

First English Lutheran Church
Wapakoneta, Ohio



Our December 2021 Newsletter

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
107 W. Mechanic Street, Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-3911 FAX: (419) 738-8893
Website: www.myfelc.org
E-Mail Address: wapakelc@bright.net

Meet our staff...

Pastor

Vicar Deb Monnin.....deb.monnin@myfelc.org 937-726-0579

Church Secretary

.....wapakelc@bright.net 419-738-3911

Financial Secretary

Georgeann Stienecker... ..nksoccer@nktelco.net..... 419-305-5066

Treasurer

Susan Millersugartime@bright.net..... 567-356-1844

Sunday School Superintendent

Niki Orenniki_oren@hotmail.com..... (567) 712-8674

Custodian

Diane Schlosser

Choir Directors

Susan Miller, Adultsugartime@bright.net..... 567-356-1844

Niki Oren, Youth & Bells.....niki_oren@hotmail.com..... 567-712-8674

Darla Frame, Bellsdarlaframe@gmail.com 419-234-3283

Jennie Grundey, Childrenjckline@bright.net..... 419-773-9113

Church Council

Chuck Currycurry074@umn.edu 763-312-9217

Rebecca Van Meterrgvanmeter@yahoo.com..... 419-230-4979

Denise Kantnerjadak@bright.net 419-738-8289

Cari Frame,cari_183@hotmail.com 419-230-9261

Jeff Ritchiejritchie002@woh.rr.com 419-296-3794

Eric Wisener.....e.wisener08@gmail.com..... 567-204-6617

Dave Clift.....right_guy12@hotmail.com 419-231-9800

Teresa Fishertatmfisher@bright.net..... 419-236-5628

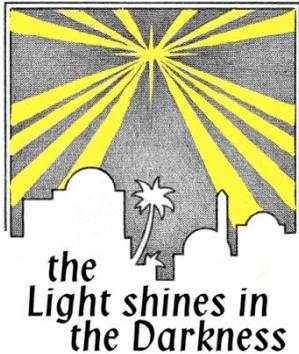
Brenda Shoffstall.....shoffstall08@yahoo.com..... 419-233-1956

Makayla Frame Youth Representative.....

Webmaster

Dave Currydlyc@bright.net 937-307-8596

A Message from Vicar Deb



What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. ... And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John 1:3b-5,14

Have you ever been in really dark darkness? Like when you played hide and seek as a kid and went into a really dark closet to hide? Or maybe when you woke up in the middle of the night and all the lights were out? Or maybe, maybe you were in a dark place in your life and nothing ever seemed to be easy or comfortable or even peaceful.

I've been in all those places. For some reason this is the one I remember the most: as a child I was most afraid when I thought I was left behind and would have to fend for myself without any help from parents or friends. Once when I was little, I became separated from Mom and Dad in a big store. I was going between them and got lost for probably only 5 minutes or so. It felt like a lifetime to a little girl and for a good while after that, I was afraid of being lost and alone. Mom and Dad assured me that they would never lose me, and I would always be loved and gave me big hugs. The light of my parent's love shone in my darkness.

There are still dark places and points in my life when I wonder if I'll ever see the light shining on me again, and you probably do too. Our world is full of hurts and pains and darkness. The last couple of years have been tough with all the pandemic has brought. Our loved ones have become sick, some have died, people have transitioned from one role to another, some have moved away, our family lives and dynamics can be hard and complicated, and you can probably name others.

When Jesus was born, there was darkness also. The Israelites were governed by the Romans and were not in control. They had to travel unexpectedly to the city of their ancestors and had to find places to stay so they could be registered. There was sickness and poverty and oppression. And yet, Jesus was born into this messiness. Jesus was born to a poor family who had no place to stay. Jesus was born and a great light shined in the darkness. Yes, there was a great star in the sky, and also there was a different kind of light, the light of Jesus who came into the world for you and for me. God came into the world as a poor humble human and brought light and love to us all. Jesus, the light of the world fills the dark corners of life then and now, bringing us hope. Hope for today and hope for tomorrow and hope for everlasting life. Jesus comes into our dark places and brings light, much better and warmer light than what comes out of your phone in the dark closet. Jesus, the light of the world does not take away the darkness, but he comes into it and the darkness does not overcome it and we have seen his glory, the glory of grace and truth.

