



First English News

www.felc.com

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

JUNE 2009

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Thanks be to God for youth at FELC who grow in faith!

A few weeks ago I challenged the young people of our congregation who were about to confirm their faith to change their thinking from going to church on Sundays to going to worship on Sundays, and being the church, every day, by serving others.

First English members can be proud to know that many of our young people do indeed see themselves this way. Here are some examples, and I apologize in advance for the many I have not heard about but who equally deserve to be mentioned.

Many of our young people volunteer at Echoes. A number of them teach Sunday School, or have offered to teach next year. Chelsey Luck will be serving with a congregation in Costa Rica this summer.

Four of our college age youth, Katie and Kurt Swanson and Kate and Ted Hagen, will be serving as staff members at Flathead Lake Bible Camp on Flathead Lake, Montana. Two others,

Nathaniel Murken and Kaylyn Haberland, will be working at Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca.

Our Seraphim Choir recently accompanied Pastor Herder and Mil to the Indian reservation and the Lutheran Church of the Wilderness at Bowler, to help lead a worship service there.

Adrian, Chloe, Ingrid and Monika Elzey helped Pastor Herder lead a worship service at Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Lessor near Pulaski.

This summer Adrian Elzey will join youth from congregations across the country in a program offered by the ELCA seminary in Chicago, which is geared to introducing these young people to ways the Lutheran Church is active in serving others.

Thanks be to God for the witness and support of the members of this congregation and the ELCA who help our young people grow in their faith and live their faith as the church.

– Pastor Mike Dismer

SUMMER WORSHIP

North Site

• Sundays

Summer worship at the North Site is at 9 a.m. through Sept. 6. (Downtown Site services remain at 8, 9:15 and 10:30 a.m.)

• Wednesdays

Midweek worship at the North Site is at 7:20 p.m. through June 4. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and gather around the campfire! Beginning June 10, worship is at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Worship in the park

Worship at City Park at 9:15 a.m., weather permitting, is on the following Sundays:

- June 7 • July 19
- June 14 • Aug. 2
- June 21 • Aug. 9
- June 28 • Aug. 16
- July 12

Park setup

Volunteers are needed to assist with park setup. Please contact Jean Monson in the church office if you can help.

Music ministry

If you would like to provide special music for one of the park services, contact Melissa Moll in the church office.

Congregational Growth



North Site: Vision for the Future

The North Site Task Force is hosting meetings throughout June to discuss the vision for the North Site.

•**North Site lower level:**

When: Sundays, June 7 and 14

Time: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

When: Wednesdays, June 10 and 17

Time: 7:30 p.m.

•**Downtown Site Library:**

When: Sundays, June 21 and 28

Time: 9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

While we encourage all of you to be included in these discussions, we also understand that schedules may not always be very accommodating. So, for those of you who are not able to attend any of these discussions, we have a blue Comments Box set up at each site. You are welcome to write comments and drop them in the box any time during the month of June.

You can also email your comments to NorthSiteTaskForce@gmail.com or respond to some discussion questions through a link the North Site Task Force the www.felc.com website.

The North Site Task Force is eager to get your feedback about the future vision for the North Site, and will be compiling the results to report back to the congregation as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming discussion sessions!

Communications Task Force - May 2009

The Communications Task Force has met four times. The charge of this task force has been clarified as follows:

“To evaluate forms of communication used by FELC, to make recommendations for change to the congregational council to make communication more effective.”

Thus far, the current methods both external and internal communication have been identified.

The concepts of internal vs. external communication have been clarified, as follows:

Internal: the business of and within the church, communication between members, between staff and congregation, etc.

External: to wider community, non-members.

Our last meeting was predominantly dealing with the implications of Jan Sommerfeld’s resignation for our Task Force, the Communications Team, Staff, and the entire congregation.

We have reviewed some excellent documents on appropriate use of electronic communication in congregations, Five Essential Steps of Effective Church Communications and Marketing from the website www.effectivechurch.com. Other documents highlighting our website and a communications toolbox handout from Jan Sommerfeld were also reviewed.

The task force is investigating having a suggestion box with posted

responses similar to the one the YMCA has in its lobby. We are asking Ministry Teams to identify tasks currently done in the Communications Office by Jan. Ongoing evaluation of this reorganization will be undertaken.

We hope to encourage thoughtful, deliberate communication between members, staff, and council to promote trust, healing, transparency. We hope to inspire the members to take advantage of all the opportunities to serve that FELC has to offer. Effective communication involves more than just speaking and hearing or writing and reading. Real communication only takes place when both parties move beyond speaking and hearing to understanding. Speaking and listening are means, not ends. We hope to communicate the message of love and forgiveness of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

Cindy Cieslik

Mark DesRochers (council liaison)

Carol Diehl

Pastor Dismer

Doug Freeman

Gary Haberland

Joy Hagen

Elizabeth Hensel

Don Monson

Diane Putzer

Sue Swanson

Congregational Growth



2009 New Member Workshops at First English

If you would like to join First English, you are invited to attend a one-evening New Member Session from 4 to 7:30 p.m. at the Downtown Site on **Sunday, July 19**.

