feb. 12,

**Where:** Downtown Site Fellowship Hall

**Who:** Open to all ages of the congregation; caregivers, guests and family.

**Info:** Luncheon includes a variety of homemade soups, followed by a performance by the Ruth Rucks' ensemble.

**Registration:** Sign up on the "50+ Corner" of the bulletin board at the Downtown Site or on the kiosk at the North Site or call the church office.

**Want to help?**

If you would like to make soup for this event, call Elizabeth Hensel at 920-993-1376 or sign up on the 50+ corner of the bulletin board at the Downtown Site or on the kiosk at the North Site. If you need transportation, call the church office.

## Congregational Life



### Women's Bible studies gather in January

"The Hidden Hand of God" Bible study from "Lutheran Woman Today" looks at stories from the books of Ruth, Daniel and Esther.

A copy of the magazine is in the library. Subscribe to Lutheran Woman Today for \$12 at [lutheranwomantoday.org](http://lutheranwomantoday.org) or call 800-328-4648.

- The Judith Circle meets at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 6, in Room 110 at the Downtown Site.

- The Miriam Circle meets at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 14, at Mary Feller's home, 706 E. Lindbergh St, Appleton. RSVP at 647-9537.

- The Sarah Circle meets at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 14, at the home of Pauline Gilbert, 1300 E. Marquette St., Appleton. Bring a sandwich to share. RSVP at 920-734-5541.

### Support available for depression

The long season of winter and cold has set in. Many people experience depression during this time of year. You don't have to cope alone: The Depression Support Group meets from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site. It is facilitated by Deb Blank, a licensed counselor, and Karen Herbrich, R.N., our health ministries coordinator. Feel free to bring a friend.

## Start the new year with the spirit of renewal

I pray that you and your loved ones are experiencing a blessed and joy-filled New Year and Epiphany Season.

January is a time of renewal. Serving as your health ministries coordinator, I look at your spirit, mind and body.

Spiritually, continue to work on strengthening your faith and relationship with the Lord, through daily prayer, devotions and service to others.

Emotionally, commit your health and lifestyles choices to the Lord and ask for his strength to make wise and healthy choices.

Physically, remember always to care for your bodies out of thankfulness to God. An active and healthy life is one of God's many blessings. Even when your body is

weakened, the care of your body remains important. "Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and so you care for it." (1 Corinthians 6:19).

If I can help you or your loved ones in any way, please contact me in the church office.

May God bless all of us with his peace and joy and good health in 2009!

– Karen Herbrich,  
health ministries coordinator

### OFFICE HOURS: Room 114, Downtown Site

- Monday: 10 a.m.-noon
- Tuesday: 11 a.m.-noon
- Wednesday: 10 a.m.-noon;  
5:15-6:15 p.m.
- Thursday: 10 a.m.-noon

## Volunteers can serve FELC health ministry

The health ministries at First English offers many opportunities of service and is seeking interested volunteers:

- Registered nurse who would be willing to help with the blood pressure ministry occasionally.
- Participants who would like to engage in a walking exercise program and work on a short-term project.

- People who would like to become a lay communion visitor (training provided).

- People who would like to become a core person in shaping the health ministries.

Contact Karen Herbrich in the church office if you would like to serve this rewarding ministry.

## Expectant parent ministry under way

The newly-formed expectant parent ministry has been blessed by God with willing hands and hearts! If you are pregnant or have begun the process of adoption, please contact Karen Herbrich, R.N., our

health ministries coordinator, in the church office to become part of this powerful ministry. People will be praying for you and your child throughout your wait and everything will remain confidential.

## Congregational Life



### Premarital sessions set for engaged couples

Couples getting married in 2009 and 2010 are required to participate in premarital sessions and pastoral meetings before their wedding day. Please mark the following dates on your calendar:

#### **Saturday, Feb. 7: 'Getting Married, Getting Started'**

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Downtown Site, Fellowship Hall

Couples will meet with pastors and wedding coordinators to learn how to plan their ceremony and music. This workshop will also discuss First English guidelines, the wedding coordinator ministry plus share small-group time with other engaged couples.

Thrivent Financial Representatives also will present "From Me to We," a financial workshop specifically designed for engaged couples. If you have not already done so, please RSVP to Jean Monson in the church office.

#### **Saturday, March 7: 'Building a Successful Christian Marriage'**

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. North Site Gathering Area

This workshop is conducted by Wes Johnson, a licensed professional Christian counselor, who assists couples in preparing for their life together, getting through difficult times and enriching their relationship. Wes has a passion for working with couples to direct them toward the type of marriage that God has designed for them. This is a group workshop. Couples must attend a workshop or work one-one-one with Wes before their wedding.

## Booth registration open for chili cook-off

The annual Chili Cook-off & Silent Auction will be held on Sunday, Feb. 22, at the North Site. The chili will be served from 11:45 to 1 p.m. – or until it runs out. The auction will be held from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Space for chili booths is limited to 20.

Look for the chili graphic on our home page at [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com) and sign up.

This year's patriotic theme is "Chili: Food we can Believe in."

Groups, families, or individuals can register for a booth. Details will be sent to registrants.

There will once again be awards for the People's Choice Chili, the Best Decorated Booth and the Judges' Choice. Who will be judging? Wait to find out! But remember, there are only 20 booths available.

### Silent auction

The annual silent auction to benefit summer ministries of First English will be held in conjunction with the chili cook-off. Donations are being sought for the auction from congregational members, families, businesses and the community. If you would like to make a donation this year, please contact the Family & Youth Ministry office to list your item. Items will be listed on the Web site as they are entered and the list will be updated weekly. If your business would like to sponsor an item they may contact Andy Moscinski in the Family & Youth Ministry office to arrange details.

## Family & Youth



Sponsorship opportunities are available for this event and businesses and organizations will be receiving recognition at the event and in pre-event publicity.

All items are tax deductible or can be added to your contribution statement to First English.

Proceeds will go toward sending our youth delegation to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering next year and will also support our summer intern ministry.

Past donations for the auction have included tickets to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center; Packers and Badgers tickets; woodworking items; jewelry; handicrafts; household services; baby sitting services; flower arrangements; dinners; and hotel and bed and breakfast packages.

If you would like to make a donation, please include a brief description of the item and retail value, if known. Items can be brought to either church office during normal business hours.

Contact Andy Moscinski in the church office if you would like to help with this event.

## Family & Youth



### First English accepting intern applications

The First English summer intern ministry is accepting applications for summer 2009. Download an application at the "Youth Programs" link at [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com).

### Confirmation classes resume Jan. 7 downtown

Confirmation classes will be held from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. on Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28, with worship at 7:20 p.m.

### Youth Unity Worship for Grades 7 and 8

On Wednesday, Jan. 14, seventh- and eighth-graders should meet at 6 p.m. in the Gathering Area at the Downtown Site to board a bus to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, where they and their small-group leaders will attend the Area Ecumenical Youth Unity Worship.