Come Lord Jesus, Come. *Vicar Deb*

First English's Stewardship Corner:

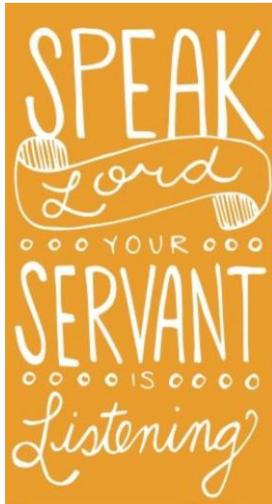
Where is the Holy Spirit working in our community?

Thank: Thank you for bringing gifts in for the angel tree. With your help we shined the light of Christmas onto four families this year.

Ask: How are you shining the light of Jesus this today? How is Jesus calling you?

Support: Consider sending a Christmas Card to someone who might need a light brought into their life this season.

Service: How might you reach out to those in the community who may need to hear a friendly voice, to receive a nice card, or who may need a helping hand?



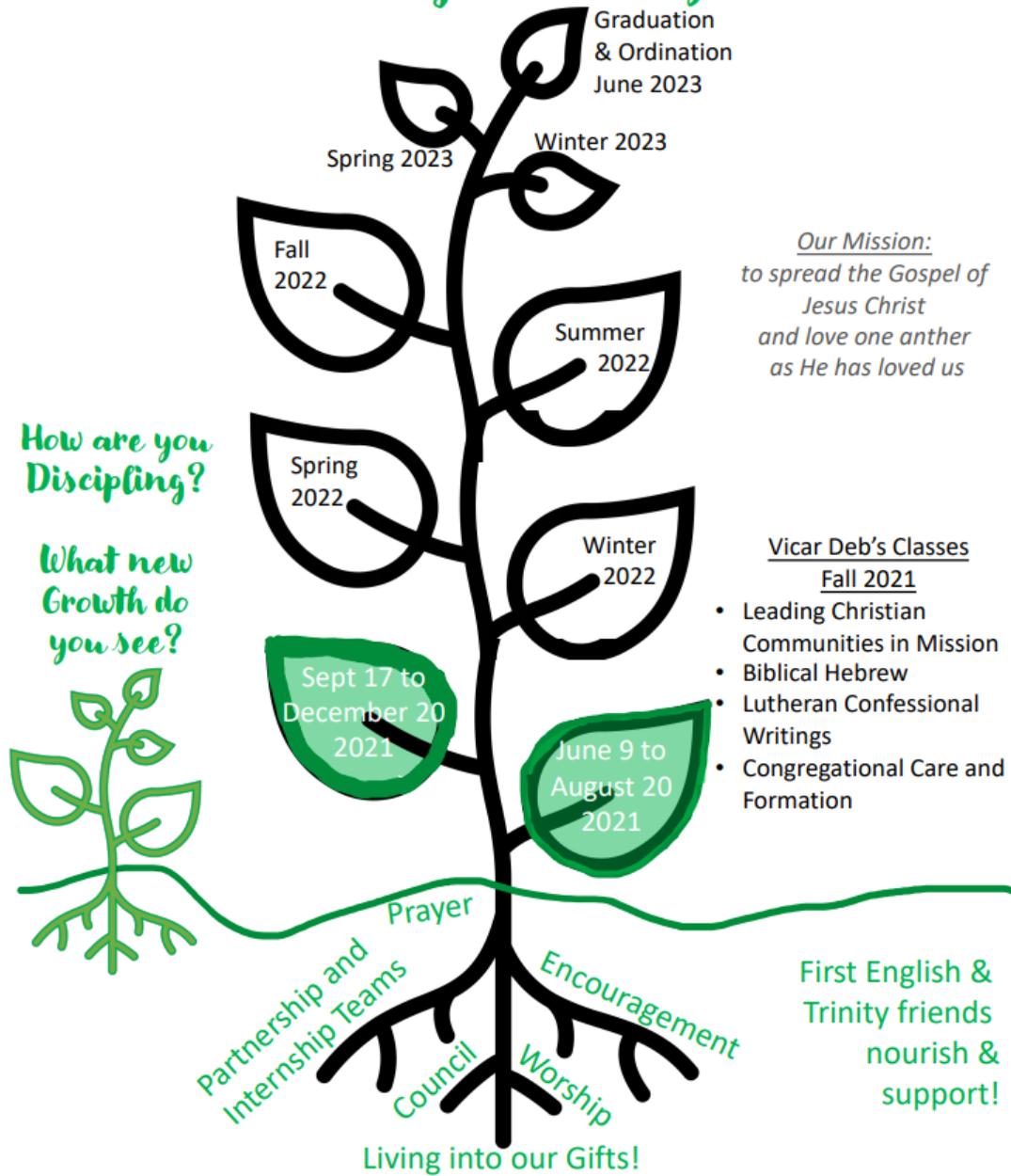
Prayer Practice: This month, when things are crazy and you need a moment of peace, light a candle and watch the flames. Feel Jesus love from the warmth of the candle. Let Jesus' light come over you and fill you. Sit in this love and warmth for a few minutes and just be. Empty your mind and still your limbs and imagine yourself wrapped in the warm blanket of Jesus love. Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