If this July evening does not work for you, in September/ October you are invited to attend a three-part New Member Session from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Downtown Site on the following dates:

Wednesday, Sept. 30

Wednesday, Oct. 7

Wednesday, Oct. 14

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 either one of these New Member Sessions. Please call the church office at 920-733-2303 if you plan to attend and to RSVP for child care.

Congregational Life



CHART seeks photos of confirmation students

The Congregational Historical Archive and Recording Team Task Force is looking for photos of the confirmation classes from the years 2000 to 2007 to add to the First English history files.

If you would like to donate a photo to the church history collection, please forward it to the church office.

The Couple Prayer Series

The "Together with Jesus" Couple Prayer Series for engaged or married couples is a six-week, one-evening-per-week experience in shared faith developed and offered with three significant facts in mind.

- 1.) The projected divorce rate for U.S. married couples is roughly 1 divorce in every 2 marriages.
- 2.) 2002 nation-wide research showed that married couples who attend church together weekly have a divorce rate of just 1 divorce in every 6 marriages.
- 3.) A 1980 nation-wide study showed that married couples who attend church together weekly and who also pray together daily experience a divorce rate of just 1 divorce in every 1,105 marriages.

This means that couples who attend church together weekly and who also pray together daily in their own comfortable way have a 50,000% higher chance to enjoy a happy, life-long marriage than the average couple in our nation today, including Christian couples. (Divorce projections for Christian couples married today stand at 48-52%, varying slightly by denomination.)

At The Couple Prayer Series, you'll hear more about the compelling case for daily Couple Prayer and experience first-hand how you, too, can safely and peacefully share Couple Prayer with your spouse in ways that will dramatically enhance your faith, your marriage, and the faith and well-being of your entire family.

Congregational Life



•**Where:** First English Lutheran Church – North Site.

•**When:** Wednesday Evenings, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. or 7:30-9:00 p.m. July 15 – Aug. 19.

•**Who:** All married, engaged or committed couples.

•**Registration:** Call the church office at 733-2303.

•**Fee:** \$10 per couple for print materials.

•**Child care:** will be provided for a nominal fee.

•**What:** Some couples who have attended this series want to tell you about it:

"The Couple Prayer Series was such a blessing to us both. It was fantastic."

"The examples of how to pray are priceless. We'd never have known where to start on our own."

"This was awesome. To come together with God as a couple surpassed any expectations we had."

"I got closer to my wife, to God, and to Jesus."

"Nothing we've ever done has made the difference this has made in our lives. It's tremendous."

Congregational Life



Women's circles gather for study and fellowship

Women are invited to visit a women's Bible study this month. The study, "The Hidden Hand of God," is from the "Lutheran Woman Today" magazine in the library.

•**The Judith Circle** meets at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, in Room 110 at the Downtown Site. They do not meet in July, but will meet for a potluck lunch and study on Tuesday, August 4 at noon in the Fellowship Hall at the Downtown Site.

•**The Miriam Circle** meets at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, at Phyllis Anderson's home, at 1109 Holly Court, Kaukauna. Call regrets only 920-766-2837.

Learn how you can serve our home-bound members

Serve home-bound members of First English by volunteering to take communion to them. Training is offered for this ministry. If you would like to participate, contact our health ministries coordinator, Karen Herbrich, in the church office.

Ministry Team Reminder

Ministry teams will meet on Tuesday, June 9 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall at the Downtown Site. A friendly reminder that ministry teams will NOT be meeting in July.

Scrapbooking Session

Free scrapbooking and stamping sessions are held monthly. The next session meets Friday, June 12 from 6 to 11 p.m. in Room 110 at the Downtown Site. Please RSVP to Cindy at 920-836-3008 to reserve a spot. Those attending are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for a local charity.

Summer play group to visit Appleton parks

Join other young parents from First English as they explore a variety of Appleton parks this summer with their children. There's no need to RSVP, simply meet in the pavilion area of each park at 9 a.m. Please note: Children must be accompanied by an adult and each family should bring their own refreshments.

Wednesdays at 9 a.m.:

June 10: City Park; 500 E. Franklin St.

June 24: Erb Park; 1800 N. Morrison St.

July 8: Peabody Park; 601 N. Green Bay Road

July 22: Alicia Park; 1302 W. Cedar St.

Aug. 12: Jones Park; 301 W. Lawrence St.

Aug. 26: Colony Oaks Park; 801 N. Briarcliff Drive

Saturdays at 9 a.m.:

June 20: City Park; 500 E. Franklin St.

July 18: Pierce Park; 1035 W. Prospect

Aug. 15: Erb Park; 1800 N. Morrison St.