The Unity Worship is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. We will return to the Downtown Site shortly after 8 p.m. Cost is \$5, which should be paid before attending the event. Permission forms are on the "Youth Programs" link at [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com) and also will be mailed to families.

Students who can not attend a confirmation class must contact their small-group guide beforehand. Students are allowed two excused absences. Unexcused absences are not acceptable.

## A few tips on how to carve out family time

**Y**es, I do know how busy you are! Your calendar or PDA is packed full. Your "to-do" list grows every day. Many people of all ages need something from you.

But occasionally, even you need to eat and sleep.

I also know that everything vital to the well-being of your family and each of its members happens in time — real, face-to-face time. Not a note. Not a voice mail. Not an e-mail.

Many of us have seen the commercial with the busy mom and the little girl who asks to schedule an appointment with her mom. It's poignant. It's real. Let's create that time together before our children are no longer asking for it. Family is the place you know and where you are known, where you love and are loved. To give this gift to your children — the gift of knowing, being known, loving, being loved, passing on faith and values, celebrating triumphs, healing wounds, giving hope — you need to be present. How can we do this in such a busy world? Make it a priority.

In a week, Americans watch 26 hours of television. They engage in two hours of nurturing faith ... and eight minutes in having conversations of substance with their children.

Try this for one week:

- Schedule 15 minutes a day to spend together as a family;
- Sit down together to talk;
- Turn off all the electronic devices and don't answer the phone;
- Clear your mind of all those things you need to do before the day is over;



- Be fully present and attentive;
- Thank God for the incredible people in your life ... and let them know how you value them!

Remember that God came in Jesus Christ as the Word made flesh. He came as "Emmanuel, which means, 'God is with us.'" (Matt. 1:23) God came to be in relationship with us. Can't we do the same with our children?

### Family activities:

1. Schedule "family appointments" on your calendar for the next two months. Do it today!
2. Create a family fun jar, with each person in your household putting in ideas of things they'd like to do as a family. Everyone agrees ahead of time to do whatever activity is drawn from the jar ... without complaint.
3. Have a half-day family work-a-thon — clean up the yard, plant a garden, prepare a week of dinners, polish shoes together, get ready for a party. Put on music. Say "thank you." Go out for pizza (or your favorite family food) to celebrate. Schedule one-on-one family dates. Have each pair plan an hour together, just the two of them. Walk around a lake or park. Visit a local site you've always meant to visit. Look at family pictures and tell stories. Go out for dessert.

— Andy Moscinski Family & Youth Ministry



# FAMILY Ministry

## FIRST

Families of all backgrounds and configurations are WELCOME!

### FIVE PRINCIPLES for passing on a vibrant faith to our children

1. Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships—often in our own homes.
2. The church is a living partnership between the ministry of the congregation and the ministry of the home.
3. Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too.
4. Faith is caught more than it is taught.
5. If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults and parents.

Want to learn more? Check out FamilyCONNECT a FREE e-resource e-mailed to you weekly.



### Family SNOWDAZE!

Jan. 25 at the North Site

1:30 p.m.

Head inside afterwards for hot chocolate, popcorn and a devotion.

## FELC KIDS

Jan. 7 KidsLIFE, Downtown Site Room 015  
6:15-7:15 p.m.

Jan. 14 KidsLIFE, Downtown Site Room 015  
6:15-7:15 p.m.

Jan. 21 KidsLIFE, Downtown Site Room 015  
6:15-7:15 p.m.

Jan. 28 KidsLIFE, Downtown Site Room 015  
6:15-7:15 p.m.

## news & notes

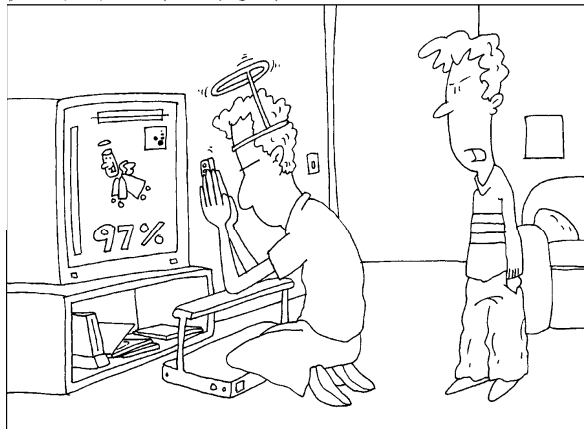


**Chili:**  
**"Food We can Believe In"**  
 Feb. 22 North Site  
 11:45 a.m. Chili  
 1 p.m. Auction  
 Register online for a chili booth today! Donate items for the auction anytime before Feb. 14

The Family & Youth Ministry Team at First English is looking for new members to join our team and minister to families and youth of the church. Interested individuals should be confirmed, be able to meet once a month for two hours, and have a passion for reaching and sharing the gospel with families and youth. No prior experience needed. Contact Ross Larson for more information.



### REVEREND FUN



I'D TOTALLY GET PAST 'HEATHEN' ON WII PRAY IF I HAD AS MUCH SPARE TIME AS YOU DO

## funny faith! Did You Know?



An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.



[www.crosswayscamps.org](http://www.crosswayscamps.org)

*It's not too early to start thinking about summer camp ... YIKES!*  
 Watch in January for the new summer camp brochure and make sure to register early to get the camp of your choice.

**SUMMER CAMP SUNDAY at FIRST ENGLISH**  
**SUNDAY, FEB. 22, BOTH SITES**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**

## Family & Youth



### Become a partner in global ministry

The youth of First English, in partnership with Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry, are sponsoring Ranjitha Chandrabalan, 11.

She lives with her mother, father and two brothers in Pennaivalam, India. Ranjitha enjoys playing ball and helping out at her home and school, where she receives high marks.

Her parents are agricultural laborers. Her religious background is Hindu.

Look for our "Simple Change" project in the Gathering Areas and contribute your spare coins when you can. All of the money collected will go toward sponsoring Ranjitha's education, food, shelter and medical care. Remember: your change can go a long way in change for others. For more information on this ministry, visit [www.lutheranpartners.org](http://www.lutheranpartners.org) or contact LuAnn Werner at [office@lutheranpartners.org](mailto:office@lutheranpartners.org) or 612-823-5058.

### Family sledding day set for Plamann Park

Grab your fastest tubes and sleds and meet at the North Site at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 25, for Family SNOWDAZE, where we will head to Plamann Park for sledding and return to the North Site for hot chocolate, popcorn and devotions. Sign up by Jan. 18 on the Family & Youth Ministry bulletin boards.

## Resources help parents choose video games

I love playing video games. But times sure have changed from consoles to graphics to online play and beyond. My head is swimming! Christmas has come and gone and chances are there is some form of a gaming system in your house or new games for it.

There are many effective tools and resources to help make video games a healthy part of family life. From parental controls that allow you to limit the kind of games your kids play, to a wealth of online information explaining game content, you have the power to make healthy video choices for your family.

But all of the parental control technology in the world is no substitute for carefully thinking about the role of video games in your family's life and establishing a healthy dialogue with your kids. Whether your child has yet to begin gaming or already is an old pro, it's never too late to reclaim the powerful role of parent in your child's gaming life.