Vicar Deb's Seminary Experience:

Thank you all for supporting me and praying for me as I attend Seminary.

This term and specifically this week I've been spending a lot of time with Luther and the Formula of Concord along with the Apostles' Creed and Luther's explanations of them. We are struggling with free will... we don't have to do anything to earn Jesus' love, and so we are free. We are free to do what we want. Sometimes what we want separates us from God. Sometimes what we want keeps our eyes and hearts shut, and we miss what God is doing around us. Free will – a gift from God to love each other, to open ourselves up and to give ourselves to the other, and also a danger – that when we use it for our own desires and needs, we become separate from God. And so we all struggle with free will. The good news is that daily, when we become separate from God, the Holy Spirit calls us back through the gospel and through people like you who come into our lives to help us see God's love and light. Thank you Holy Spirit!

Growing Disciples of Jesus Christ & Supporting Vicar Deb through Seminary



How are you Discipling?

What new Growth do you see?

Our Mission:
to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and love one another as He has loved us

- Vicar Deb's Classes
Fall 2021
- Leading Christian Communities in Mission
 - Biblical Hebrew
 - Lutheran Confessional Writings
 - Congregational Care and Formation

First English & Trinity friends nourish & support!

Living into our Gifts!

FELC Committees, Chairpersons, Council Liaisons

Committee	Chairperson	Liaison
Building & Property	Brenda Shoffstall	Jeff Ritchie
Christian Education/Youth	Rebecca Van Meter	Rebecca Van Meter
Evangelism		Brenda Shoffstall
Finance		Cari Frame
Life & Fellowship	Brenda Shoffstall	Denise Kantner
Social Ministry	Niki Oren	Teresa Fisher
Staff Support	Jim Zwiebel	Chuck Curry
Stewardship		Dave Clift
Worship & Music	Darla Frame	Eric Wisener



2021 Noisy Offerings

Month	Recipient	Amount Collected
January	God's Storehouse	\$9.00
February	Kids Against Hunger	\$120.68
March	Wapak Loaves & Fishes	\$119.28
April	Mercy Unlimited	\$62.00
May	Auglaize Crisis Center	\$100.25
June	Family Life Center	\$209.75
July	Compassion International	\$111.11
August	Servant's Day	\$274.49
September	Angel Tree	\$109.79
	Servant's Day	\$17.00
October	Operation Shoebox	\$245.07
November	Wapak Loaves & Fishes	\$59.25
December	Auglaize County Council on Aging	

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>NWOS Benevolence</u>
11/07/2021	11	67	\$2,487.00	\$123.00
11/14/2021	9	78	\$4,989.62	\$268.00
11/21/2021	14	70	\$1,357.00	\$53.00
11/28/2021	9	82	\$1,917.00	\$25.00

Our Prayer Corner

Those who would love a visit or a card...

The Gardens	Sharon Meyer
The Manor:	Jim & Evelyn Reinhart
Otterbein at St. Marys:	Dorothy Dickman
At Home:	Corky Slife, Betty Hague, Dick Chenoweth

We especially remember in our prayers...

Rita Barrera, Calvin Binkley, David Blackburn, Makayla Brandyberry, Lori Campbell Sprague, Rochelle Clark, Cory Crawford, Mike Green, Bryan Katterhenry, Janelle Krites, Kenny Koch, Brenda Lippincott, Rex Lippincott, Dennis McCormick, Judy Metz, Peter & Villya Pleshko, Leeann Whetstone, Deanna Roberts, Julio Sanchez, Adam Schulze, Alex Shirey, and Seth Thuman.

We remember in our prayers...our military serving at home and abroad, under represented and oppressed people, EMTs, firefighters, police officers, healthcare workers, and our veterans.

We remember in our prayers...our college students: Amanda Bailey, Cameron Bowersock, Daniel Hunt, D.J. O'Neill, Lillian McPeek, Katie Ronan, and Haley Schattschneider.

If we are missing anyone in our prayer corner, please call or email the office and let us know. If there is anyone who wishes to be removed, please do the same.

Flowers and Candles

Altar Flowers for the month of December:

December 5 th	Chuck and Joy Kantner
December 12 th	--available--
December 19 th	Brenda Shoffstall
December 24 th	Christmas Poinsettias
December 26 th	The Van Meter Family

Altar Candles for the month of December:

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by Marsha Jackson.

Altar Flowers and Altar Candle Calendar

The 2022 Alter Flowers and Alter Candle sign-up calendar has been placed in the Mechanic St. entrance to the sanctuary. The date you want is probably available. Thank you in advance for volunteering!

Ministries in Action

	December 5 th	December 12 th	December 19 th	December 24 th	December 26 th
Acolytes (taper / crucifer)	Makenzie Schneider / Carly Craft	Matt Kline / Maeson Roode	Harrison Anderson / Grayce Swaney	TBD	TBD
Lector	Chris Nagel	Georgeann Stienecker	N/A	Chuck Curry	N/A
Ushers	Katie McCollough / Jim Zwiebel	Dave Krites / Brian Van Meter	Ken Frame / Jon Schmidt	Jim Kantner / Steve Stienecker	Clayton Fisher / Luke Kline
Worship Assistant	Susan Miller	Darla Frame	Makayla Frame	Georgeann Stienecker	Jon Schmidt
Musician	Karen Luginbuhl	Greg Tabler	Darla Frame	Darla Frame	Darla Frame
Preacher	Vicar Deb Monnin	Deacon Sherry Krieger	Vicar Deb Monnin	Vicar Deb Monnin	N/A
Nursery	Volunteer Needed	Roseann Whetstone	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild for December: Brenda Shoffstall and Darla Frame

Fellowship Cleanup for December: Brenda Shoffstall and Darla Frame

Thank You FELC

On behalf of the Miracle Meal Board and all participants of the Miracle Meal, we would like to thank you for your generous contribution toward our annual meal.

We could not continue this worthwhile event without the support of you and others in this community. Your concern, demonstrated by your gift, touches lives and will bless many families during this Christmas season with delicious food, door prizes, gifts for the children attending and the message of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,
Rollie Kent. President Miracle Meal Inc.

Dear friends at First English,

We hold the conversations, games, peaceful moments, laughter, hikes, worship, and time with family and friends at camp as gifts of God's bounty. Thank you for supporting this ministry with your gifts and prayers. Thank you!

From you friends at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio
Camp Luther, Lutheran Memorial Camp, and LOMO Outreach

FELC Family,

Thank you so much for the Amazon gift card. I appreciate all of the support I have received from the church. I definitely will put the gift card to good use. Thanks again!

Love,
Kaitlynne (Ronan)

Dear Friends at First English,

Thank you for your donation. We love that you think about us and offer your generosity to the women and children that we serve.

Auglaize County Crisis Center

The Word of God

These are the lessons and gospel readings for the next two months. We provide them for you...to read at your leisure, to prepare your hearts for worship, to study the Word of God throughout the coming weeks. If you are unable to be in church, to worship with us, please know that you remain in the hearts and the prayers of God's people at First English Lutheran Church.