Forward your ideas to Congregational Life

One of the best compliments First English receives is how much there is for people to do. The many ministries of FELC have indeed grown, but Congregational Life would like to continue to grow and incorporate

some new fellowship ideas plus have more people help in the planning and organizing of these wonderful times together. At the April Congregational Life Ministry Team meeting, a few possible ideas were raised (see below):

Yes! I'd like to help plan FELC fellowship events!

- Golf Scramble
- 5th Sunday Potluck
- Play group
- Newlywed ministry
- Organize a fall afternoon or evening of free child care for "parent's night out"
- My idea: _____



Let's get

TOGETHER

Please prayerfully consider using your gifts to help organize and plan any of these possible activities. Maybe you have an idea you would like to see in place – great!

Name _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please complete this form and forward it to Jean Monson in the church office or place it in the offering plate during worship.



Congregational Life



A thank you from Pastor Bob Herder

A special thank you to all who made May 17th a grand time for our family - to Pastor Dismer for his kind words and to Melissa, the choirs and the other musicians for their beautiful music. A sincere thanks to all who baked, prepared and served the delicious food. The gift to Fox Valley Lutheran Homes, the golf gift card and flowers were greatly appreciated, as well as the cards, well wishes and Connie's special poem. The Remembrance Book, with letters from the homebound and comments from friends, will be treasured.

Downtown Summer Coffee Hour

On those Sundays where 9:15 a.m. worship is in City Park, coffee hour will be provided only after the 8 a.m. worship in the Gathering Area. No coffee hour or refreshments will be transported across the street to the park area. So if you need your morning coffee, juice or cookie before 9:15 a.m. worship please plan on arriving a few minutes early and visit with the coffee hosts. Donut holes are discontinued for the summer.

On those Sundays that coffee hour is held indoors either due to scheduling or weather, the traditional Sunday morning coffee hour will be held (after 8, after 9:15 and before 10:30 a.m.).

FELC seeks day camp coordinator June 29 - July 3

First English interns in partnership with Crossways Camping Ministries will be hosting a communitywide day camp June 29-July 3 at the Downtown Site.

Worship, outreach, learning and fellowship are on our agenda, and we want you to be a part of it. A day-camp coordinator or coordinators are needed to help make this ministry happen.

Coordinators must be at least 24 years-old, motivated, organized and passionate about serving others. The hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the week of camp. A full

Family & Youth



description of this position can be e-mailed to you at your request.

A small stipend is provided for your time, and you can register your immediate family members at no charge for this ministry opportunity.

To apply for this position, please contact Andy Moscinski in the church office.

Youth in Grades 6-8 can serve in Milwaukee

MissionMILWAUKEE is a 3-day, 2-night mission trip to Milwaukee on Aug. 2-4 for youth currently in Grades 6-8.

We will stay at a house called Grace Place in Milwaukee, make our own meals, serve others in the community, and grow in faith together. Space is limited to 12 youth. Register today, since this is a first-come, first-served opportunity.

Students who are not able to attend confirmation camp should register for this trip as a suitable replacement.

Youth program seeks cooler

SummerSLAM (Service Learning and Mission) is seeking one or two new or gently-used 60-qt. coolers on wheels (with handle) for summer mission projects in the community. Coolers will be used to transport lunches and beverages for our youth while they serve in the community one day a week.



Learning



'Renewing Congregations Workshop' set for June 4

The keynote speaker for "Renewing Congregations Workshop" is Rev. Dave Daubert, a parish pastor and author who works with congregations.

When: 6-9 p.m., Thursday, June 4.

Where: KI Convention Center, Green Bay.

Who: Lay leaders, staff and summer interns.

Register: Contact Anita Damon in the church office.

Learning



Daily Bible Connections

1) Daily Discipleship, a free study guide based on the Sunday gospel lesson, is available on the bulletin board and online at www.elca.org.

2) Taking Faith Home, a resource with family conversation starters, prayers and Bible readings, is available on the bulletin board.

The June lectionary texts are listed below.

June 7 – Holy Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

June 14 – 2 Pentecost

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalm 92:1-4, 11-15

2 Corinthians 6:6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 4:26-34

June 21 – 3 Pentecost

Job 38:1-11

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

June 28 – 4 Pentecost

Lamentations 3:22-33

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

Discuss 'The Shack'

Those who have read the popular novel, "The Shack," by William P. Young, are invited to join a 3-session book discussion from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 17 and 24, in the North Site Office. Feel free to bring a sandwich and beverages to the 1-hour sessions that will be facilitated by First English member, Steve Olson.

If you haven't read the book yet, there is still time to finish by June 10. Here is a quick overview from the back of this popular read:

Mackenzie Allen Phillips' youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon

wilderness. Four years later in the midst of his great sadness, Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend.

Against his better judgment he arrives at the shack on a wintry afternoon and walks back into his darkest nightmare. What he finds there will change Mack's world forever.

