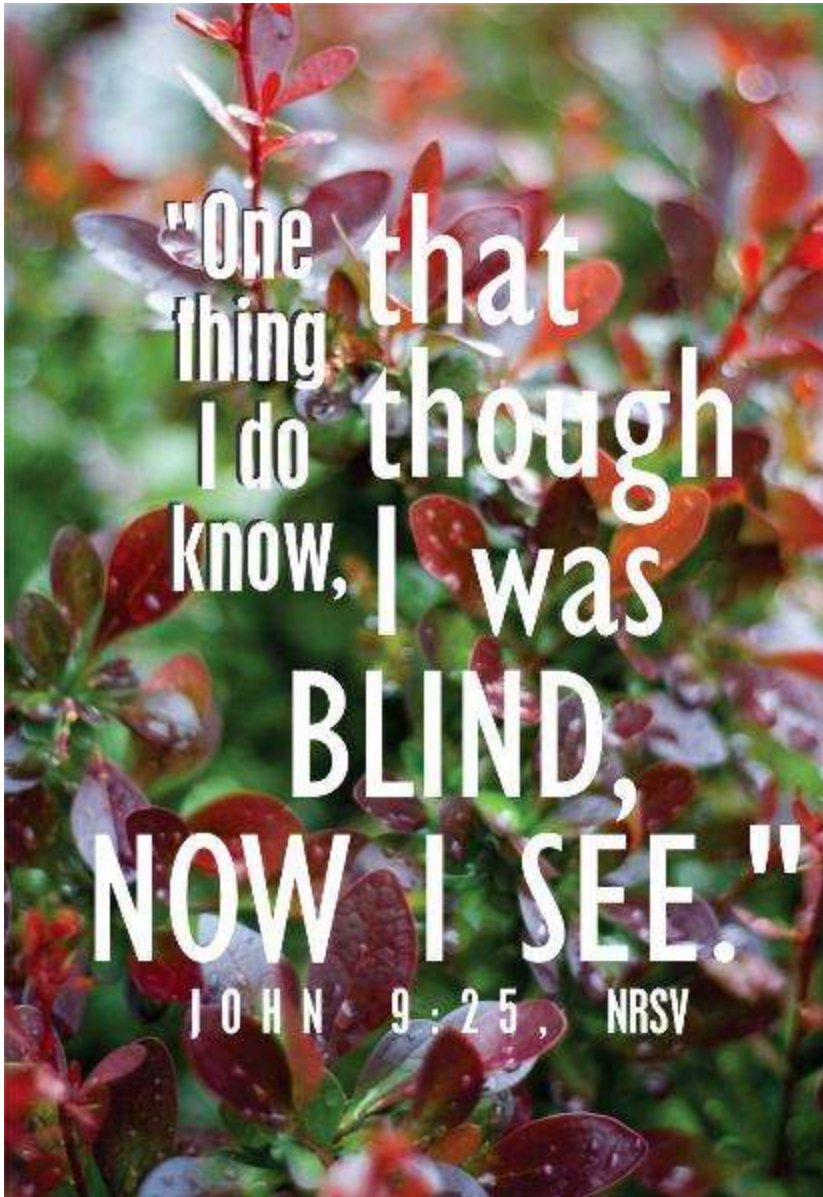


FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Wapakoneta, Ohio



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent  
March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Your presence today makes us more complete.  
Thank you for being here and worshipping with us.

We welcome you to our table for Holy Communion.  
We invite all baptized Christians who believe that Christ is truly present  
in the meal to join us.

Children of all ages are welcome and are encouraged to participate in worship.

### Worship Leaders & Assistants

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by Brenda Shoffstall.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by the people of God.

### MINISTERS for this Sunday

|                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Audio/Visual .....       | Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie     |
| Acolyte .....            | Doris Fisher                  |
| Lector .....             | Marsha Jackson                |
| Psalm Singers .....      | Darla Frame & Melanie Yocum   |
| Ushers .....             | Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter |
| Worship Assistant .....  | Deanna Ronan                  |
| Musician .....           | Greg Tabler                   |
| Preacher .....           | Vicar Deb Monnin              |
| Greeter .....            |                               |
| Altar Guild .....        | Marsha Jackson & Char Curry   |
| Fellowship Cleanup ..... | Marsha Jackson & Char Curry   |

This worship service is live streamed and recorded and  
is published on YouTube and Facebook.