Sunday/ Holiday	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel Reading
December 5 th	Malachi 3:1-4	Luke 1:68-79	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
December 12 th	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Isaiah 12:2-6	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
December 19 th	Micah 5:2-5a	Luke 1:46b-55	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]
December 24 th	Isaiah 9:2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]
December 26 th	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26	Psalm 148	Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52
January 2 nd	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Psalm 147:12-20	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1: [1-9] 10-18
January 9 th	Isaiah 43:1-7	Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3: 15-17,21-22
January 16 th	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
January 23 rd	Nehemiah 8: 1-3,5-6,8-10	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
January 30 th	Jeremiah 1: 4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30

Announcements from Council

Council met on Sunday, November 14th to discuss the 2022 Budget prepared by the Finance Committee and to finalize the slate of candidates to fill upcoming vacancies on Church Council. Council would like to make the following announcements:

- Council has approved the transfer of membership of Jonathon Michael Schmidt to First English Lutheran Church of Wapakoneta OH from St. Rose Catholic Church in Lima, OH. We look forward to formally welcoming Jonathon into the FELC family during worship on December 5th.
- A Congregational Meeting will be held on December 5th, 2021 immediately following worship for the purpose of electing new members to the Congregational Council and approving the 2022 Budget.
- Thank you to Brenda Shoffstall and Denise Kantner for serving on the Nominating Committee for Church Council! The Nominating Committee put forth, and Council has approved, the following slate of candidates to fill upcoming vacancies on Church Council for terms starting January 1st, 2022:
 - Dave Clift 3 year term (1st full term)
 - Chuck Curry 3 year term (2nd full term)
 - Jon Schmidt 3 year term (1st full term)
 - Teresa Fisher 2 year term
 - Brenda Shoffstall 2 year term
 - Georgeann Stienecker 2 year term

This slate of candidates will be presented for congregational approval at the congregational meeting scheduled for December 5th.

- Church Council has also chosen to nominate Luke Kline to serve as this bodies' Youth Representative to Congregational Council for 2022. Thank you Luke for your willingness to serve in this role!
- Council reviewed the 2022 Draft Budget as presented by the Finance Committee. Council made two amendments to the proposed budget:
 - Council adjusted Vicar Deb Monnin's recommended salary to reflect her year of experience at FELC. This change means that Vicar Deb's base salary will be based on the Synod recommended salary of a pastor with one year of experience. Presumably, Vicar Deb's salary in 2023 will reflect two years of experience, 2024 will reflect 3 years of experience, and so on.

- Church Council added the position of Music Director with a base salary of \$1,350 to the Staff Compensation section of the 2022 Draft Budget. This position was added to reflect the work that Darla Frame does to select hymns for all worship and special services, as well as the work of scheduling and coordinating musicians to play for our worship services.

The 2022 Draft Budget, so amended, will be presented at the Congregational Meeting on December 5th.

- Deacon Sherry Krieger, Director of Leadership Development for Congregational Care at the Northwest Ohio Synod will be visiting FELC on Sunday, December 12th and will be providing the message during worship. Deacon Krieger will also be participating in a townhall style meeting following worship to answer questions from our congregation members. More information about Deacon Krieger's position and areas of expertise appear in the short article below.

Next Council Meeting: December 12th, 2021 after worship and the townhall meeting.

Deacon Sherry Krieger to visit FELC on December 12th

Deacon Sherry Krieger is the Director of Leadership Development for Congregational Care at the Northwest Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Sherry reports directly to Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and primarily works with congregations that are in periods of transition or conflict. In her role, Sherry collaborates with Call Facilitators and Interim Pastors to provide leadership for churches at various stages in the Synod's Call process. Additionally, Sherry consults with congregational leaders and leverages Synod resources to develop and equip lay and rostered church leaders to face the challenges and threats to being the Church in our modern society. Some of these threats include the shortage of rostered clergy, declining membership and attendance, declining engagement, unhealthy habits of the church, and managing and resisting change.

The Challenges

Deacon Krieger and the Northwest Ohio Synod recognize that our congregations face numerous challenges today. One of those challenges is the present shortage of available pastors and the resulting increase in the duration of the call process. The Synod recognizes that this shortage exists and understands it as the result of at least two major factors; first, fewer persons of faith are choosing to answer the call to pastoral leadership and attend seminaries; and second, pastors are leaving the profession at an increasing rate. Within each of these major factors are numerous contributing factors such as student loan debt, pay, pastor retirements, congregational dynamics, pastor

burnout, etc. that Deacon Krieger is quite knowledgeable on and would be happy to speak more about during her visit.

Deacon Krieger is also able to speak to many other challenges and concerns and struggles of the church such as declining and aging membership, reduced giving, the pandemic, church activities beyond Sunday worship, community engagement, and many many others. Deacon Krieger is excited to hear about your hopes and fears for First English and to share her knowledge and expertise on these matters.

The Hope

The Synod has many resources to help First English and other churches with tools and ideas on how to listen for God as the people of First English and identify where God is leading us. Through these resources, with God in the midst of us, we can address our challenges and fears and to turn our nervousness about the future into excitement. Deacon Krieger looks forward to discussing some of the tools and resources available to FELC, but please know that there are no quick fixes or magic bullets available. For instance, one of the solutions to the shortage of pastors has been to raise up lay leaders and Synodically Authorized Ministers (SAMs) to take on pastoral responsibilities in our churches. This Synod is providing the training and guidance, but the congregations are providing the people, the patience, and much of the support needed to make these individuals successful.

Final Thoughts

Our Synod and its wonderful staff is not responsible for solving a church's problems for them, but does equip and educate and collaborate with its member churches to bring about meaningful solutions and improvements. It is our responsibility to communicate to the Synod what those challenges and concerns are at FELC. Deacon Sherry Krieger's visit is an opportunity for you to do just that, so I sincerely hope that you will all attend the townhall meeting on December 12th following worship and be willing to discuss your hopes and fears and hurts concerning our church and our Synod.

Sincerely,
Chuck Curry
FELC Council president

FELC News and Events...

Personal contact information...if there has been a change in your family's contact information, please contact the church office by email at wapakelc@bright.net or by calling the office at 419-738-3911.

Education/Worship Schedule:

9:00 a.m.	Youth Sunday School Adult Class in person and via Zoom (if requested)
10:00 a.m.	Worship in person and online www.myfelc.org

Adult Sunday School is meeting in the parlor at 9:00am on Sunday mornings. We would love for everyone to join our discussion and fellowship. Please contact Rebecca Van Meter if you are interested in joining us via Zoom or Facetime. All are welcome!

Confirmation Class: During Advent our confirmation class will be helping to lead Advent worship. We are featuring Psalms this year and the youth are writing psalms and prayers to share. We thank God for the energy and talent of our youth! Please join us online or in worship at 7 on Wednesday, December 1st, 8th and 15th. Confirmation class will be held at Trinity Lutheran in Moulton beginning in January. See Vicar Deb if you'd like to carpool or if you need a ride.

Men's Night Out Men's Night will be held on Thursday, December 9th, at 6:00pm at TBD.

Angel Tree Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Angel Tree ministry this year! Without your generous support, these families would not receive Christmas gifts. There are still several opportunities to participate, so please prayerfully consider spreading a little Christmas cheer and supporting these families in need. If you would like to provide a monetary donation instead of purchasing a gift, donations will be accepted at the church office or can be placed in the mail or left in the lock box outside of the choir room. Please ensure that your donation clearly indicates your desire to support the Angel Tree ministry. If you have any questions, please reach out to Teresa Fisher at 419-236-5628.

Please bring unwrapped gifts for the Angel Tree to church by **Sunday, December 12th**.

Organist/Pianist Needed We are looking for a person to lead our music once a month or every Sunday. Do you know of someone who would like to play for us? Please have interested individuals contact the church office 419-738-3911.

Noisy Offering for the month of December: Auglaize County Council on Aging

Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted during the entire month.

Greeters Needed This holiday season, we would like to return to the practice of posting greeters at the entrance to Melching Hall. Sign up sheets will be placed in the hallway between the sanctuary and Melching Hall.

Staffed Nursery Volunteers Needed Sign-up sheets to volunteer in the nursery during worship services have been placed in the hallway between the sanctuary and Melching Hall.