Start by making sure all the adults in the home are on the same page. That way, you can ensure that your children are following the same standards, no matter who is in charge at the moment.

Consider the role and benefits of game-playing in your house. How much time do we want our children to spend gaming?

With the answers to these questions you can begin to decide the limits you want to make for your kids' game playing. It's also extremely important to discuss the limits with your children. Make sure they know what's allowed and what's not. Make sure they understand why you're setting limits — because not all video games and video game experiences are meant for kids.

### Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB) ratings

**Early Childhood Titles rated EC (Early Childhood)** have content that may be suitable for ages 3 and older. Contains no material that parents would find inappropriate.

**Everyone Titles rated E (Everyone)** have content that may be suitable for ages 6 and older. Titles in this category may contain minimal cartoon, fantasy or mild violence and/or infrequent use of mild language.

**Everyone 10+ Titles rated E10+ (Everyone 10 and older)** have content that may be suitable for ages 10 and older. Titles in this category may contain more cartoon, fantasy or mild violence, mild language and/or minimal suggestive themes.

**Teen Titles rated T (Teen)** have content that may be suitable for ages 13 and older. Titles in this category may contain violence, suggestive themes, crude humor, minimal blood, simulated gambling, and/or infrequent use of strong language.

**Mature Titles rated M (Mature)** have content that may be suitable for persons ages 17 and older. Titles in this category may contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content and/or strong language.

**Adults Only Titles rated AO (Adults Only)** have content that should only be played by persons 18 years and older. Titles in this category may include prolonged scenes of intense violence and/or graphic sexual content and nudity.

**Rating Pending Titles listed as RP (Rating Pending)** have been submitted to the ESRB and are awaiting final rating. (This symbol appears only in advertising prior to a game's release.)

— ESRB

Finally, be sure they understand the consequences they will experience if they don't follow the rules of the road.

— Andy Moscinski,  
Family & Youth Ministry

Wednesday LIFT (Living in Faith Together)  
**JANUARY ACTIVITIES**

**SCHEDULE**

All activities are at the  
 Downtown Site

- 5:30-6:15 p.m.: Meal
- 6:10-8 p.m.: Nursery care
- 5:45-7:15 p.m.: Bethel Bible
- 6:15-7:15 p.m.: Learning Time
- 6:15-7:15 p.m.: Confirmation
- 6:15: High school worship team,  
 drama team or Bible study
- 7:20-8 p.m.: Communion worship
- 8-8:30 p.m.: Seraphim rehearsal

**What:** C3 Confirmation  
 Large- and small-group sessions for  
 students in Grades 7-9.  
**When:** 6:15-8 p.m. Students singing  
 in Seraphim stay until 8:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Room assignments posted.

• **Youth Unity Worship** for seventh-  
 and eighth-grade students and  
 small-group leaders will be held  
 on Jan. 14 at the PAC. Bus departs  
 from the Downtown Site at 6 p.m.

**What:** Worship with communion  
 Led by high school youth.  
**When:** 7:20-8 p.m.  
**Where:** Sanctuary

**What:** KidsLife  
 Learning option for kids in K-6.  
**When:** 6:15-7:15 p.m., Jan. 7-Feb. 18  
**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**What:** Bethel Bible (Semester IV)  
**When:** 5:45-7:15 p.m., Jan. 7-Feb. 18  
**Where:** Room 221  
**Facilitator:** Mary Catterton

**What: Baptismal Workshop**  
**When:** 6:15 p.m., Jan. 28  
**Where:** Room 115  
**Info:** This workshop is required before  
 scheduling a baptism. Call the church  
 office to RSVP for child care.

**What:** Seraphim Choir  
**When:** 8-8:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Choir Room

**What:** Family Art  
 Night



Opportunity for chil-  
 dren in kindergarten  
 through Grade 6 and  
 their parents to explore art.  
**When:** 6:15-7:15 p.m. Jan. 14 & 28  
**Where:** Room 014

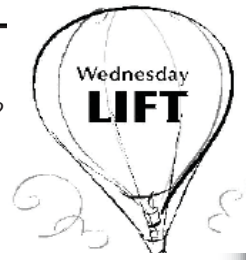
**What:** Quilt tying & handiwork  
**Info:** Patterns will be available for knit-  
 ting, but please bring size 10 needles  
 and yarn.

**When:** 6:15-7:15 p.m.,  
 Jan. 7-Feb. 18  
**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**What:** Depression Support Group  
**When:** 4:30-5:30 p.m., Jan. 7, 14, 21 & 28  
**Where:** Lounge

**What:** Men's ministry  
**When:** 7 p.m.  
**Where:** Office workroom

Looking for a  
 midweek LIFT?  
*Stop by the  
 Downtown Site  
 for a quick,  
 delicious meal,  
 then gather for  
 upLIFTing conversation in a small  
 group designed around weekly  
 topics. Registration is required for  
 the meals, but just drop by small-  
 group study at 6:15 p.m. Then  
 attend worship at 7:20 p.m.*



**What:** Musikgarten Music  
 for Toddlers  
**When:** 6-6:30 p.m.; through Jan. 14  
**Where:** Room 221



**What:** Opening the Book of Faith  
 Study  
 Wednesdays from Jan. 21-Feb. 18  
 • 4:30-5:30 p.m. - Library  
 • 6:15 p.m. - Lounge  
**Facilitator:** Pastor Bauer  
**Info:** Learn how to live our  
 calling as people of Christ by  
 exploring Scripture.



**Wednesday meal registration**

To register for meals, e-mail the church office at [felc@felc.com](mailto:felc@felc.com) and include the information below, or complete and tear off  
 this form, return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate. The cost is \$5 for adults and for children ages 5 and  
 older; children under 5 are free. (Family/household maximum is \$20). Payment will be collected on Wednesday nights.

Name: **(Please print clearly)** \_\_\_\_\_

Number of total attendees \_\_\_\_\_ Number of attendees under age 5 \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_ Jan. 7: Ham and potatoes au gratin, bread, salad & desserts - Zuppa's
- \_\_\_\_ Jan. 14: Broasted chicken & mashed potatoes - Mary's
- \_\_\_\_ Jan. 21: Italian pasta bake - Schreiner's
- \_\_\_\_ Jan. 28: Hot beef & turkey sandwiches - Schweitzer's
- \_\_\_\_ Reserve plate for confirmation student \$5
- \_\_\_\_ Reserve plate for confirmation student \$5
- \_\_\_\_ Reserve plate for confirmation student \$5
- \_\_\_\_ Reserve plate for confirmation student \$5

Reservation deadline for these catered meals is noon on Monday. **Please help our LIFT volunteers by honoring this noon  
 deadline on Monday!** To cancel your reservation, call the church office by noon on Tuesday. **Payment is needed for  
 cancellations made after noon on Tuesday. NOTE: If confirmation students would like a complimentary peanut butter & jelly  
 sandwich set aside for them, please let the church office know by Tuesday noon. Please provide the student's name.**

## Learning



### Lectionary texts based on early Jewish worship

The tradition of assigning a lectionary – a list of Scripture readings to be read on a particular day – has roots in Jewish worship long ago and was continued by the early Christians.

Many Lutheran, Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist and other Christian churches around the world use the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle.

Each year the Gospel of Matthew, Mark, or Luke is read primarily with the Gospel of John interspersed throughout all three years. Consequently, if a person worshipped every Sunday for three years, he or she would be able to hear the majority of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Our church year began Nov. 30, 2008, with the season of Advent. First English and many churches throughout the world began using lectionary texts primarily from Mark. These are the lectionary texts for January:

#### Jan. 4

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

#### Jan. 11

Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Mark 1:4-11

#### Jan. 18

1 Samuel 3:1-20  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
John 1:43-51

#### Jan. 25

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Mark 1:14-20

## Check out winter reading at church libraries

Augsburg Fortress Publishing House gave the following books to both of our libraries. They will be on the display tables in January. Check out these titles:

**“40-Day Journey with Dietrich Bonhoeffer,”** edited by Ron Klug (242,Klu). Take a personal spiritual journey with Bonhoeffer.

**“A is for Angel: A Christmas Alphabet and Activity Book,”** by Debbie Trafton O’Neal (C,232.92,One), weaves the story of Jesus’ birth into a rhyming, alphabetical journey.

**“Crazy Talk: A Not-So-Stuffey Dictionary of Theological Terms,”** edited by Rolf A. Jacobson (230, Cra). Theology made easy!

**“Defeating Depression,”** by Howard Stone (616.85,Sto), is a workbook of ideas for diminishing suffering and increasing joy.

**“Faith & Fitness: Diet and Exercise for a Better World,”** by Tom Hafer (248.4,Haf), is a practical guide to total wellness - physically and spiritually.

**“A Friend from Galilee,”** by Dandi Mackall (C,232,Mac), encourages children to have a close friendship with Jesus.

**“The Friendly Beasts: Based on the Traditional Christmas Carol,”** by John and Karen Blumen (C,242.33,Blu), is an enchanting carol that tells the story of Jesus’ birth from the animals’ point of view.

**“Grace All Around Us: Embracing God’s Promise in Tragedy and Loss,”** by Stephen Bouman (248.8,Bou), is a spiritual exploration of what sustains Christians in tragedy and grief.

**“I Will to You: Leaving a Legacy for Those You Love,”** by Herbert Brokering (241,Bro), helps readers reflect on their spiritual legacy.

**“Inside World Religions,”** by Kevin O’Donnell (290,Odo), explores each religion through the eyes of a faithful follower.

**“J is for Jesus: An Easter Alphabet and Activity Book,”** by Debbie Trafton O’Neal (C,263.93,One), brings the story of Holy Week and Easter to life through this rhyming, alphabetical journey.

## Library News



**“Living Faith: How Faith Inspires Social Justice,”** by Curtiss DeYoung (241.6,Dey), portrays three of the most important and effective activists of the last 60 years.

**“Living Lutheran: Renewing Your Congregation,”** by Dave Daubert (284.1,Dau), reclaims the “L” word in your congregation.

**“Luther’s Prayers,”** by Herbert Brokering (242.8,Bro), a marvelous collection filled with insight and devotion.

**“Lutheran Questions, Lutheran Answers,”** by Martin Marty (284.1,Mar), provides concise answers about Lutheran theology and beliefs.

**“Prayers for Impossible Days,”** by Paul Geres (242.8,Ger), remains a prayer classic, thoroughly revised and updated.

**“Psalms through the Year,”** by Marshall Johnson (223.2,Joh), is a 365-day devotional based on the most beloved book in the Bible.

**“Selected Writings of Martin Luther,”** edited by Theodore G. Tappert (230.41,Lut), is a 4-book set of writings from Luther.

**“The Student Bible Atlas,”** by Tim Dowley (Y,220.9,Dow), contains 30 full-color maps that show where major Bible events took place.

**“These Are Friends of Jesus,”** by Shirley Neitzel (C,232.9,Nei), introduces some of the friends of Jesus.

**“The Unfolding Drama of the Bible,”** by Bernhard Anderson (220.6,And), is a fourth-edition book that explores what the Bible is all about.

**“What Can I Do?: Ideas to Help Those Who Have Experienced Loss,”** by Barbara Glanz (259.6,Gla), offers tangible, practical ways to help those who grieve.

**“The Wit of Martin Luther,”** by Eric Gritsch (284.1,Gri), is an inspiring look at Luther’s humor and keen appreciation for human frailty and the unfathomable divine.

## Outreach & Social Ministry



*Dear members of FELC:  
As the new Volunteer Coordinator at the Salvation Army-Fox Cities, I recently learned about the outstanding contributions of God's Sunday Servants. I was amazed to hear that teams of volunteers from 13 local churches have been running the Salvation Army's Sunday Noon Meal Program since 1995. Not only do the volunteers that make up God's Sunday Servants provide a meal, they also provide smiles and cheer to those they serve.*

*There is no doubt that God's Sunday Servants have made a great impact in the community. With the passion and dedication of these volunteers, the Salvation Army is able to better serve those less fortunate.*

*The Salvation Army staff would like to especially thank God's Sunday Servants for their dedicated commitment to our organization. Thank you so much!*

*Ashley Timm,  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Salvation Army-Fox Cities*

Would you like to help?

Adults who would like to help prepare and serve the noon meal at the Salvation Army on one Sunday per year, contact Lorraine N. Moore at 920-749-0058.

## Parents invited to attend Sunday School

The parents of children in Grades 1-3 at the Downtown Site and Grades 1-4 at the North Site are invited to attend Sunday School with their children. The children will show their parents how Sunday School has changed since they attended. Parents will participate in an abbreviated version of the children's monthly stations.

Please plan to attend on Sunday, Feb. 1 – we hope to see you there!

### Sunday School resumes Jan. 11 at both sites

Children's Learning Time resumes Jan. 11 from Christmas break.



## Learning



New-student registration forms may be completed online by visiting [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com) and following the "Youth Programs" link. Forms also are on the bulletin boards and kiosks.

## Third Tuesday Thrift Night at Echoes: Jan. 20

Join other volunteers on the third Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Echoes, a Christian Thrift Store, the outreach ministry at First English. Volunteers help with small construction improvements (great opportunity, since it is off-hours), pricing and sorting and displaying donated items that the store has received. To learn how you can serve this ministry, contact our

## Outreach & Social Ministry



store manager, Kathy Hoffman, at 920-882-8172 or [echoes@felc.com](mailto:echoes@felc.com).

**See you on Tuesday, Jan. 20!**

## LWR coffee sale: second Sunday in January

The Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Coffee Project gives us an opportunity to exchange goods in a way that promotes care of both the worker and the environment.

Sunday, Jan. 11, is your next opportunity to purchase Fair Trade coffee, tea, cocoa, baking cocoa and chocolate bars.

Fair Trade creates avenues for countries to sell goods at a fair price, for governments to provide greater services to their people, for communities to provide better support to their members and for families to provide better care for each other.

## Worship



### Downtown Site worship volunteer Schedule

The Downtown Site worship volunteer schedule for the first quarter of 2009 has been mailed or e-mailed to those scheduled for a role on Sunday mornings. Please review this schedule and place the dates on your business and family calendars. **If you are unable to serve, please make a switch or find a substitute and let the church office know as soon as possible.** Members who receive an e-mail with a link to the online version of the schedule can find the phone numbers of other volunteers on the schedule that is attached to the e-mail.

## FELC ministry teams making a difference

Consider joining a ministry team this year. As a member of a ministry team or a subgroup of a ministry team at First English, you can make an impact on the programs that interest you and you'll make a difference in the life of the church.

We welcome members to join one of the ministry team meetings.

Your input will be welcomed and you'll gain comfort and knowledge in becoming a member of that team. Team members serve on a 3-year rotating term. Ministry teams meet the second Tuesday of each month with the exception of July. Please contact Jean Monson in the church office or the chair of a ministry team to express your interest in joining a team.

Ministry team members mark your 2009 calendars with the following dates and meeting locations.



### 2009 ministry team schedule

January through June meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. the Downtown Site: Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 10, April 14, May 12 and June 9.

No meeting in July.

August through December meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. the North Site: Aug. 11, Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 1 (changed to first Tuesday for December).

## Thank you to the many volunteers who serve at First English

Thank you to all First English volunteers and staff who helped reach out to others with special events, programs, projects and worship services during the Christmas season, including:

Christmas greeters, readers, ushers, communion assistants, acolytes, television/sound technicians, nursery attendants, soloists, choir members, assisting ministers and worship assistants.

Bell-ringers for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign.

The Dec. 6 Wait and Watch Advent event planners.

50+ activity planners who helped plan and organize the annual Dec. 17 Worship & Lunch and

the Dec. 20 White Heron Chorale concert.

Cooks, decorators, bakers, servers and cleanup crews who assisted with the multiple programs throughout Advent and Christmas.

Echoes volunteers for creating a festive store atmosphere with wonderful displays and Christmas spirit that was shared with all our customers.

Students who made Christmas greetings for First English members and the carolers and volunteers who delivered the gifts to our Special Friends as part of their ministry of service.

The Sunday School children

and teachers for sharing messages about Jesus birth.

Preschoolers for songs about baby Jesus.

North Site Sunday School children for their beautiful Christmas drama, "The Shepherd's Story."

Downtown Site Sunday school children for their joyful music in the Christmas message, "The Christmas Present."

All who brought donations for the WEMI Christian Family Radio's Care & Share program and food items for St. Joseph Food Program.

## Worship



### Touring Wittenberg Choir to present concert at FELC

The Wittenberg Choir, directed by Donald Busarow, is presenting a free concert at 7:30 p.m.

on Tuesday, March 10, in the Sanctuary at the Downtown Site.

The Wittenberg Choir was founded at Wittenberg University in 1930 in Springfield, Ohio. WU is a liberal arts and sciences college affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The choir has toured throughout the United States, Europe, South America and Asia.

A freewill offering will be taken.

#### Would you like to help?

- Families are needed to host students of the Wittenberg Choir after their concert. Host families will provide overnight lodging for one or more pairs of students. The next morning they will provide breakfast and transportation to church.

- Concert ushers are needed.
- Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve a meal around 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Contact Melissa Moll in the church office if you would like to help.

### Music ministry expanding at 9:15 a.m. worship

First English is looking to expand its musical opportunities for the 9:15 a.m. Downtown Site worship service. Singers and/or instrumentalists who would like to share their musical gifts and help enliven this worship service to the praise and glory of God are invited to contact Melissa Moll in the church office.

## Thank you to the many volunteers who serve

### VOLUNTEERS, From Page 13

All choir members for their spirited singing in this season of joy.

For those that participated in the "Fill the Trailer" food drive and associated activities collecting food for the less fortunate.

Large- and small-group leaders associated with KidsLife, confirmation and high school ministry for reaching out and engaging our young people with the word of God.

The ongoing ministers of grocery shopping for residents at Russet

Court and Edgewood House.

For those who supported the Alternative Gifts Market by purchasing Christmas presents.

To those who gave their time and talents to decorate the Sanctuaries at both sites.

To Bruce Jahnke for donating the beautiful Christmas trees and greenery at both sites.

To all who purchased poinsettias to compliment the sanctuaries at both sites.

To the Christmas offering organizers and counters.

## Council matters

The following are the proposed changes in the bylaws that will be considered at the annual meeting on Feb. 1 (additions in bold, deletions in strikeout):

### ARTICLE V OFFICERS

B11.01.01 Duties of the officers of the Congregation Council:

- The president shall preside over meetings of the Congregation Council and of the congregation unless the meeting decides otherwise.
- The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the President, unless the meeting decides otherwise.
- The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings of the Congregation Council and of the congregational meetings.
- The treasurer shall be bonded and shall be custodian of all funds of this congregation; and shall oversee financial operations of this congregation assuring they are in accordance with the decisions of the congregation or the Congregation Council. The treasurer shall present an audited report to the annual congregational meeting and such other reports to the Congregation Council as may be required.

**B11.02.01 A ballot with one or more candidates for vice-president, treasurer, and secretary shall be provided to the Congregation Council by the Nominating Committee at least 60 days prior to the annual congregation meeting. The Congregation Council shall elect a vice-president, treasurer, and secretary by a simple majority vote prior to the annual congregation meeting.**

**B11.03.01 Officers of the Congregation Council shall be elected for one term. Terms of office shall begin at the close of the annual congregation meeting following their election by the Congregation Council and run until the close of the next annual congregation meeting. The vice-president shall become the president at the end of his or her term as vice-president, and shall serve as president for one term.**

### ARTICLE VI CONGREGATION COUNCIL

B12.01.01 The Congregation Council shall consist of ~~fifteen~~ **between nine and fifteen** members, each elected for a term of three years or until successors are elected, and the pastors who shall serve as ex officio members of the Congregation Council without vote. Members **normally** shall be elected in such a manner that one-third is elected each year. Any voting member of the congregation may be elected, subject to the limitation on the length of continuous service permitted. The terms of office shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which their election takes place.

B12.01.02 The Nominating Committee shall prepare the ballots for elections of **Congregation Council members, Congregation Council officers, and the next Nominating Committee.** ~~The ballot shall include a minimum of seven nominees.~~ Members of this congregation who are eligible shall be asked by this committee to permit their names to be placed on the official ballots. The ballots **for Congregation Council and Nominating Committee** are to be available for absentee voting according to procedures set forth in a continuing resolution of the Congregation Council. Voting shall take place at the annual meeting of this congregation; votes of voting members present and absentee voters shall be counted.

## Support



### Annual meeting set for Feb. 1

The annual meeting will be held at noon on Sunday, Feb. 1, in the Sanctuary at the Downtown Site. The agenda for the meeting is in the 2008 annual report, which will be in the Gathering Areas beginning Sunday, Jan. 18.

Absentee ballots are available in the church office.

## Happy 90+ Birthday!

**Ruth Schmeltzer**, 640 Ridgeview Circle, Apt. 107, Appleton, WI 54911, celebrates a birthday on Jan. 10.

**Margaret Rohde**, Parkside Care Center, 1201 Garfield Ave., Little Chute, WI 54140, celebrates a birthday on Jan. 27.

## Official Acts (November 2008)

### Funeral

- Irma Glawe

### Weddings

- Philip Strelow and Brittany Scherb
- Robert Granatelli and Barb Shew
- Ryan Lemke and Heather Buckner
- David Miller and Nicole Schaff
- Robert Broder and Cassandra Rafac
- Scott Harding and Rachel Rosenberg

### Baptism

- Allie Louise Gioffredi

### Weekly offerings

#### November 2008

	Needed	Collected
Weekly:	\$21,539	\$17,621
Month to Date:	\$107,695	\$88,103
Year to Date:	\$1,033,846	\$878,059
Short:	\$155,787	

## Council matters

### FELC Council meeting - Oct. 28, 2008

**Present:** John Zweig, Peter Peregrine, Karen Dorn, Dan Baumbach, Ellen Evensen, Amy Henderson, Mike Lokensgard, Wayne Luck, Steve Uslabar, Pastor Detweiler, Pastor Dismer

**Excused:** Jeff Diehl, Nancy Hershfield, Dana Olson, Jeff Picken, Pastor Bauer, Walt Rugland

**Devotions:** Kirsten Owens

**Discussion:** "Traveling Together" – John Zweig distributed the document, "Discipleship Model; Growth Steps." Discussion followed.

**Approval of minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Sept. 23, 2008, Congregational Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the special Congregational Council meeting on Oct. 7, 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

**Ministry team reports:** The ministry team minutes were reviewed. Discussion followed. The following correction was made to the Worship Ministry Team minutes dated Oct. 14, 2008; Christmas services: Downtown – 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.; North site – 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. John stated the goals documents of each of the ministry teams are to be updated and submitted by Oct. 30, 2008. Council members are asked to review the goals and offer any issues and/or concerns to John. He will relay those concerns to the respective ministry team chairs. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's report:** Jeff Diehl submitted the following documents for Council review in his absence; "FELC 2008 Budget Summary," "2008 Weekly Offering," "ECHOES Gift & Thrift," "FELC Budget Summary." Discussion followed. The Council wishes to thank Jeff Bemis, Jeff Cieslik and Mark Des Rochers for all the work they have done to promote and to facilitate the growth Echoes has experienced during the transition this past year. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.

### Old business

Strategic planning 2009 – finalize: John submitted the document, "Special Council Meeting October 7/21, 2008 Summary Minutes+Input from Council members." Discussion followed. Peter Peregrine, Jeff Diehl, Jeff Picken and Dan Baumbach will identify what our congregation is doing as FELC continues our goal of following a discipleship model. The information will be shared with the congregation at the annual meeting.

### New business:

A. Nominating Committee discussion – Karen Dorn: The committee has contacted members of the congregation. Two members have agreed to be placed on the ballot, and a third member is "likely" to agree. The committee is securing six representatives for the synod assembly and two for Fox Valley Lutheran Homes. The nominating committee anticipates a full slate within the next few weeks.

B. Bylaws – Peter Peregrine submitted a document suggesting changes to the bylaws: Article V Officers and Article VI Congregational Council, offering several options that may more closely reflect the way the Council wishes to more efficiently operate and do the work of the church. Discussion followed. Peter will submit a revised document to the Council for further review based on the discussion.

C. Pastors' reports: Pastor Detweiler and Pastor Dismer submitted written reports.

D. Annual meeting: A motion was made and seconded to set the annual meeting on Feb. 1, 2009, at 12 p.m. at the Downtown Site. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Official acts: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Sept. 2008 official acts. Motion passed unanimously.

F. A document identifying the full and part-time FELC employees was submitted for Council information.

Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Closing prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Notes taken by:  
Judy Snavely

## Council minutes

### FELC Council meeting - Nov. 25, 2008

**Present:** John Zweig, Peter Peregrine, Nancy Hershfield, Jeff Diehl, Dan Baumbach, Mark DesRochers, Karen Dorn, Ellen Evensen, Amy Henderson, Mike Lokensgard, Wayne Luck, Dana Olson, Kirsten Owens, Jeff Picken, Steve Uslabar, Pastor Detweiler, Pastor Bauer, Walt Rugland

**Excused:** Pastor Dismar

**Guest:** Bishop Jim Justman

**Devotions:** Jeff Picken

**Approval of minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Oct. 28, 2008 Congregation Council meeting to include the results of the Council's 2009 strategic planning. Motion passed unanimously.

**Ministry team reports:** The ministry team minutes were reviewed. Discussion followed. Jeff Picken noted the Worship Ministry Team is creating a memorial gift list requesting Council members submit suggestions. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously. The Council was asked to carefully review the 2009 ministry team planning grids to be ready for the budget review process at the next meeting. A motion was made and seconded to provisionally approve the 2009 ministry team planning grids as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's report:** Jeff Diehl submitted the following documents: FELC Budget Summary, FELC 2008 Budget Summary, 2008 Weekly Offering, ECHOES Gift & Thrift, FELC Budget Summary. Discussion followed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.

Temple talks will be presented to the congregation during December, reminding them of the importance of fulfilling their financial commitment to the church; Downtown Site: 8:00 Steve Uslabar and Jeff Diehl, 9:15 Mike Lokensgard, 10:30 Peter Peregrine. North Site: 8:30 Nancy Hershfield.

John Zweig will write a letter to the congregation concerning year-end gifts as well as establish a rotation schedule for the temple talks at the North Site.

Executive Committee Report – Pastor Detweiler & John Zweig

The Executive Committee minutes from Nov. 18, 2008, were reviewed and discussed. John Zweig presented an overview of Council and the Executive Committee activities regarding the concerns of members of both the Council and the congregation. He concluded his remarks with comments about the importance of following Matt. 18:15-17 as we share our concerns with members and leaders of FELC. The principles of this verse are reconciliation and the development of quality relationships with each other for the best of the church.

Bishop Justman distributed and discussed the documents explaining Matt. 18:12-14 and "MATTHEW 18:15-17 'A MODEL FOR HEALTHY LIVING.'" He introduced proposed "Listening Posts" to allow members of the congregation and church leaders to share their concerns about the style of the lead pastor and the concerns about the direction of FELC at this time with each other and the lead pastor. The goals of "Listening Posts" were highlighted. The plan is to identify leaders, train them regarding the Listening Post concept and begin the Listening Post process. Discussion followed.

Pastor Detweiler suggested that FELC contract with a consultant to assist our congregation in assessing the current state of FELC three years following transition and offer recommendations for improving our governance, strategize the operation of two sites and to provide coaching to the lead pastor and his staff, as well as the Council. From proposed listening sessions, additional objectives would be developed. Discussion followed. A motion to table consideration of a consultant was made, seconded and approved.