In a world where religion seems to grown increasingly irrelevant The Shack wrestles with the timeless question, "Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?" The answers Mack gets will astound you and perhaps transform you as much as it did him. You'll want everyone you know to read this book!

Church Library News

Seven excellent devotional books have been added to the church libraries. Drawing from published writings, the editors have selected forty inspiring passages for each of their books. Each day starts with a portion of the author's writings, followed by an appropriate scripture, psalm segment, thought-provoking questions and brief prayer. These guides are a good way to spend 15 minutes of your day.

On the display table at the North Site are:

- "40-Day Journey with Joan Chittister," Beverly Lanzetta, editor
- "40-Day Journey with Kathleen Norris," Kathryn Hauelsen, editor
- "40-Day Journey with Parker J. Palmer," Henry French, editor



On the display table at the Downtown Site are:

- "40-Day Journey with Madeleine L'Engle," Isabel Anders, editor
- "40-Day Journey with Dietrich Bonhoeffer," Ronald Klug, editor
- "40-Day Journey with Julian of Norwich," Lisa Dahill, editor
- "40-Day Journey with Martin Luther," Gracia Grindal, editor

For your summer reading, we have almost 3,000 books, videos, DVD's and games in our church libraries. Have you checked one out recently? To find a specific title or author, look at the listings in the 3-ring binders near the checkout papers.

Learning



Order new study Bible at special discount price

First English is eligible for a discount on the new hardcover Lutheran Study Bible. When FELC orders 10 or more books the cost is \$25 each. The Bible features the NRSV translation as well as introductions, notes and articles. Contact Anita Damon in the office to place your order.

C3 ministry registration open for sixth-graders

Students currently in Grade 6 who wish to participate in C3, the First English confirmation ministry, should register online by following the "Youth Programs" link at www.felc.com or getting a printed registration form in the Family & Youth Ministry office by June 14.

Class lists and more information will be sent this summer. Students and parents should plan to attend FAITHQUEST during the evenings of Aug. 10-12 to get acquainted with each other and the confirmation ministry at First English.

Baptismal workshop set for July 7 at North Site

The next Baptismal Workshop is at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, at the downtown site in room 110. Please RSVP by calling the church office and indicating if child care is needed. Even if you already have had someone baptized at First English, please plan to attend a workshop before scheduling a baptism.



Have you thought about attending the Lay School Ministry this coming fall?

Registration for the Lay School of Ministry of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin is now open for the 2009-10 school year (September - May). Participants meet once each month on Friday evening and Saturday morning for two years. Seminary professors, pastors and lay leaders lend their expertise to foundational studies in Biblical Theology, Church History, Systematic Theology, Worship and Spiritual Formation. First

English can provide scholarships toward the \$400 tuition. Books cost \$150. This is an excellent opportunity for theological learning and skill enhancement for service as congregational care givers, educators, and worship leaders. For more information, contact Anita Damon in the church office, or talk to recent Lay School graduates Betty Smith, Renee Huettl and Yvette Woerishofer.

Teachers for this Fall

Learning Ministry is an important place to put your Faith in Action this fall. Let these Q/A's serve as guides as you pray and discern about volunteering in the Learning Ministry of First English this fall.

Q: How many Learning Time staff volunteer at First English?

A: Approximately one hundred volunteers teach or assist with confirmation classes, Sunday School, Wednesday KidsLife and Adult Learning.

Q: Who volunteers to help?

A: Anyone! Parents, co-workers, grandparents, couples, high schoolers, college students, current and retired teachers, first time teachers and long time teachers, those who want to learn more about the Bible, and those who are already quite knowledgeable about the Bible.

Everyone can find a role: teaching, team teaching, substitute teaching, shepherding, organizing supplies, decorating rooms, and/or office support.

Q: Do I need to have teaching experience?

A: Previous experience is not necessary. Many times, new teachers team up with an experienced teacher to learn.

Q: How frequently will I help?

A: There are ways you can help weekly, every other week or monthly.

Q: What age children will I work with?

A: First, we determine the age-level you prefer: an age level from 3 years old to 12th grade classes or adult education. Then we match you to open staff positions.

Q: Do I plan the Bible Story lesson myself?

A: Teachers receive complete lesson plans including Bible background and step by step directions to teach. Substitute teachers request their favorite grade. All lesson plans are provided.

Learning



Vacation Bible School

Discovery Canyon Vacation Bible School meets August 3-6 from 9 a.m. to noon at the North Site. VBS is for youth ages 3-Grade 6. Daily themes are Rejoice, Pray, Ask, and Tell. Adults and high school or middle school youth volunteers are needed to supervise the kids as they experience the music, games, crafts, Bible story, nature and snack activity times. Please contact Donna Haberland in the office to volunteer. Register students on the summer activities registration form at both sites or go to www.felc.com.

