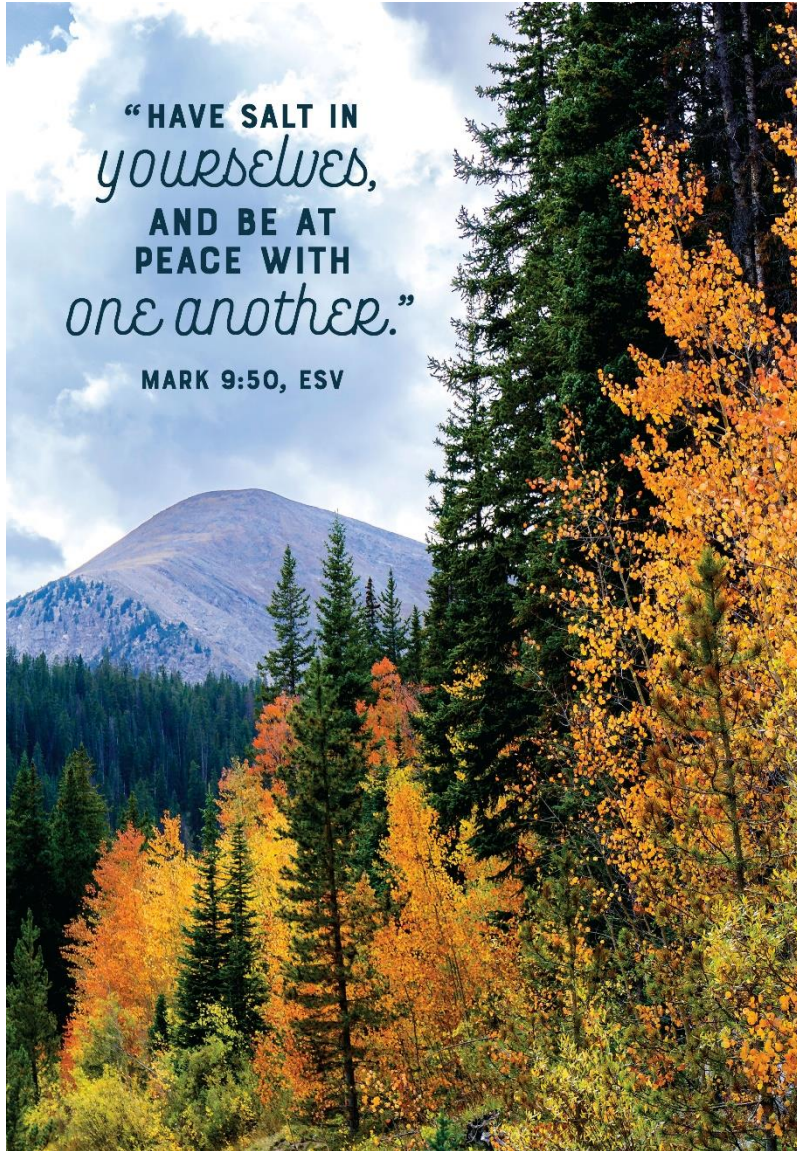


**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Wapakoneta, Ohio**



**“HAVE SALT IN**  
*yourselves,*  
**AND BE AT**  
**PEACE WITH**  
*one another.”*

**MARK 9:50, ESV**

**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**  
**September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## **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 & Youth Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God by the Roeger family in  
celebration of Hilary and Mike's anniversary this month.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Lisa McCormick  
in loving memory of her husband, Dennis McCormick.

### **MINISTERS for This Week**

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Joyce Brincefield
Ushers .....	Steve Stienecker & Jim Kantner
Worship Assistant.....	Deanna Ronan
Musician .....	Darla Frame
Pastor .....	Pastor Mick Althaus
Greeter .....	Ken Frame
Acolyte .....	Vivian Fisher
Altar Guild.....	Lisa Kirby & Deanna Ronan
Fellowship Cleanup .....	Lisa Kirby & Deanna Ronan

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

\* Please rise if able.

## Introduction to the day

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

## GATHERING

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Fairest Lord Jesus arr Chris Rice*

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (ELW 631)*

**\* 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**

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. **Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Rebecca VanMeter

**WORD**

**A READING: James 5:13-20**

A reading from James.

<sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup>you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil (ELW 512)

**\* GOSPEL : Mark 9:38-50**

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>38</sup>John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup>"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.

<sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>"For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

Pastor Mick Althausser

**\* HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Borning Cry (ELW 732)*

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Who presents these children for baptism?

Response from Parents/Sponsors: **We do.**

As you bring these children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the Holy Supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that your children may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help these children grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: **We do.**

Do you promise to nurture these children in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? Response: **We do.**

Do you promise to support these children and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

Response: **We do.**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

## **BAPTISM**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.

Praise to you for your saving waters: for Noah and the animals survived the flood and Hagar discovered your well. The Israelites escaped through the sea and drank from your gushing rock. The Samaritan woman heard your words and will never be thirsty again.

At this font, holy God, we pray.

Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this water. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our spirit. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Nevaeh Marie, Isaiah Walker, Isabella Mae, Isaac Edward and Lillian Marie, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. **Amen.**

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain (name) with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

(name), child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life. So today I invite us to let our light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

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

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

We pray for the people of God in all places. Shape our witness to the good news of Jesus that we joyfully share your transforming love with all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of the earth. Renew oceans and seas, marshes and estuaries. Uphold the work of conservationists, oceanographers, and all who care for fragile ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for peace and cooperation among local and global communities. Bless the efforts of community organizers, international aid workers, and all those who work for justice and peace around the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are in any need. To all who grieve, bring consolation; to all who are weary or lonely, bring solace. By your grace, make your presence known among all who call to you for healing the family of Bob & Debbie Shenk, Sharon Billiter, Dorothy Dickman, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, Lee Albright, James Benschhoff, Nancy Carter, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Se'vie Daniel, Emily Fisher, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Cindy Schwer, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Evelyn Sprague, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Jacob Schlosser, Simar, Brett Eley and Eloise Katterhenry. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**



We pray for caregivers: doctors and nurses, home health aides and counselors, and those who care for loved ones. Sustain them in their work and help us to build a health care system that supports all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for the sacrament of Holy Baptism. We pray that you would watch over Nevaeh, Isaiah, Isabella, Isaac and Lillian throughout their lives that they may bear witness to You. Let their light shine before others that they may glorify You. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for the saints who now rest in your eternal presence. In thanksgiving for their lives of faithful service and witness, we commend them to your loving care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, 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**

*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.

**OFFERTORY**

*On The Wind Of Spirit By Mark Hayes*

**\* OFFERING HYMN**

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW 182)*

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, 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.**

**\* 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

(ELW p. 207)

**\* WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

(ELW p. 190)

**\* 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.**

**\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

**\*COMMUNION SONG**

Lamb Of God (ELW p. 208)

**SONGS DURING COMMUNION**

Let us Break Bread Together (ELW 471)

Spirit of Gentleness (ELW 396)

On Eagle's Wings (ELW 787)

**\* 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**

Let us pray. O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

**\* CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER**

Heavenly father, we humbly pray, asking for help from Your Holy Spirit to guide us and give us wisdom to do what is best for your people who abide in this place of worship. We thank you for those who have shared their time and talents during this interim, but you know we are in need of a spiritual leader to help us grow in your Word. We pray to be open, patient and to do your Will in this process. In Your name we pray. **Amen.**

**\* 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**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (ELW 807)

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**MINISTERS for Next Week 10-6-24**

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Richard Yocum
Ushers .....	Ken Frame & Richard Yocum
Worship Assistant .....	Makayla Frame
Musician.....	Karen Luginbuhl
Pastor .....	Pastor Mick Althausser
Greeter.....	Needed
Acolyte .....	Amelia Roeger
Altar Guild .....	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry
Fellowship Cleanup.....	Marsha Jackson & Char Curry

**OUR PRAYER CORNER**

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

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

**WEEKLY ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
08/25/2024	7	68	\$1,308.00	\$10.00
09/03/2024	20	51	\$1,780.00	\$110.00
09/08/2024	13	49	\$1,827.00	\$35.00
09/15/2024	12	55	\$3,329.62	\$125.00
09/22/2024	11	50	\$2,788.00	\$10.00

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!



