

**First English Lutheran Church**  
Wapakoneta, Ohio



**O GIVE THANKS  
UNTO THE LORD,**  

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**F O R H E I S G O O D.**

Our October 2023 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](http://www.myfelc.org) E-Mail Address: [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net)

## Meet our staff...

### Office Administrator

Chuck Curry ..... [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net) ..... 419-738-3911

### Bookkeeper

Anderson Accounting ..... [felc.finance@myfelc.org](mailto:felc.finance@myfelc.org) ..... 419-738-3911

### Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Georgeann Stienecker... ..... [nksoccer@nktelco.net](mailto:nksoccer@nktelco.net) ..... 419-305-5066

### Music Director

Darla Frame ..... [darlaframe@gmail.com](mailto:darlaframe@gmail.com) ..... 419-234-3283

### Choir Directors

Susan Miller, Adult ..... [sugartime@bright.net](mailto:sugartime@bright.net) ..... 567-356-1844

Niki Oren, Bells ..... [niki\\_oren@hotmail.com](mailto:niki_oren@hotmail.com) ..... 567-712-8674

Darla Frame, Bells ..... [darlaframe@gmail.com](mailto:darlaframe@gmail.com) ..... 419-234-3283

Jennie Grundey, Youth ..... 419-738-3911

### Church Council

Brenda Shoffstall ..... [shoffstall08@yahoo.com](mailto:shoffstall08@yahoo.com) ..... 419-233-1956

Teresa Fisher ..... [tatmfisher@bright.net](mailto:tatmfisher@bright.net) ..... 419-236-5628

Dave Clift ..... [right\\_guy12@hotmail.com](mailto:right_guy12@hotmail.com) ..... 419-231-9800

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

## A Message from Our President

I would like to thank everyone who has been stepping up and helping out with the ministries of our church. I am happy to report that we have been able to schedule supply pastors for all of our worship services in October, November and December. We have had to occasionally think outside of the box and have looked beyond the supply pastor list provided by the Synod, but our congregation can be confident that if they come to worship services at First English they will hear a message. It is my belief that having a congregation that is engaged in our ministries and supply pastors willing to support us will keep our church strong as we look toward the future in anticipation.

Sincerely,  
Brenda Shoffstall,  
Council President

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who participated in our *Commit to Something New* event. Several of you stopped by to learn more about the ministries, committees, and volunteer opportunities at the church. Many of you also signed up to try new volunteer opportunities or to take a more active role in our worship services. If you missed the *Commit to Something New* event, don't worry, the tables will remain set up for the next few weeks in the chapel, so please feel free to stop by and check it out.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Wapak Area Ministerial Association's Servants Day event by providing baked goods. I know that they were much appreciated by all of the volunteers!

## FELC Committees, Chairpersons, Council Liaisons

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Liaison</b>
Building & Property	Brenda Shoffstall	Jeff Ritchie
Christian Education/Youth	Rebecca Van Meter	
Evangelism		Denise Kantner
Finance	Cari Frame	Dave Clift
Life & Fellowship	Brenda Shoffstall	Darla Frame
Social Ministry		Teresa Fisher
Staff Support	Cari Frame	Jon Schmidt
Stewardship	Meets with Finance	Brenda Shoffstall
Worship & Music	Darla Frame	Georgeann Stienecker

## Our Prayer Corner

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

Otterbein at Cridersville	Sharon Billiter, Rex Lippincott
Otterbein at St. Marys	Dorothy Dickman
The Gardens	Betty Hague, Dale & Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz

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

The family and friends of Dennis McCormick,  
Tracy Anderson, Makayla Brandyberry, Dominic Cousins, Richard Curry, Ted Gibson,  
Connie Kantner, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Rex Lippincott,  
Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Dennis McCormick, Mitchell Metz,  
Cathy & Desmond Miller, Jenny Oliver, Sue Schoonover, Pam Schulz, Adam Schulze,  
Alex Shirey, Alayna Smith Geiger, Donna Stowell Dague, Linda Thompson, Seth Thuman,  
Eddie Whetstone, Hannah Wood, Nancy Carter, April Nance, Angela, and Skyler.

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.

*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.*

## Prayer Updates

**Tracy Anderson** is no longer at Ohio State University Medical Center. Her doctors have advised stopping medical treatment and she has been placed on hospice care. She has been moved to Ohio Hospice of Miami County in Troy, Ohio. Please keep Tracy and Jamey and Harry and the entire family in your prayers.