Outreach & Social Ministry



Help for the Homeless doubles collections

More than \$141,000 worth of new personal hygiene and cleaning products were collected and distributed to 38 area homeless programs in conjunction with the Help for the Homeless campaign sponsored by WEMI and WEMY Christian Family Radio. That figure is twice the amount collected last year.

First English Lutheran Church-North Site provided its facility on April 2 for volunteers who sorted the donations that were collected from 400 area businesses, schools, churches and crisis agencies.

Thank you to all the volunteers who supported the campaign with their time and donations.

Make a difference in the life of a child

Many children in India are looking for sponsors in conjunction with Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry, which encourages people to grow in relationships with others through faith.

LPGM works with congregations and connects people to projects through giving, mission trips and volunteering. It also encourages people to support and enrich the lives of children.

Bharath Muniya Dhas, 14, is a bright boy who lives at the Lutheran Boys Boarding Home in Nagercoil, Southern India. The boarding home is owned and operated by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in India, and operates with the sup-

port of LPGM.

Are you interested in sponsoring Bharath through LPGM? Sponsorship is \$20 a month (\$240 per year) and provides him with food, shelter, medical care and education, all things his widowed mother cannot afford to do.

How to be a sponsor

There are three ways to be a sponsor:

1. Pick up a registration form on the "Learning" section of the bulletin boards.
2. Visit www.lutheranpartners.org.
3. Contact LuAnn Werner at 612-823-5058 or office@lutheranpartners.org.

Thank you!

Echoes needs your help!

Remember the unique opportunity we have here at FELC. Your unwanted, unneeded and unused items can be put to use. Echoes allows us the opportunity to offer customers a low cost alternative to shopping at department stores. We can then take the proceeds and provide much needed funds to organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Leaven, Harbor House, the Emergency Shelter etc. All this can be done at no cost to you! Simply donate your un-

wanted, unneeded or unused items to Echoes: furniture, clothes, toys, housewares, decor, etc. We even offer pickup if you need an extra hand. Just call Echoes at 882-8172 to set up a time. With your help, we can increase the benevolence gifts you offer to the community. The little things we donate can make a huge impact in the community. We need your contribution of donated goods to keep this outreach going strong. Help us, help them.

LWR coffee project supports global neighbors

Thank you for purchasing, serving and drinking Lutheran World Relief fairly-traded coffee! This product is grown by small coffee farmers around the world. The goals of this project are to educate people in the United States on how Fair Trade makes a difference in the lives of small coffee farmers and their families and to offer a new way to reach

out to our global neighbors through thoughtful consumer spending.



Lutheran World Relief
COFFEE PROJECT

Outreach & Social Ministry



Learn how you can help Habitat for Humanity

If you would like to sign up to help with Habitat for Humanity, please contact Diane Burmeister at 920-628-2241. You can request to be paired with others from First English if you like.

A Special Thanks

We would like to thank all of you who participated in the 2X4 sale on May 17th. We raised over \$700 to benefit Habitat for Humanity/Thrivent Builds! Please consider joining us this summer as we work to improve our community by helping families achieve home ownership. Contact Cathy Leinum at cathy.leinum@thrivent.com if you are interested in volunteering.

Support



Weekly Offerings

April 2009

Weekly

Budgeted: \$21,539

Collected: \$21,655

Month to Date

Budgeted: \$86,156

Collected: \$88,621

Year to Date

Budgeted: \$366,163

Collected: \$321,637

Short: \$44,526

Mark your calendars!

A cross-generational, multi-cultural, international, synod endorsed event bringing together neighbors near and far. The event runs from July 9-12. Special guests just announced: Rev. Brian and Kristen Konkol: South African missionaries, and Native American drummers. Stay tuned as more visitors and activities are revealed! For more information contact Lee Halverson, Publicity Chairman Synod Global Task Force, 715-677-4918, lesuhalv@wi-net.com.

Also keep your calendars open for August 12. The FELC North Site will be hosting the Tour de Revs.

Welcoming Visitors

1. Understand your guest.

They want to be welcomed. Provide a good handshake or friendly greeting.

2. Welcome everyone!

Regular attendees also need to feel welcomed. Say, "We're glad to have you here today."

3. Anticipate the newcomers.

Watch for guests who appear lost, confused, anxious or quiet. Look for members you do not recognize.

4. Help everyone connect.

Invite guests to wear nametags, stay for refreshments, provide introductions to pastors or other members, offer site tours and remind them of upcoming events such as the church picnic, etc.

5. Say goodbye with warmth.

Invite visitors, guests and members to return. Say, "Hope to see you next Sunday" or "Thanks for worshipping with us today."

Outreach & Social Ministry



From May 13 through August 20, 2009, three Lutheran pastors from the Eastern US will put foot to pedal and seat to saddle and travel over 13,000 miles to raise awareness and donations to help eliminate world hunger. They will be making stops in 65 cities, the 2009 Youth Gathering and the ChurchWide Assembly. See their web site (www.tourderevs.org) for updates on their progress and to learn more about them and their mission. Keep your eyes open for more on how we will be celebrating this synod wide event.