## Events...

**Morgan's Place Event:** For the third year running, Soul'd Out, a Christian music group will perform a benefit for Morgan's Place. Event is Saturday evening, October 19<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at Winner Family Harvest Barn, 7317 State Route 47, DeGraff, OH. Doors open at 5:00pm and activities include a quilt auction, raffle, and 50/50 drawing. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children (12yrs & under). For more information, please call (937) 726-998 or (937) 497-8118.

**Interested in supporting people with Dementia and Alzheimer's?** The Alzheimer's Assoc. NW Ohio Chapter is leading a monthly educational series right here in our community. Free of charge! There are two venues and two meeting times. Trinity Lutheran Moulton, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of month at 6:30pm and St. Paul UCC Wapak, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month at 1:30pm. The first session is titled "Healthy Living for your Brain & Body" in October.

**Senior Lunch and Learn on October 17<sup>th</sup>** The next senior lunch and learn is scheduled for Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at noon. The event will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moulton and will feature lunch from J. Marie's and will learn how music/art adds to a happy, healthy life. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Darlene Risner at 419-202-5553 by Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Prayer from Call Committee

Please pray throughout the week:  
Heavenly father, we humbly pray, asking for help from Your Holy Spirit to guide us and give us wisdom to do what is best for your people who abide in this place of worship. We thank you for those who have shared their time and talents during this interim, but you know we are in need of a spiritual leader to help us grow in your Word. We pray to be open, patient and to do your Will in this process. In Your name we pray. Amen.



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

**Noisy Offering for SEPTEMBER: Angel Tree** 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!

**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. September's theme is pizza. 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.

**Volunteer Sign-up Sheets** All throughout September, members are invited to sign up for something new! Sheets will be in the Chapel area.

**Youth Quake:** Inviting all youth 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older to Youth Quake in Cincinnati, OH on January 3-5, 2025. Early bird registration is due by October 15<sup>th</sup>! Contact the office if your youth are interested. It is always a fun time!

*Baptism*  
All things have  
*become new.*  
2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV

### **Baptisms TODAY, September 29, 2024:**

**Nevaeh Marie Estep, Isaiah Walker Whetstone, Isabella Mae Whetstone and Isaac Edward Whetstone** are children of Alexander Whetstone and Ashley Haffa. Their grandfather and grandmother are Edward Whetstone and Jennifer Flinn. Their great grandmother is Harriet Whetstone.

**Lillian Marie Lanteigne** is the child of Desiree Lanteigne.

We welcome them to our church family!

**Fall Event on October 13<sup>th</sup>:** We are inviting FELC members on an outing together to VanDemark Farms in Sidney, OH. We will gather back at church by 1:00pm and then head to VanDemark by 1:30pm for corn maze, inflatables, mini golf, and more! Or bring a bag lunch and stay until 1pm. Youth (Sunday School age) are paid for by church. When 10+ people attend, admission is \$9! If interested, please let the office know, 419-738-3911 or wapakelc@bright.net.

VanDemark Farm

Sidney, Ohio Exit 90

**NOW OPEN WEEKENDS!**

Admission \$12 (5 & under are free)

Friday 6-11pm

Saturday 12-11pm

Sunday 12-7pm

Paid Admission Includes

Corn Maze

Petting Zoo

Mini Golf

Hay Ride

Play Zone

Large Inflatable

Bonfires

**FALL FUN!**



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

<b>Sunday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship – Pastor Mick Althausser</b>
Wed, Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5:30pm	Confirmation
	6:00pm	Bell Choir & Women's Choir
Thurs, Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
<b>Sunday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult &amp; Youth Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship – Pastor Mick Althausser</b>
Wed, Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm	Confirmation
Thurs, Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes (FELC-Hosting)

### **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](http://www.myfelc.org)  
Church email: [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net)  
Office Hours: M-F, 8:30am – 12:30pm

### **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	Hilary Roeger; <a href="mailto:wapakelc@bright.net">wapakelc@bright.net</a> ; 419-738-3911
Bookkeeper	Anderson Accounting
Treasurer	Georgeann Stienecker; <a href="mailto:nksoccer@nktelco.net">nksoccer@nktelco.net</a>
Music Director	Darla Frame
Audio-Technology	Dave Curry; <a href="mailto:dley@bright.net">dley@bright.net</a> ; 937-307-8596