Annual Congregational Meeting December 5th The annual congregational meeting to approve the 2022 Budget and elect Congregational Council members will be held on December 5th immediately following worship. Meeting packets were mailed or emailed out this past week. Extra copies are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Christmas Caroling December 5th FELC will be caroling on December 5th. We will be meeting at the church at 5:30pm to make a joyful noise and spread some Christmas cheer to our members.

Wapak Community Drive-Thru Nativity FELC is participating in the Wapak Community Drive-Thru Nativity with several local churches again this year. The Drive-Thru Nativity will be held on Saturday, December 11th from 6pm to 8pm and will start at The Wapak Church on 14871 Fox Ranch Road. Our scene is *Hope in Jesus's Baptism* and will portray to the Baptism of our Lord by John the Baptist. If you are interested in helping us bring this scene to life, please reach out to Vicar Deb.

Wapak Loaves & Fishes is in immediate need for volunteer(s) to help make home deliveries on Thursdays. Beginning December 16th, *Loaves* needs one or more volunteers on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month to deliver meals to people in Wapakoneta who are unable to pick up meals at FELC. The meals are usually picked up in the alley south of (behind) First English around 4:00pm and then delivered to about 15 residences. Delivering the meals would take one volunteer or volunteer team approximately one hour and 15 minutes to complete. The time commitment could be reduced if additional volunteers step forward and the route is able to be divided between multiple volunteers or volunteer teams. Please contact Connie Krites or Brenda Shoffstall if you are interested in this opportunity to spread love to your neighbors.

****Please note that Loaves and Fishes is not serving meals on Thursday December 23rd, December 30th, or January 6th.**

Wapak Loaves & Fishes Meals need to be reserved by calling 567-204-6708 and can be picked up in the alley behind the Fellowship Hall from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Please remain in your vehicle and the meals will be brought to you.

Alzheimer Association Caregiver Support Group in Auglaize County Every second Monday of the month, from 7pm-8pm, the Alzheimer Association of Northwest Ohio presents a facilitated caregiver support group at New Vision Nursing and Home Care, located at 310 Perry St. in Wapakoneta. Participants must register prior to participating in these meetings. Registration can be completed by calling 800-272-3900. For more information about this and other resources for coping with Alzheimer's and dementia, visit alz.org/nwohio

Wednesday prayer You are welcome to join us as we pray together on Wednesdays. Pastor Melodi and others pray at Trinity, Moulton at noon and Vicar Deb will be praying at First English at 5:00pm on Wednesdays. We typically meet in the parlor for 45 min to an hour and share our Highs, Lows, and God moments and then we pray together. Please come and pray with us! Come when you can – every week or once a month or just when you can.

Please Pray For & Consider donating to those in need: We pray for people around the world suffering from the effects of natural disasters and political unrest. Please prayerfully consider contributing to the *ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response* to support global efforts to aid those in need.

Prayer Warriors Thank you for participating in Prayer Warriors! As you have probably heard, the youth of First English Lutheran Church have initiated a prayer journey with God called Prayer Warriors. Prayer Warriors pray for and uplift each other by spending time in prayer every day praying for their fellow Warrior and occasionally sending them little gifts or notes of encouragement. If you missed out on signing up to be a Prayer Warrior this time around, do not despair, there will be another opportunity in to sign up at the beginning of 2022.

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to me about it, I would love to talk about this mission to reunite our church. Please support us and pray always! Bailey Van Meter baileyvanmeter@icloud.com 419.905.8284.

Christmas Eve Worship Service We will be celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ on December 24. Please join us! We are planning on beginning with Prelude Music at 8:30 and worship will begin at 9 pm.

Christmas Eve Special Music Do you like to sing or play an instrument? We would love to include your solo, duet, ensemble or choir on Christmas Eve. If you would like to sing or play an instrument and need an accompanist, we will help with that also. Please prayerfully consider sharing your talents on Christmas Eve and see Darla Frame or Susan Miller if you have a musical piece to share.

The Worship and Music Committee is asking for help in providing special music for our Sunday worship services. This can be either instrumental or vocal and can be with recorded accompaniment. If you or someone in your family (age doesn't matter) would like to help with this please contact Susan Miller to schedule a Sunday when you can provide special music. Susan can be reached by phone at 567-356-1844 or email at sugartime@bright.net. We all look forward to hearing you share your talents in praise of our Lord.