#### Old business:

A. Stewardship report (Commitment Sunday) - Steve Uslabar:

a. Steve thanked Andrew Sather, Jeff Picken, Charlie Holtebeck, Molly Ford and Walt Rugland for their temple talks during the weeks leading up to our commitment Sunday.

b. He noted the goal of the Stewardship Committee is to increase the number of members of the congregation to make a commitment.

c. Letters have been sent to thank congregational members for their gifts, letters reminding the congregants to send in their pledge cards, and additional letters were sent to those who give regularly, but do not commit letting them know that we would appreciate a commitment.

B. Bylaws – Peter Peregrine presented the revised document as suggested by the Council at the October meeting. The changes would allow for reducing the membership size of the Council, redefining how the officers are elected and revising the requirements of the Nominating Committee. Discussion followed. A motion was made and seconded to present the revised bylaws document to the congregation at the annual meeting for consideration and approval. The results of the voting were 11 in favor of the motion, two voted no, and two were absent during the vote.

C. Nomination Committee - Karen Dorn: Six congregation members have agreed to be on the ballot. The committee is searching for one more nominee.

#### New business:

A. Pastor's reports: Pastor Detweiler, Pastor Bauer and Pastor Dismar submitted written reports. Pastor Mary noted the Outreach & Social Ministry Team is considering providing a "Warming Shelter" at the North Site possibly in February.

B. Peter Peregrine: Feb. 8, 2009, 1:00 to 4:00, one week after the annual meeting, is set aside as a meeting for new and former Council members to review Council member responsibilities, Council goals and responsibilities.

C. Official acts: A motion was made and seconded to approve the October 2008 official acts. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Closing prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Notes taken by Judy Snively and reviewed by John Zweig, president

## Council nominees

The following seven members of First English are vying for the Congregational Council. The election will be held at noon on Sunday, Feb. 1, in the Sanctuary at the Downtown Site.

**Ellen Evensen** Ellen Evensen has been a member of First English since 2000. She was appointed in May to take over a vacant Council spot, has served on the Congregational Life Ministry Team, is a confirmation small-group leader, volunteers in many worship areas when needed and enjoys getting up bright and early with the "Women's Thursday Early Riser Bible Study." Ellen is an HR Generalist for Alta Resources in Neenah. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends in her spare time and is really looking forward to joining the First English youth at the youth gathering in New Orleans in July.

**Dean Haas** and his wife, Edith, joined First English in 2002 after moving to Appleton from Minnesota. They have two adult children: Angela lives in Montana and Steven lives in Denver. Dean has served on the Finance Committee, Timber Rattlers baseball committee and the Self-Study Task Force at FELC. He enjoys volunteering as a welcome host, reader, greeter and communion assistant. Dean and Edith are involved in Tables of Eight, serve as coffee hour hosts and participate in mission trips to the Gulf Coast. Dean is a Senior Financial Services Officer and is very active in the Lions service organization.

**Bob Heil** and his wife, Heather, have two children. They live in Appleton and have been members of First English for nearly eight years. During that time, Bob has participated in several task forces and event planning committees.

Through the last three years, he has been involved with the Growth Ministry Team, whose responsibility is to increase membership and participation. Other church-related activities include being a greeter and communion assistant at the Downtown Site. Bob and Heather share two dental offices in Freedom and Appleton, where they also support the Tri-County Community Dental Clinic. They also have been mission dentists with Mission Jamaica and supporters of other area charitable groups.

In his personal time, he enjoys fishing, boating and spending time at home with his family.

**Gordy Jeppson** and his wife, Mary, have been members of First English since they moved to Appleton from Iowa in 1988. He recently retired from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans after 23 years. Before working at Thrivent, he had a 27-year career in education, primarily in athletic administration and coaching at the college level. Mary and Gordy have three grown sons. Two of their sons are married. They have seven grandchildren. For the past 4 years, he has been a member of the First English Stewardship Committee.

**Kathy Larson** has been a member of First English for 20 years along with her husband Gary, and three children, Erik, Sarah and Anna. Kathy grew up near Eau Claire and moved to the Fox Valley with her husband 29 years ago when he became employed at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Kathy is a graduate of UW-Oshkosh with a degree in business administration with an emphasis in finance. Kathy has been employed by Thrivent Financial for the last 18 years and currently works in the Church and Community Engagement unit as a Grant

Program Manager. In her current role, Kathy has the opportunity to work with representatives from the national Lutheran church bodies, many Lutheran congregations and Lutheran institutions. Kathy has served the church as a long time Sunday School teacher, small-group confirmation leader, Vacation Bible School and various other roles. Kathy also volunteers as the piano accompanist for the Fox Valley VSA choir, a choir made up of people with and without disabilities.

**Dong Pham** and his wife, Sheryl, live in Appleton and have been members of First English since 2000. Along with their two children, Aaron and Carmen, they regularly attend worship services at the North Site. He is a member of the Congregational Life Ministry Team and serves as a greeter, coffee hour host and new member sponsor. Dong works in Oshkosh for Bemis Company as an environmental engineer in the Corporate Environmental Affairs Department. Before joining Bemis, he was an environmental consultant for 15 years. In his free time, he enjoys playing tennis, running and biking.

**Cindi Ritcey Fox** has lived in Appleton since she was 1. She and husband, Bill, have been members of First English for more than 10 years. Cindi has enjoyed leadership in our Stewardship Committee, new member program and assisting in all aspects of our Sunday worship services. Cindi has been in leadership business positions in the insurance and financial industry for 28 years, currently as senior partner and leader of the Appleton New York Life office. Cindi looks forward to combining her business and leadership abilities with her faith to assist First English.

FELC NORTH SITE WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE JANUARY

Date/Time	Welcome Host	Greeter & Assist with Offering	Reader	Communion Server	Communion Set Up/Clean Up	Sound Board	Coffee Hour**	Worship Assistant
Jan. 4 8:30 AM	Tom & Carol Titzkowski <b>ACOLYTE:</b> Kayla Meyer	Ray & Karen Neilson Patricia Larson Kathryn Strebe*	Cathy Jokela	Lois Nilies Barb Kuenzi	Lois Nilies	KC Altekruse	Dean & Edith Haas With David & Jodi Gaskill (David & Jodi's first time. Dean or Edith, please call the Gaskill's early in the week)	Linda Figens
Jan. 4 10:30 AM	Margaret Zweig Shadown Howard	Dave & Jenny Detjen Steve Heminger Daniel Brumm*	Dave Detjen	Lance Schmidt David Stenz	Brenda Stenz	Steve Hale		
Jan. 11 8:30 AM	Bob Rich <b>ACOLYTE:</b> Cameron Bush	Dennis & Cheri Paisar Kathy & Kara Rich Carissa Lund*	Rudi Pakendorf	Rick & Kfris Sather	Andrew Moscinski	Luke Baumbach	Fete Vandenberg Karen Johnson	Jeffrey Picken
Jan. 11 10:30 AM	Shannon Howard	Sarah & Alex Miles Lisa Hale Jeff Boettcher	Dean Haas	Rich & TK Flamang	TK Flamang	Jeff Miles		
Jan. 18 8:30 AM	Dan Baumbach <b>ACOLYTE:</b> Tyler DesRochers	David, RoxAnn, Eithan & Kendall Grube Linda & Lane* Baumbach	Mary Vandenberg	Susan Bush	Byrse Conner	Ian Bush	Rich & Jodi Meyer Cory Allen (Cory's first time. Rich or Jody, please call the Cory early in the week)	8:30 Becky Stellmacher 10:30 Gail Detjen
Jan. 18 10:30 AM	Gail Detjen	Dirk & Samantha Halverson Steve Heminger	Nicole Eidahl	Andy Moscinski	Burt Blank	Ross Larson		
Jan. 25 8:30 AM	Rick Sather <b>ACOLYTE:</b> Toreen Peables	Jon & Becky Stellmacher Ann Steele Liam Peables*	Jon Stellmacher	Derek Jones	KC Altekruse	KC Altekruse	Patricia Larson Kirsten Owens	Lance Schmidt
Jan. 25 10:30 AM	Sarah Miles	Dean Haas Anna & Alec Schmidt	Linda Figens	Burt Blank	Burt Blank	Steve Hale		

FELC DOWNTOWN SITE WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE JANUARY

DATE	WELCOME HOST	MAIN DOOR GREETER	IDA STREET GREETER	USHER TEAM CONFIRMATION STUDENTS	READER	COMMUNION SET UP CALL FOR NEW KEYLESS CODE - EFFECTIVE 10/1/08	COMMUNION SERVER	SOUND BOARD	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTER	COFFEE HOUR
Jan. 4 8:00	Sandy Herrmann	Renee Edbrooke Carrie Ashland*	Jean Burmeister Kaylyn Haefer*	Abby Karrels* Jacob Block*	Susan Bakken	Don Burmeister	Robert Gauerke Jim Bub	<b>Sound:</b> Mike Truby <b>TV Room:</b> Alyssa Haberland <b>Cameras:</b> Tyler Haas Zach Akgulian	Marit & Christian Bakken*	Nancy Allen	Jerry & Pam Opsahl
Jan. 4 9:15	Nancy Krueger	Nancy, Gary & Laura Strebe	Jason & Larissa Keller	Laura Stondall 739-8714	Karrie Aaseby 751-0192	Bob Heil 739-6259 Gerald Edlinger 739-7670	Mike Truby				
Jan. 4 10:30	Andrew Kirk* Adam Edwards*	Sharon Anderson Brett Nyman*	Samuel Lemery* Sarah Dworak*	Cheri Dworak	Jan Sommerfeld Lou Chicquette	Jan Sommerfeld	Brian Olson		Ingrid & Monika Elzey*		

FELC DOWNTOWN SITE WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE JANUARY

DATE	WELCOME HOST	MAIN DOOR GREETER	IDA STREET GREETER	USHER TEAM CONFIRMATION STUDENTS	READER	COMMUNION SET UP CALL FOR NEW KEYLESS CODE - EFFECTIVE 10/1/08	COMMUNION SERVER	SOUND BOARD	ACOLYTES	ASSISTING MINISTER	COFFEE HOUR
Jan. 11 8:00	Kay Eggert	Kathy & Sophia* Angst	Chuck Dorn	Evageline Hoff* Mardia Rude*	LeAnne McFadden	Lorraine Moore Janice Rinderle	Marlin & Karen Reeck	<b>Sound:</b> Erik Rude <b>TV Room:</b> Erik Luxhøj <b>Cameras:</b> Mack Woerishofer Ross Van Maren	Lexi Woerishofer* Nathan Swanson*	Barry Hoff	Mary & Gordy Jeppson
Jan. 11 9:15	Joyce Burghardt	Arielle Elms	Mary Feller (Both 9:15 & 10:30 greeting)	Nicole & Victoria Droese*	Karen Walkins	Rich & Jan Erickson	Jan & Rich Erickson	Don Monson			
Jan. 11 10:30		Bob Herder Travis Forseth*			Jerry Anderson	Sharon Anderson	Sharon & Jerry Anderson	Seth Harris	Mackenzie Andropolis* & Sophia Angst*		
Jan. 18 8:00	Lou Chicquette	Jeff & Traci Diehl	Mike & Marjorie Dahms	Theodore Holland* Brittany Laabs*	Chuck Tomasi	Bonnie Johnson	Bob & Anita Damon	<b>Sound:</b> Owen Berendes <b>TV Rm:</b> Alyssa Haberland <b>Cameras:</b> Gary & Sam Haberland	Tyler DesRochers* Anna Figy*	Cheri Dworak	Heldi Stodola Bill & Cindi Ritcey-Fox
Jan. 18 9:15	Mona Menning <b>SHADOW:</b> Mary Feller	Mike Menning	Bob & Heather Heil		Beth Miller	Noel & Hanna* Gimenez	Roger Kaser Dan Evensen	Mike Fredericks			
Jan. 18 10:30		Nila Hahn Hannah Evensen*	Anna Manteufel* Kevin Granatelli*	Andy Huetfl* Kyle Wayner*	Eric Johnson	Art & Sue Fochs	Dee Knox Emily Forslin	Jack Bartelt	Sarah Dworak* Kati Baker*		
Jan. 25 8:00	Steve Uslabar	Kevin* & Lucas Hash	Frank & Marlene Haas	Henry Uslabar* Kelly Stymiest*	Lee Hash	Barbara Kuenzi	Malcolm Johnson Joan LeClerc	<b>Sound:</b> Ethan Kayser <b>TV Room:</b> Daniel Butzen <b>Cameras:</b> Ryan & Craig Surprise	Katie Kemps* Lynn Schemm*	Lisa Graetz	Paul & Joann Kayser 733-1605
Jan. 25 9:15	Mary Feller	Jim & Joanne Moard	Merlin & Joan Keller		Karen Walkins	Sharon Evensen	Gordon Jeppson Kevin Eckes	Eric Johnson			
Jan. 25 10:30		Tyler Zewicki* Jamie Muolo*	Roger & Phyllis Anderson	Dan Hagen* Saskia Haverkorn*	Joy Hagen	Pete & Deb Van Remontel	Pete & Deb Van Remontel	Seth Harris	Tim Breitenross* Maddie Wheeler*		



First English Lutheran Church  
www.felc.com felc@felc.com

Downtown Site  
Corner of Drew and North streets  
920-733-2303

**Service Times**

Sundays: 8, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays: 7:20 p.m.

North Site  
Corner of Broadway Drive and Ballard Road  
920-882-7942

**Service Times**

Sundays: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

February newsletter deadline:

**All submissions due at noon, Jan. 15, to jsommerfeld@felc.com**

**First English Pastoral Staff**

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Karen Herbrich, R.N., ext. 310  
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January 2009

Return Service Requested

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Appleton, WI 54911



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