Worship



6. Survey the area.

Does it look welcoming, clean and organized? Are the bulletin boards current? What could we do to improve traffic flow? Improve the area?

7. Report any feedback to church office and turn in new visitor comment/attendance cards.

8. Remember that greeting guests is everyone's responsibility, not just the greeter's. Practice hospitality.



Worship



FELC to host summer music program at Downtown Site

Musicians, make plans to join the 9-week Summer Chamber Music Program that begins during the week of June 15 with weekly practice sessions. Laura Kenney Henckel, principal cellist of the Fox Valley and the Green Bay Symphony orchestras, will lead this program.

The program, which is sponsored by The Arthur Krempin School of Music & Art, is a perfect way to continue playing during the summer while learning great music with groups that are tailored to individuals' instruments and experience. Cost is \$100 per person.

For information or to register, visit www.felc.com or contact Laura Kenney Henckel at kenneycello@sbcglobal.net or 920-739-8604.

Summer '09 Worship: Seeds for the Kingdom, Bread for the Journey

In worship this summer, we hear Jesus' words in the gospels: The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground...and the seed would sprout and grow. The bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

How do Jesus' parables about seeds and statements about bread affect our hearts and lives? Beginning in June, we'll explore these images in worship and beyond. Watch for further details and events. Together we'll live out Jesus' call and proclaim Seeds for the Kingdom, Bread for the Journey.

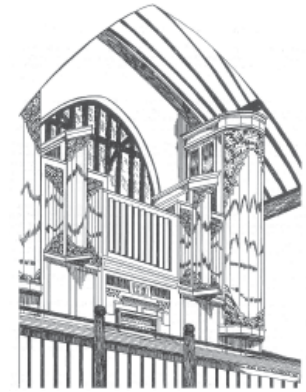
30th Anniversary of the FELC Pipe Organ

Over the last thirty years, the pipe organ at the FELC Downtown Site has led our congregation at worship and delighted concertgoers with its sights and sounds. Designed and built by Ronald Wahl of Appleton, the instrument was dedicated on June 3, 1979.

In its 30th anniversary year, the instrument will be highlighted this summer in two concerts in the Lunchtime Organ Recital Series:

Wednesday, June 24, 12:15 p.m.
Melissa Moll

Wednesday, August 5, 12:15 p.m.
Don Verkuilen



Running from June 3 to August 26, the complete recital series schedule may be viewed on the 50+ flyer or at www.lunchtimeorganrecital.org.

In the words of Psalm 150, may we continue to "praise the Lord with strings and pipe!"

FELC welcomes new members

The following people were received into membership at

First English on Sunday, May 31 & Wednesday, June 10.

- Tanya Brinkman & Jason Walter
- Julie Haywood
- Stacey Miller & Peter Beck
- Amy Rosenthal
- Erin Stuebs
- Kristin Welk
- Nicole Wirth

A few fun facts about some of our new members ...

Tanya Brinkman was born and raised in the Fox Valley. Tanya & Jason are planning at being married on 8/8/09.

Jason Walter moved to Wisconsin at the age of 17 from Aurora, IL. He has a 9 year old son and they enjoy hunting and fishing.

Amy Rosenthal enjoys pickles, ice cream and the color red. Amy has moved 13 times in 10 years but plans on staying in Appleton for awhile. She is an active 12 year volunteer for Wisconsin Leadership Seminars. Amy graduated from UW-Eau Claire in 2004.

Erin Stuebs has the opportunity to travel through work. It took her 2 ½ days to return to Appleton from Fort Lauderdale this past winter. In fact she made the local news for an interview about the lengthy weather delays.

Kristin Welk was born in Merrill, Wisconsin and moved to Appleton 4 years ago. She has a major from UW Stevens Point in Elementary Education with a minor in Mathematics. Kristin became engaged in between the new member sessions on 5/9/09.

Nicole Wirth has lived in Spain and attended Marquette University.

Council minutes: April 28, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mike Lokensgard, Council President.

Present: John Zweig, Peter Peregrine, Jeff Diehl, Dan Baumbach, Ellen Evensen, Amy Henderson, Mike Lokensgard, Dana Olson, Jeff Picken, Steve Uslabar, Kathy Larson, Dong Pham, Dean Haas, Mark Des Rochers

Excused: Gordy Jeppson

Devotions and Opening Prayer:
Kathy Larson

Approval of Minutes: Section VI. New Business b. 1. of the April 2, 2009 minutes needs to be corrected to read that Ellen Evensen and Mike Lokensgard meet with the staff leaders on Monday mornings and that the other Council officers are to be liaisons between the staff leaders and the Council. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes with the above corrections. Motion carried.