Quilting Group meets on third Wednesday of the month, from 10am-12noon in the parlor. If you would like to join this group or have questions, please contact Darla Frame.

Miracle Meal has scheduled a drive thru food distribution event on December 13th from 5-7pm at the Auglaize County Fairgrounds. Children ages 0-17 will receive a gift if they are present and registered. To register, please call 419-738-2764 by December 10th.

January Newsletter deadline is December 23rd, 2021. Please have everything submitted to the office by email, wapakelc@bright.net. Thank you in advance!

Youth Christmas Play December 19th Please join us in worship on Sunday, December 19th at 10 AM when our young people will be sharing with us the Christmas story. Please also join us for brunch with Santa after worship in the fellowship hall.

Blue Christmas, Wednesday, December 22nd at 6:30 PM The Blue Christmas worship service is a time when we can, with others, acknowledge the "blue" feelings we have at Christmas time, the reasons for them, and offer them to God. This time has been called the "long dark night of the soul" and "the winter of our discontent" in which memories of past experiences and the pain of present experiences can become overwhelming. We pray that you will find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone. Please Join us.

Lessons and Carols, Sunday, December 26th We will continue our tradition of having a service of Lessons and Carols the Sunday after Christmas. Please join us as we worship with our favorite carols and readings.

~ December 2021 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Noon Prayer @TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm 1 Advent Service	2 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	3 7:30pm N/A Hometown Holiday Setup- Fellowship Hall (All Day)	4 Hometown Holiday- Fellowship Hall (7am-12pm) Private Event (2pm-8pm)
5 2 ADVENT 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00 am Worship Service Vicar Deb Monnin 5:30pm Caroling	6 7:00pm OA	7	8 Noon Prayer @TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm 2 Advent Service 7:30pm Ladies Choir	9 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 6:00pm Men's Night Location TBD	10 7:30pm N/A	11 Wapak Community Drive-Thru Nativity 6-8pm -starts at The Wapak Church
12 3 ADVENT 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00am Worship Service Deacon Sherry Krieger 11:15 Townhall w/Deacon 11:45 Council Meeting	13 Miracle Meal Drive Thru 5pm-7pm 7:00pm OA	14	15 10am Quilting Noon Prayer @TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm 3 Advent Service	16 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	17 7:30pm N/A	18
19 4 ADVENT 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00am Worship Service Youth Christmas Play Brunch with Santa following worship	20 7:00pm OA	21	22 12pm Prayer at TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:30pm Blue Christmas Worship Service 7:30pm Ladies Choir	23	24 7:30pm N/A Christmas Eve 8:30pm Music 9:00pm Worship Vicar Deb	25 Christmas Day
26 1 CHRISTMAS 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00am Worship Service Lessons and Carols (no communion)	27 7:00pm OA	28	29 12pm Prayer at TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC	30	31 7:30pm N/A	1

~ January 2021 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 2 Christmas 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00 am Worship Service Chuck Curry (no communion)	3 7:00pm OA	4	5 Noon Prayer @TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:30pm Confirmation at Trinity	6	7 Youth Quake 7:30pm N/A	8 Youth Quake
9 Youth Quake Baptism of our Lord 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00 am Worship Service Pastor Doug Meyer	10 7:00pm OA	11	12 Noon Prayer @TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:30pm Confirmation at Trinity 7:30pm Ladies' Choir	13 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes Men's Night Location TBD	14 7:30pm N/A	15
16 2 Epiphany 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00 am Worship Service Vicar Deb Monnin	17 7:00pm OA	18 6:30pm Ladies' Night Location TBD	19 10am Quilting 12pm Prayer at TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:30pm Confirmation at Trinity	20 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	21 7:30pm N/A	22
23 3 Epiphany 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00 am Worship Service Vicar Deb Monnin	24 7:00pm OA	25	26 12pm Prayer at TM 5:00pm Prayer at FELC 6:30pm Confirmation with youth and adult at First English	27 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	28 7:30pm N/A	29
30 4 Epiphany 9:00am Adult & Youth Sun Sch 10:00 am Worship Service Vicar Deb Monnin	31					