\* Please rise if able.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

### \*CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess to you our faults and failings.**

**Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;**

**we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;**

**we spoil rather than steward your creation;**

**we cause hurt though you call us to heal;**

**we choose fear over compassion.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power. **Amen.**

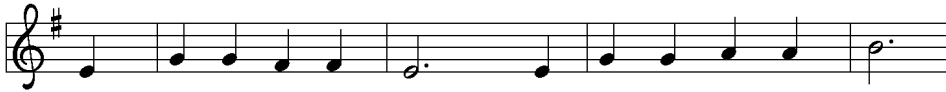
### \* GATHERING SONG

*God, Whose Almighty Word (ELW 673)*

### \* GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## \* KYRIE (ELW p. 203)



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## \* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## YOUTH CHOIR

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rebecca Van Meter

### Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

*A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup>He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as

mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”<sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.”<sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.”<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 23 (During Lent the Psalm will be Canted/Sung)**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD<sup>l</sup> is my shepherd;

I shall not<sup>l</sup> be in want.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down<sup>l</sup> in green pastures  
and leads me be-<sup>l</sup>side still waters.

<sup>3</sup>You restore my<sup>l</sup> soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways<sup>l</sup> for your name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall<sup>l</sup> fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they<sup>l</sup> comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence<sup>l</sup> of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is<sup>l</sup> running over.

<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days<sup>l</sup> of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the<sup>l</sup> LORD forever.

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14**

*A reading from Ephesians.*

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—

<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out

what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but

instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do

secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that

becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

\* **GOSPEL: John 9:1-41**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will

speaking for himself.”<sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.<sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.”<sup>25</sup> He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”<sup>26</sup> They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”<sup>27</sup> He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”<sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”<sup>30</sup> The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.<sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.<sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.<sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”<sup>34</sup> They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”<sup>36</sup> He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”<sup>38</sup> He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.”<sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”<sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

Vicar Deb Monnin

### \* HYMN OF THE DAY

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (ELW 779)*

### \* THE APOSTLES' CREED

Let us profess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### **\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*After each petition the responses are....* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*After the final petition we will close our prayer with...*

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

#### **\* PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please take a moment to share the Lord's peace and grace with one another.*

#### **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### **\* TITHES AND OFFERING**

During this time we would like to thank you for the work you have been doing, for the support and care that you provide and for the gifts that you share.

*The offering baskets are located by the bulletins.*

*You may drop your offering in the basket before or after worship.*



**\* OFFERING HYMN**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.  
**Amen.**

**\* GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

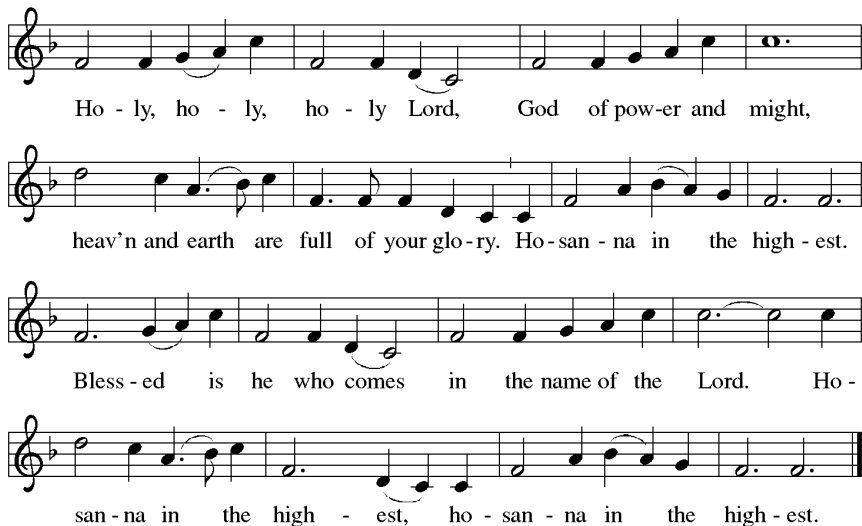
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\* THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**\* LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness

### **COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 208)**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

### **SONGS DURING COMMUNION**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ELW 502)*

*Be Thou My Vision (ELW 793)*

*O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate (ELW 722)*

### **\* AS WE ARE BLESSED**

Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and always. **Amen.**

### **\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **\* BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen**

**\* SENDING SONG**

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory (ELW 324)*

**POSTLUDE**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MINISTERS for next Sunday**

|                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Audio/Visual .....       | Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie   |
| Acolyte .....            | Makenzie Schneider          |
| Lector .....             | Char Curry                  |
| Psalm Singers .....      | Darla Frame & Doris Fisher  |
| Ushers .....             | Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt     |
| Worship Assistant .....  | Char Curry                  |
| Musician .....           | Darla Frame                 |
| Preacher .....           | Pastor Melodi Hagen         |
| Greeter .....            |                             |
| Altar Guild .....        | Marsha Jackson & Char Curry |
| Fellowship Cleanup ..... | Marsha Jackson & Char Curry |

**WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS**

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Views</u> | <u>Attendance</u> | <u>Current Giving</u> | <u>NWOS Benevolence</u> |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 02/05/2023  | 24           | 75                | \$4,217.00            | \$108.00                |
| 02/12/2023  | 21           | 90                | \$2,474.00            | \$208.00                |
| 02/19/2023  | 20           | 67                | \$1,869.00            | \$0.00                  |
| 02/26/2023  | 12           | 79                | \$1,654.00            | \$75.00                 |
| 03/05/2023  | 20           | 107               | \$14,282.30           | \$141.00                |

2023 current budgeted expenses are \$210,480.66, or \$4,047.71 per week.

FELC can now accept online donations through the church website thanks to our partnership with Tithe.ly online giving. Just visit myfelc.org or scan the QR code to the right. From the church website click on the green GIVE button and follow the prompts. Thank you for your support!



|                           |                              |                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>February Snapshot:</b> | Current Fund Giving          | \$10,214.00        |
|                           | <u>Current Fund Expenses</u> | <u>\$10,657.34</u> |
|                           | February Balance             | (\$443.34)         |

## OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

|                           |                                       |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Auglaize Acres            | Dennis McCormick                      |
| The Manor                 | Jim Reinhart                          |
| Otterbein at Cridersville | Sharon Billiter, Rex Lippincott       |
| Otterbein at St. Marys    | Dorothy Dickman                       |
| The Gardens               | Betty Hague, Betty Lietz, Dale Thomas |

### ***We especially remember in our prayers...***

Tracy Anderson, Brianna Bertke, Don Cole, Dominic Cousins, Jacob Cox, Paul Crossley, Donna Stowell Dague, Janice Etkorn, Connie Kantner, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Rex Lippincott, Lynne Loebach, Sasha Maslov, Dennis McCormick, Cathy & Desmond Miller, Nici Rapp, Sue Schoonover, Pam Schulz, Adam Schulze, Alex Shirey, Seth Thuman, Dale & Mary Ann Thomas, Chaz & Tracy Williams, Hannah Wood, and Angela.

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 student: Amanda Bailey

*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.*

### ***What's Happening at First English....***

**Sunday School** We will not be having youth Sunday School for the next three weeks. Normal Sunday School will resume on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, as follows:

Preschool-elementary Sunday School is held in the large Sunday School room at 9:15am & following Sunday worship. Youth choir practice begins at 9:45am. Middle school-high school youth meet in the basement from 9:15-9:45am. See you then!

**Wednesday Prayer Groups** 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. You don't have to attend every week! Come and pray with us as you can.

### **Noisy Offering for the month of MARCH: Turkey Disaster Relief**

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

**Noon Lenten Services** The Wapakoneta Area Ministerial Association annual Wednesday Noon Lenten Services will be held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, West Pearl Street. The theme for the 2023 services is "Lord, Teach Us to Pray." Every Wednesday the host minister/church will focus on a different form of communicating with God. The Lenten services are free and open to the public. Following the thirty-minute services, attendees are invited to enjoy lunch in the Parish Life Center. Services start on Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and continue through March.

**Wednesday Night Lenten Services** will be held this year at First English on every Wednesday in March at 7 pm. This year our theme is: *Open my life, Lord*. Join us as we invite God to Open our eyes, hands, ears, heart, and life to God's guidance.

**Alive Music Festival** The high school youth group (current 8th-12th graders) will be attending the Alive Music Festival in Mineral City, Ohio. We will be leaving July 12th and returning very late on July 15th. If you are interested in attending, please talk to Rebecca.

**Summer Camp** Please consider sending your child(ren) to HopeWood Camp this summer. HopeWood, formerly Lutheran Memorial Camp, is one of the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry in Ohio (LOMO) camps. Camp Mowana was also a part of the LOMO camps. There are many weeks to choose from. This is a great opportunity to grow your child's faith in an amazing setting. FELC has always strongly supported our youth attending LOMO camps. FELC will pay the majority of our active youth to attend camp, leaving you to pay just \$100 for your first child attending, and just \$50 for each youth after that. Please let Rebecca know if you are registering your child for camp.

**Hygiene Kits Service Project** The Youth of First English are asking for your help with a service project. They would like to package hygiene kits for the housing insecure individuals at **Lutheran Social Services' Faith Mission** in Columbus. The kits consist of basic hygiene items such as body wash and deodorant and toothpaste (a complete list can be found on the posters and flyers around the church). The Youth are asking the congregation of First English to donate the personal hygiene items needed to build these kits. Donated items may be placed in the large shopping cart in the Melching Hall lobby. The kits will be assembled by our youth and delivered to the LSS Faith Mission in April.

