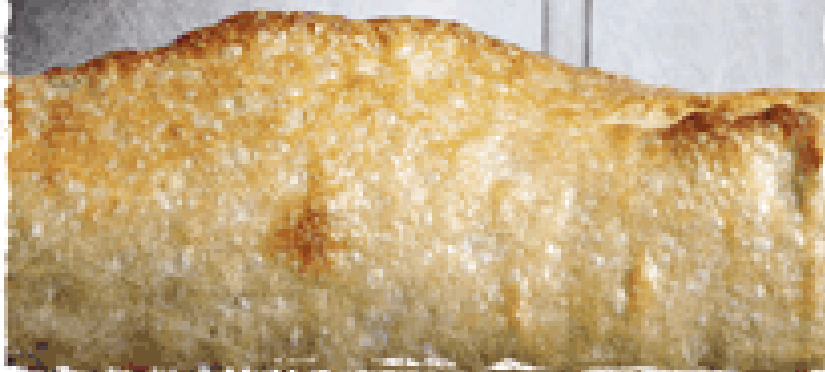


FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio

*Those who
eat my
flesh and
drink my
blood have
eternal life,
and I will
raise them
up on the
last day ...*

John 6:54, NRSV



**13th Sunday of Pentecost
August 18th, 2024**

A Bit About Next Week's Worship Leader, Reverend Leslie Haines



Chaplain Leslie Haines (Major) Retired will be leading worship at First English next week. We hope that you will be here next Sunday to welcome her and Dooly, her therapy dog.

The Rev. Leslie Haines serves as executive director for Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, Inc. (LMVFM). She received an A.A. in Music, a B.A. in Criminal Justice, and an M.A. in Theology. She also completed "Clinical Pastoral Education" through a hospital chaplaincy training program, and she completed a residency training program for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences.

In 1983, Chaplain Haines enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a Huey helicopter crew chief until 1988, when she graduated Officer Candidate School (OCS). Since 2001, Chaplain Haines served in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in Detainee Operations, as well as Kirkuk, Iraq, until she was injured and medevac'd to the U.S. for surgeries and treatment. In 2015, she retired as a major, serving in military police.

Chaplain Haines developed and planted LMVFM during her third year of seminary in 2007. She served her year-long deaconess internship by establishing the ministry in Fort Wayne. Upon graduation in 2009 from Concordia Theological Seminary (Fort Wayne), she accepted the call to serve as LMVFM's executive director. In addition to her duties as the ministry's chaplain and executive director, Leslie serves as the lead counselor for LMVFM, programs director and lead trainer for LMVFM's training programs.

We look forward to the message Chaplain Haines has for next week.

To learn more about the Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries and the work they do, please visit lmvfm.org

WELCOME TO FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

We invite all baptized Christians who believe that Christ is truly present
in the meal to join us for Holy Communion when served.

Children of all ages are encouraged to participate in worship.

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

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

MINISTERS for This Week

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector	Ken Frame
Ushers	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt
Worship Assistant	Deanna Ronan
Musician.....	recordings
Pastor	Chuck Curry
Greeter.....	
Altar Guild	Brenda Shoffstall & Chris Nagel
Fellowship Cleanup.....	Brenda Shoffstall & Chris Nagel

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

* Please rise if able.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW P. 94)

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

* GATHERING SONG

Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service (ELW 712)

* 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.**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 136:1-3)**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

For his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods,

For his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

For his steadfast love endures forever.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory be to God (ELW p. 204)

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6

¹Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.

³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,

⁴"You that are simple, turn in here!"
To those without sense she says,

⁵"Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.

⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:9-14

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

- ¹¹Come, children, and listen to me;
I will teach you reverence for the LORD.
- ¹²**Who among you takes pleasure in life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**
- ¹³Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.
- ¹⁴**Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 512)

GOSPEL: John 6:51-58

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Chuck Curry

*** HYMN OF THE DAY**

In Christ There Is No East or West (ELW 650)

* 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

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

Each petition will end with *Merciful God*,
Please respond with **receive our prayer**.

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **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

Please be seated. As the ushers come forward, we would like to thank you for the work you have been doing, for the support and care you provide, and for the gifts you share.

* OFFERING HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

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**

Jesus Shall Reign (vs 1,4,5)(ELW 434)

*** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

MINISTERS for Next Week

Audio/Visual	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector	Amelia Roeger
Ushers.....	Luke Kline & Chad Sterner
Worship Assistant.....	Ken Frame
Musician	Darla Frame
Pastor.....	CH Leslie Haines (Maj) ret.
Greeter	
Altar Guild.....	Brenda Shoffstall & Chris Nagel
Fellowship Cleanup	Brenda Shoffstall & Chris Nagel

OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

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

We especially remember in our prayers...

Concordia Ann Arbor, James Benshoff, Nancy Carter, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Se'vie Daniel, Emily Fisher, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Paula Jauert, Connie Kantner, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Pam Schulz, Cindy Schwer, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Evelyn Sprague, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Eddie Whetstone, Sara Young, Jim Zwiebel, Angela, Skyler, and Samir.

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.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
07/14/2024	11	73	\$2,927.00	\$150.00
07/21/2024	9	55	\$1,615.20	\$10.00
07/28/2024	9	59	\$1,423.00	\$10.00
08/04/2024	12	54	\$4,510.00	\$45.00
08/11/2024	19	75	\$1,770.80	\$90.00

2024 current budgeted expenses are \$128,507.08, or \$2,471.29 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!



What's Happening at First English....

Noisy Offering for AUGUST: Operation Christmas Child Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted all month.

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. 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, please let Darla know. Thank you so much!

Ladies' Lunch is Tuesday, August 20th, at 1130am at Bob Evans in Wapak.

FELC is Hiring FELC is seeking qualified candidates for the position of office administrator. This is a part-time salaried position. The desired work schedule is Monday through Friday from 9am to noon. Duties include but are not limited to maintaining office hours, greeting visitors, answering the phone, responding to emails, drafting and publishing worship bulletins, newsletters, and other church correspondence, maintaining church records, assisting the Council, Committees, and Staff of FELC, and other tasks as needed. Candidates should have good verbal and written communication skills and be comfortable operating computers and proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel and Outlook. Please contact Denise Kantner at 419-738-8289 or Brenda Shoffstall at 419-233-1956 if interested in this position.

Collection for the Women's Crisis Center We are collecting food items each month for the Auglaize County Crisis Center based on a monthly dinner theme. August's theme is breakfast items. The crisis center is also in need of basic personal hygiene items. Please put donations on the counter in the library for us to deliver weekly or bi-weekly.

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 18th	10:00 a.m.	Worship – Chuck Curry
Tuesday, August 20 th	11:30 a.m.	Ladies' Lunch at Bob Evans
Wednesday, August 21 st	10:00 a.m.	Quilting
Thursday, August 22 nd	4:30 p.m.	Loaves and Fishes
Sunday, August 25th	10:00 a.m.	Worship – CH Leslie Haines (Maj) ret.
Thursday, August 29 th	4:30 p.m.	Loaves and Fishes

First English Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
107 W. Mechanic Street, Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-3911 www.myfelc.org
Church email: 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.

Church Staff & Volunteers

Office Administrator
Bookkeeper
Treasurer
Music Director
Audio-Technology

Chuck Curry; wapakelc@bright.net; 763-312-9217
Anderson Accounting
Georgeann Stienecker; nksoccer@nktelco.net
Darla Frame
Dave Curry; dicy@bright.net; 937-307-8596