**Dennis McCormick** passed away during the night on Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please keep Lisa and the entire family and all of his friends in your prayers.

## Thank You!

Dave and Char Curry and the entire family would like to thank you all for your prayers and the outpouring of love and support that they experienced before and after Pickle's surgery. It appears that the surgery was successful and he is now recovering at home.

## Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>NWOS Benevolence</u>
09/03/2023	19	68	\$3,367.00	\$71.00
09/10/2023	24	51	\$1,196.00	\$35.00
09/17/2023	24	78	\$1,020.00	\$46.00
09/24/2023	13	55	\$2,163.00	\$103.00
10/01/2023	18	62	\$2,867.00	\$48.00

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](http://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!



## 2023 Noisy Offerings

<b>Month</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount Collected</b>
January	Luke Kline Eagle Scout Project	\$1,741.43
February	Tanzanian Lutheran Church	\$1,000.00
March	Turkey Earthquake Victims	\$567.67
April	Morgan's Place	\$1,251.76
May	Wapak Area Tornado Relief	\$176.00
June	Bingo at the Acres	\$80.92
July	Servant's Day	\$202.00
August	Angel Tree	\$143.00
September	Maui Wildfire Victims	\$1,128.28
October	Operation Christmas Child	

## Ministries in Action

	October 1 <sup>st</sup>	October 8 <sup>th</sup>	October 15 <sup>th</sup>	October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	October 29 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Doris Fisher	Deven Whetstone	Doris Fisher	Nolan Roode	Kaidence Schmidt
<b>Lector</b>	Richard Yocum	Connie Krites	John Schmidt	Luke Kline	Brenda Shoffstall
<b>Ushers</b>	Ken Frame & Richard Yocum	Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt	Clayton Fisher & Luke Kline	Steve Stienecker & Jim Kantner
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Susan Miller	Char Curry	Ken Frame	Marsha Jackson	Darla Frame
<b>Musician</b>	Darla Frame	Karen Luginbuhl	Greg Tabler	Recorded – Georgeann Stienecker	Susan Miller
<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Mick Althausser	Tracey Merrithew	Rev. Bill Shultz	Sue Bishop	Rev. Bill Shultz
<b>Greeter</b>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Joy Kantner	Chad & Amelia Sterner	Chris Nagel	Brenda Shoffstall

**Altar Guild for October: Char Curry & Marsha Jackson**

**Fellowship Cleanup for October: Char Curry & Marsha Jackson**

## The Word of God

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Psalm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gospel
October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32	Psalm 25:1-9	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 5:1-7	Psalm 80:7-15	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Isaiah 25:1-9	Psalm 23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Isaiah 45:1-7	Psalm 96:1-9[10-13]	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 46	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Revelations 7:9-17	Psalm 34:1-10,22	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Amos 5:18-24	Psalm 70	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18	Psalm 90:1-8[9-11]12	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
November 26 <sup>th</sup>	Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24	Psalm 95:1-7a	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46

## Flowers and Candles

### Altar Flowers for the month of October:

October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Jennie Grundey
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Deanna Ronan
October 15 <sup>th</sup>	Amelia Sterner
October 22 <sup>nd</sup>	--available--
October 29 <sup>th</sup>	Brenda & Marc Shoffstall

### Altar Candles for the month of October:

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by Brenda Shoffstall in honor of all of the members here who are struggling with hard times. God has you!

## 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](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net) or by calling the office at 419-738-3911.

### Education/Worship Schedule:

9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Sunday School
9:45 a.m.	Youth Choir
10:00 a.m.	Worship in person and online at <a href="http://www.myfelc.org">www.myfelc.org</a>

**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 Teams or Facetime. All are welcome!

**Quilting Group** meets on the 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.

**Loaves and 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.

### Noisy Offering for the month of OCTOBER: Operation Shoebox

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

**Bingo at the Acres** FELC has resumed Bingo at the Acres. FELC will host Bingo every second Tuesday of the month from 2-3pm, our next date is October 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with this social outreach ministry, please contact Brenda Shoffstall.