Ministry Team Reports: A motion was made and seconded to accept the Ministry Team Reports as submitted. Motion carried. A flowchart of the 2009 FELC Ministry Team members was provided. One correction was made to add Kathy Larson to the Support Ministry Team. A motion was made and seconded to approve the members of the 2009 Ministry Teams. Motion carried.

The installation of ministry team members will be on May 17, 2009. A suggestion was made to continue promoting Ministry Team membership at the installation. Mary Bauer stated that the ECHOES temple talk had been moved to May 17th.

A question was asked whether there is a policy used for determining if communication should be in

the form of temple talks versus verbal announcements on Sunday mornings. The Ministry Team Chairs will be asked to help determine a procedure at their next meeting on June 9th. Currently the list of verbal announcements on Sunday mornings is provided by Jan Sommerfeld.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Uslabar submitted his report as attached. He stated again that income is not keeping up with expenses and that our giving has been flat outside of specific gifts. With the resignation of the Lead Pastor, decreases in weekly giving will be seen. If we continue status quo he would project being behind \$350,000. Another concern is that the monthly mortgage payment is being paid from the Capital Campaign account of the trust and the added commitments each month are not meeting the monthly payment. A report of the capital campaign pledges versus receipts was requested to get a clear picture of the situation. The congregation needs to hear the current status: that we were very careful in preparing a budget for 2009 but that we are falling short. Giving can increase or cuts will need to be made. This can be communicated through a temple talk. If we communicate to the congregation and let the congregation respond, we can then act appropriately. We should have a plan in place for the follow up phase. The Support Ministry Team continues to work on this plan.

Executive Committee Report: The Executive Committee met on April 20 to plan the Council agenda.

Pastor's Reports: Submitted as written. The Bishop will be

preaching at the Downtown site on May 10.

Old Business:

A. Report/Update on Action Items from April 2, 2009.

1. Mike Lokensgard and Ellen Evensen met with the staff program leaders for the first Monday meeting on April 20th. The time was productive with good discussion.

2. The first meeting of the Ministry Team Chairs was held April 14th. Mike Lokensgard and Ellen Evensen attended. Introductions were made and the group was receptive to continued meetings to help coordinate the different ministry areas. The MT chairs were added to the email distribution list for MT minutes and will now receive them each month.

3. Staffing Chart was sent to all staff on April 13, 2009. The Council is to supervise the staff and the Council officers will serve as liaison to the staff program leaders.

4. On-call Coverage: The Pastors have worked out the details to ensure coverage.

5. Personnel matters: Deferred.

B. Task Force Updates.

1. Jeff Picken stated that the North Site TF met on March 31 and April 21. The attached report was prepared providing a historical perspective created from various documents. A time line of events has also been created. This completes the first of the three charges given to this group.

2. Mark Des Rochers reported that the Communications TF spent time listening to member's concerns and now have focused on the charge given to them. It was decided it would be more productive to

Aprin 28 minutes continued

be forward looking. The work they did with Jan Sommerfeld's Communications group was very helpful. He distributed two documents provided by Jan—"Did you know...a website explanation" and Communication Toolbox.

C. Council officer nominations and elections – no action.

D. Wedding Task Force – no action.

New Business:

A. Ellen Evensen was elected as the Council Vice President by unanimous consent.

B. Discussion regarding interim issues – Amy Henderson and Jeff Diehl presented separate written summaries of their discussion with Pastor Mike as well as Pastor Mike's written answers to transition questions. We will maintain the status quo for now regarding

pay, but the pastors will work out between themselves how to cover Thursdays. A Council TF was created for the purpose of exploring the interim process and to bring a recommendation back to the Council at their next meeting. The following information will be gathered: 1) Purpose of an interim Pastor 2) Expectations of an interim Pastor 3) Cost 4) Selection process 5) Benefits to FELC and 6) Time table for implementation. Dean Haas will lead the group with participating members Dong Pham and Amy Henderson. Peter Peregrine will also be invited to join the group.

C. "Next Steps" Letter to congregation – Mike Lokensgard drafted a letter to the congregation addressing questions related to Pastor Detweiler's resignation

and reviewing the next steps as established at the March special congregational meeting. After much discussion, Mike will revise the letter and send to council members for further comments. It was suggested that "Office Hours" need to be continued in order for members to express concerns and ask questions.

D. A motion was made and seconded to approve the following people as Trust Committee Members: Colny Gretzinger, Doug Hahn and Walt Rugland. Motion carried.

E. A motion was made and seconded to approve the attached Official Acts for March 2009. Motion carried.

Closing prayer: The Lord's Prayer.

Motion and second to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Submitted by: Amy Henderson,

Council minutes: May 19, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mike Lokensgard, Council President.

Present: John Zweig, Peter Peregrine, Mark Des Rochers, Ellen Evensen, Amy Henderson, Mike Lokensgard, Dana Olson, Steve Us-labar, Gordy Jeppson, Dong Pham, Dean Haas

Excused: Jeff Diehl, Dan Baumbach, Jeff Picken, Kathy Larson

Devotions and Opening Prayer: Martin Luther's Definition of Faith read by Mike Lokensgard.

Presentation of Interim Recommendations:

Dean Haas presented the Task Force findings and recommendation to hire an interim pastor from outside of FELC. He described the expectations (goals) of an Interim Pastor that were identified by the TF to

include:

- 1) Help FELC clarify its over-all vision.
- 2) Lead the congregation through the healing process after losing its lead Pastor.
- 3) Help FELC evaluate and determine the purpose of the North Site.
- 4) Help FELC understand what the majority of the members want in a lead Pastor.
- 5) Be on-site and accessible to the congregation 5 days a week.
- 6) Provide supervision and support for the existing Pastoral staff at FELC.

Dong Pham emphasized that in making this recommendation we will work with our current Pastors so that we can all be part of the solution.

Discussion and planning next steps:

Council members were given the opportunity to respond to the report and ask clarifying questions. Correspondence supporting the hiring of a full time interim pastor was received from each of the Council members not able to be present.

Some of the other needs identified include:

- Selecting an Interim Lead Pastor who has experience in a large church setting
- Interim Lead Pastor being a facilitator to help the Council, MTs and staff establish the needed organizational infrastructure before calling a new Pastor.

One benefit of deciding to hire an Interim Lead Pastor would be that future potential Lead Pastor candi-

Worship



Nursery Summer Schedule

During the summer worship schedule, May 24 to September 6, the nurseries at both sites will be open, but not staffed with an attendant.

As always, parents, you are encouraged to bring your children to worship. Even toddlers quickly learn words for the Lord's Prayer, find joy in the rhythm of hymns and smile to see familiar faces of friends who greet them at worship. A new children's bulletin for ages 3-6 and The Little Lutheran magazine will be available for families to use during worship. If you have questions or concerns please contact Anita Damon: 920-733-2303 adamon@felc.com or Jenell Barth: 920-882-7942 jbarth@felc.com. Thank you.

Summer Choir

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, and mark your calendars for Summer Choir in July. This intergenerational pick-up choir is open to everyone from the young to the young-at-heart. We'll rehearse at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, July 12 in the Downtown Site Choir Room and sing during the 8 a.m. Downtown Site worship service on Sunday, July 19. A sign-up sheet is located on the Downtown Site bulletin board, or contact Melissa Moll in

New paraments at FELC

Thanks to Karrie Aaseby for making and donating the new white paraments for the altar, pulpit and lectern at the Downtown Site.



May 19 minutes cont

dates would look favorably upon this decision and see this as a sign of strength.

Budgeting for an Interim Lead Pastor was discussed. Assuming a fall start date, the hiring of an interim LP should be "revenue neutral," although concerns regarding the level of 2009 giving remain and stewardship will be a continuing, major emphasis.

Although the Council is vested with the authority to make this decision, congregation members need to be frequently informed and updated about the process and decisions that are being made. We also need to create opportunities to obtain congregational input along the way.

At the next Council meeting, Tuesday, May 26th, a vote will be

taken on the Task Force recommendation. Bishop Justman will be invited to attend this meeting to provide more information on the interim/call process.

Closing prayer: The Lord's Prayer
Motion and second to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Submitted by: Amy Henderson, secretary

Anniversaries

- **Wayne and Sheila Luck** celebrate 25 years together on June 2.
- **Roger and Phyllis Anderson** celebrate 61 years together on June 5.
- **Milt and Helen Drier** celebrate 58 years together on June 9.
- **Gerald and Barbara Thiel** celebrate 55 years together on June 12.
- **Raymond and Muriel Tiedt** celebrate 61 years together on June 12.
- **Rick and Marion Gorges** celebrate 35 years together on June 15.
- **Jerold and Violet Havel** celebrate 50 years together on June 20.
- **Don and Jean Burmeister** celebrate 57 years together on June 21.
- **Bob and Anita Damon** celebrate 35 years together on June 22.
- **Jack and Cleo Thompson** celebrate 60 years together on June 25.
- **Jeffrey and Sharon Morgan** celebrate 35 years together on June 29.

Official acts: April '09

Weddings

- Laura Erickson and Michael Schabow
- Ali Hughes and Michael Stark
- Megan Streur and Kristian Ulness

Baptisms

- Cash Braun
- Allie Jaloszynski
- Belmar Owens
- Lane Clifford

Transfers

- Kira and Kendra Wuellner transferred to Faith Lutheran Church in Appleton, 4/14/2009 (Missouri Synod).
- Carol Sanders transferred to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Freemont, WI 4/14/2009 (ELCA).
- Sandra Paulus transferred to Christus Lutheran Church in Greenville, WI 4/17/2009 (ELCA).



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.

North Site

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

Service Times

Sundays: 9:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m. beginning June 10

July newsletter deadline:

All submissions due at noon, June 15, to felc@felc.com

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June 2009

Return Service Requested

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