Please do not feel like you need to donate a complete kit, any and all donations of the requested hygiene items will be accepted and appreciated.

**Easter Carry-in Meal, Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>** The Fellowship Committee is hosting an Easter carry-in meal following the Palm Sunday worship service. Fellowship is providing the meat. Participants are asked to please bring a side dish or dessert to share. There will also be an Easter Egg hunt for youth ages 1-5 and 6-10. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the sign-up sheets that will be passed during worship or email the church office at [felc\\_office@myfelc.org](mailto:felc_office@myfelc.org).

**Easter Flowers** We are partnering with Haehn's Florist again this year to provide flowers to decorate the altar for our Easter worship service. If you are interested in purchasing a potted tulip, lily or daffodil in honor or memory of someone, the order forms are located next to the church bulletins at the back of the sanctuary and chapel. They are also available from the church office. Each potted flower costs \$13.

Completed order forms and payments can be placed into an envelope and turned into Georgeann Steinecker or the church office. The orders must be received on or before March 19<sup>th</sup>. The flowers can be picked up after worship on Easter Sunday.

### **FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events**

|                                   |            |   |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---|
| Sunday, March 12 <sup>th</sup>    | 10:00 a.m. | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b><br>Worship-Vicar Deb Monnin                |
| Monday March 13 <sup>th</sup>     | 7:00 p.m.  | Adult Book Study  |
| Wednesday, March 15 <sup>th</sup> | 10:00 a.m. | Quilting  |
|                                   | 12:00 p.m. | Prayer at Trinity   |
|                                   | 5:00 p.m.  | Noon Lenten Worship @ St. Joe<br>Prayer in the parlor<br>Girl Scouts (Basement) |
|                                   | 6:00 p.m.  | Bell Choir  |
|                                   | 7:00 p.m.  | Lenten Worship @ First English  |
|                                   | 7:30 p.m.  | Ladies' Choir   |
| Thursday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>  | 4:30 p.m.  | Loaves & Fishes Community Meal  |
| Sunday, March 19 <sup>th</sup>    | 10:00 a.m. | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b><br>Worship-Pastor Melodi Hagen             |
| <b>-Easter Flower Orders Due-</b> |            |   |
| Monday, March 20 <sup>th</sup>    | 7:00 p.m.  | Adult Book Study  |
| Wednesday, March 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 12:00 p.m. | Prayer at Trinity   |
|                                   | 5:00 p.m.  | Noon Lenten Worship @ St. Joe<br>Prayer in Parlor                               |
|                                   | 5:00 p.m.  | Girl Scouts (Basement)  |
|                                   | 7:00 p.m.  | Lenten Worship @ FELC   |
| Thursday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup>  | 4:30 p.m.  | Loaves & Fishes Community Meal  |

## **First English Lutheran Church**

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)  
107 W. Mechanic Street, Wapakoneta, OH 45895  
(419) 738-3911 [www.myfelc.org](http://www.myfelc.org)  
Church email: [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net)  
Office Hours: 11:00am – 1:00pm

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of First English Lutheran Church is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to love one another as He loves us.

### **Sunday Schedule**

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
9:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Youth Sunday School  
9:45 Youth Choir  
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

### **Church Staff & Volunteers**

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Pastor                           | Vicar Deb Monnin, <a href="mailto:deb.monnin@myfelc.org">deb.monnin@myfelc.org</a> ; 937-726-0579   |
| Office Administrator             | Chuck Curry   |
| Christian Ed &<br>Youth Director | Rebecca Van Meter   |
| Bookkeeper                       | Chad Sterner  |
| Financial Secretary              | Georgeann Stienecker; <a href="mailto:nksoccer@nktelco.net">nksoccer@nktelco.net</a>  |
| Music Director                   | Darla Frame   |
| Audio-Technology                 | Dave Curry; <a href="mailto:dscy@bright.net">dscy@bright.net</a> ; 937-307-8596<br>Jeff Ritchie; <a href="mailto:jritchie002@woh.rr.com">jritchie002@woh.rr.com</a> ; 419-296-3794<br>Noah Kirby; <a href="mailto:noah.w.kirby@gmail.com">noah.w.kirby@gmail.com</a> ; 419-905-8243 |

### **Church Council**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| President       | Brenda Shoffstall, <a href="mailto:shoffstall08@yahoo.com">shoffstall08@yahoo.com</a> , 419-233-1956 |
| Vice Pres.      | Teresa Fisher  |
| Secretary       | Dave Clift   |
| Treasurer       | Georgeann Stienecker   |
| Council Members | Rebecca Van Meter, Jeff Ritchie, Denise Kantner,<br>Jon Schmidt, Darla Frame                         |