**Men's Night** is scheduled for Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at TBD.

**Ladies' Night** is scheduled for Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00pm at La Neta.

**October 14<sup>th</sup> Youth Event Games and Campout at Trinity** Save the Date: Saturday, October 14, Camp out and night games at Trinity in Moulton. 6pm Chili soup on the campfire. 7-9pm Night games like Capture Flags, Hide and go Seek. Wear dark comfortable clothing. 9pm S'mores and devotions by the fire. 10pm pick up if you're not camping out. Sunday morning 8am doughnuts 9am Sunday School 10:15am worship. All youth and adults are welcome!! Contact Rebecca or Pastor Melodi with questions.

**Personal Care Items Collection for Our Daily Bread** We will be collecting hotel or travel sized personal care items to support the ministry of Our Daily Bread in Lima. A collection box has been placed in the church library.

**Hat and Glove Drive for Wapak Middle School** FELC is collecting hats and gloves to donate to Wapak Middle School Students. A collection box is located in the chapel.

**Operation Christmas Child** AKA Operation Shoebox. FELC will be participating in Samaritan Purse's Operation Christmas Child program to spread the Gospel and Christ's love to needy children throughout the world. If you would like to send a box of love through Operation Christmas Child, boxes and instructions are available in the chapel. Filled boxes can be returned to the church on or before November 19<sup>th</sup>.

**YouthQuake Registration has Begun** Your middle school or high school student is invited to join us for a fun packed weekend of praise and worship at YouthQuake in Cincinnati from January 5-7. The cost is \$50 per youth if your registration form is turned into the church office by the early bird deadline of Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. The cost increases to \$80 if your registration is turned in after October 15<sup>th</sup>. First English will provide the remaining portion of each youth's registration fee, all hotel expenses, and some meals. Youth are encouraged to invite their friends as well. Registration forms are available in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Chuck Curry at 419-738-3911.

**Halloween Themed Family Game Night is planned for Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>** FELC will be hosting a Family Game Night on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The Fellowship Committee will be providing meat and buns for sliders and bottled water. You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. There will be lots of games set in the fellowship hall. Costumes are optional but strongly encouraged.

**Reformation Sunday is October 29<sup>th</sup>** Please plan to wear red to worship Sunday morning in celebration of Martin Luther and the Reformation.



**All Saints Sunday is November 5<sup>th</sup>** We will remember and honor all the saints of this congregation who now live in the light that is Christ Jesus and in the Kingdom of God. We will read aloud during worship the names of all of our friends and family members who have passed in the past year (since November 2022). We will print in the church bulletin the names of all of the saints of the congregation who have passed into the Church Triumphant. Please email the names of the saints you want to honor to the church office at [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net) or call the office at 419-738-3911.

**Worship Music** We need your help! If you or someone you know would like to record a song, or sing or play live music for our prelude, let Darla know (it can be any instrument). Also, if you know someone who plays the organ or piano that might be interested in serving as our “organist” one or two Sundays a month or even just occasionally, please pass their name onto Darla, or just let them know we are interested in their services for our services. Thank you so much!

# October 2023 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Pastor Mich Althausen	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Acolyte Training 7:00pm Ladies' Choir	<b>5</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Tracey Merrithew	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 2pm Bingo @ the Acres	<b>11</b> 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity	<b>12</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes  6pm Men's Night @ TBD	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:00pm Youth Night and Campout @ Trinity for MS/HS Youth
<b>15</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Youthquake Reg. Due Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Pastor Bill Schultz	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10am Quilting 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity 5:00pm Girl Scouts	<b>19</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Sue Bishop  Council Meeting Following Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00pm Ladies' Night @ La Neta	<b>25</b> 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity 6:00pm Bell Choir Confirmation 7:00pm Ladies' Choir	<b>26</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:00pm Halloween Themed Family Game Night
<b>29</b> Reformation Sunday Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Pastor Bill Schultz	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

# November 2023 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Bell Choir Confirmation	<b>2</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> All Saints Sunday Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Pastor Bob Gibson	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 2pm Bingo @ the Acres	<b>8</b> 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity	<b>9</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes  6pm Men's Night @ TBD	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Charlotte Hefner	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10am Quilting 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Ladies' Choir	<b>16</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Youth Mission Trip and Christian Concert- Columbus November 18 & 19
<b>19</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Pastor Christian Dittmer  Council Meeting Following Worship	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost Adult & Youth Sunday School @ 9am Worship @ 10am Chuck Curry  Advent Calendar Making Following Worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 12:00pm Prayer @Trinity 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Ladies' Choir	<b>30</b> 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes		