First English Lutheran Church

Wapakoneta, Ohio



Our November 2024 Newsletter

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) 107 W. Mechanic Street, Wapakoneta, OH 45895 Office: (419) 738-3911

Website: www.myfelc.org E-Mail Address: wapakelc@bright.net

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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.

Highlights from Church Council

On October 20, following worship, Council met for our monthly meeting. Before our regular meeting began, it was brought to our attention that our lighting in our sanctuary needs improved, which would help everyone's view and be significantly more efficient. It was decided to go with All Phase Electric in Lima to get the supplies and Dave Curry will be finding a company to come and install them. Due to generous donations this project will be possible. Council wants to thank the donors, along with Dave, for their help in improving our church.

We then began our meeting with devotion from Jon. We took most of our long meeting, going through our financial reports from Paula to understand some issues with the changes of postings. There will be a meeting with finance and chairs of the committees to make sure everyone is doing the proper reimbursement designations. This coming year with the calling of a pastor, makes it especially important to make sure, that we get accurate reports, and everyone is on the same page.

We continued our work to complete our new Constitution. We thank Dave Clift for all his time he is spending trying to make sure it will be ready for the congregation's approval.

Brenda gave an update on God's Storehouse move to our church. The large Sunday school rooms are now being used by them as they start to move.

We will be having a workshop with Pastor Adam Poe and with a carry in meal at noon on Nov 2. We have worked hard trying to urge everyone in our congregation as to how important it is to have our members show up and help us to have the support we need to choose the right leader. We can't do this with just a few. Please help us!

We then adjourned; next meeting is set for November 17.

Church Council

Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	Views	<u>Attendance</u>	Current Giving	NWOS Benevolence				
10/06/2024	14	56	\$4,648.24	\$110.00				
10/13/2024	10	58	\$2,218.91	\$110.00				
10/20/2024	8	78	\$2,544.91	\$25.00				
10/27/2024	10	66	\$1,385.91	\$10.00				
Hurricane Helene Donations (2 weeks total) \$2,104.15								

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!



2024 Noisy Offerings

Month	Recipient	Amount Collected
January	Family Life Center	\$64.00
February	Wapak Women's Crisis Center	\$145.00
March	Generations of Hope	\$184.00
April	Indian Lake Tornado Victims	\$702.13
May	Heal Our Heroes Project	\$2,126.21
June	VBS Honduras Clean Water Project	t \$494.25
July	Servants' Day	\$118.00
August	Operation Christmas Child	\$116.00
September	Angel Tree	\$103.00
October	Loaves & Fishes	\$99.35
November	Lutheran Military Vet. & Fam. Min.	
December	Mercy Unlimited	

OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

Celina Manor Sharon Billiter
Otterbein at St. Marys Dorothy Dickman

The Gardens Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz

We especially remember in our prayers...

Sharon Billiter, Dorothy Dickman, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, Lee Albright, James Benshoff, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Emily Fisher, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Evelyn Sprague, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Simar, Tasha McPeek, Kathi and Eloise Katterhenry.

We remember in our prayers our military serving at home and abroad, underrepresented 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.

Prayers from Call Committee for Pastor

Prays throughout the month:

9-29-24 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.

10-6-24 Heavenly Father, as we gather together in this moment of transition, we seek Your guidance and wisdom. May Your Spirit lead us in unity and discernment as we consider the right person to shepherd our community. Grant us patience and openness to Your Will and help us to trust in Your perfect timing. May our new pastor be filled with Your love, strength and grace, bringing hope and inspiration to our church. We place our faith in You, knowing that You have a plan for us. Thank you for Your continued presence in our lives and in our church. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

10-13-24 Heavenly Father, as we gather together and pray in this time of uncertainty, we humbly seek your wisdom and guidance to show us the way. Almighty God, grant us the strength and peace as we continue through this call process. We know that this is all in your hands and in your time. Lead us, united together that we pray for our future pastor and their family and that they may hear your call to join and serve our faithful congregation. Gracious Lord, help us to prepare our hearts and minds to make the necessary changes to embrace the pastor that you send to us. Dear Lord, we lift up our hearts in praise to you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

10-20-24 Heavenly Father, as we continue in the process of searching for a new pastor to lead our congregation, we ask for you to grant us wisdom and patience during the process. Guide us and help us make decisions that will be good for First English in the future, so that we may continue to do your work in the world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

10-27-24 Dear God, we come before you seeking your guidance and wisdom, as we search for a new pastor to lead our church. We pray for a pastor who will faithfully teach and preach your word, leading us in spiritual growth and discipleship. Grant us a leader who will bring unity and encourage the many gifts and talents in our congregation. We ask for someone with a servant's heart, willing to walk with us through life's joys and sorrows. God, please guide our search and grant us wisdom to follow your will. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

11-3-24 Heavenley Father, we come to you asking for your guidance, wisdom and support. Please guide our minds and heart as we continue in our search for a new pastor to lead us. We seek you first in all we do together. We confess that we are nothing without you and our trust is in you completely. Fill us with your grace as we continue in our search and help us to grow in peace and understanding with one another. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



Call Committee Members:

Robin Klock (Chair)
Brenda Shoffstall (Council Liaison)
Hilary Roeger (Secretary)
Richard Youm (Chaplain)
Carrie Schimdt
Carlene Koch
Ken Frame
Makayla Frame (Alternate)



Congregational Workshop – <u>November 2, 9am-2:00/2:30pm</u>

This workshop is for the **whole congregation** to give the Call Committee their input. It is an invaluable time for our congregation to come together and prayerfully seek our next pastor. The church council and Call Committee cannot do this on their own, they need the congregation to show up and participate in the next step of the Call Process.

The Call Committee also asks that as a congregation, we are praying for our next pastor and their family; for our own congregation in this time of uncertainty; and for our congregation to give it to God in his time and plan.

We are a church that needs a pastor, but we are a church together, each with our own gifts/talents to make up a congregation that supports one another together. No one person is left alone to work alone in our church.

Please look at your calendars and add the Congregational Workshop to it, many have busy schedules, but FELC needs you on **November 2, 9:00am-2:00/2:30pm**. Lunch will be carry-in meal; main dish provided, GFC's pulled pork; asking those attending to bring a side dish or dessert.



Call Committee Checklist for seeking a Pastor:

- **x** At the time of learned pastoral vacancy, the congregation council arranges for regular supply or interim, working with the Mission District dean.
- ★ Form a call committee in accordance with congregational constitution – uneven # of persons with a cross-section of the congregation is helpful-elect Chair of the Committee.
- ★ Call Committee downloads NALC Call Process Manual for call committee members.
- x Call Committee chair contacts the NALC Call Process Coordinator to schedule a conference call for orientation/training. Met on September 15th.
- ★ Call Committee engages in Bible Study in the Call Process Manual. Meeting on Wednesdays at 6:45pm.
- ★ Call Committee chair will contact Mission District dean to arrange and complete <u>The Congregational Workshop</u> in preparation for the Call Process.
- ★ Chair contacts their Mission District dean to arrange and complete the Congregational Workshop – November 2, 9am-2:00/2:30pm.
- Call Committee completes the Congregational Profile and emails it to the Call Process office.

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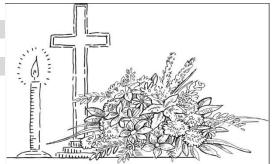
FELC Committees, Chairpersons, Council Liaisons

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

Flowers and Candles

Altar Flowers for the month of November:

November 3 rd	Available
November 10 th	Available
November 17 th	Available
November 24th	Van Meter's



Altar Candles for the month of November:

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God Sharon Veit in memory of her son, Michael and her sister, Connie.

Ministries in Action

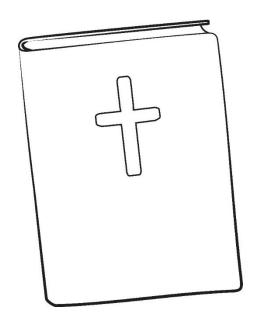
	Nov 3 rd	Nov 10 th	Nov 17 th	Nov 24 th
Lector	Richard Yocum	Chris Nagel	Carly Craft	Joyce Brincefield
Ushers	Ken Frame & Richard Yocum	Dave Krites & Brian Van Meter	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt	Luke Kline & Chad Sterner
Worship Assistant	Jon Schmidt	Makayla Frame	Susan Miller	Marsha Jackson
Musician	Karen Luginbuhl	Greg Tabler	Recordings	Darla Frame
Preacher	Pastor Bill Schultz	Jennie Grundey	Michelle Kouse Pastor Bill Sc	
Greeter	Chris Nagel	Needed	Needed	Chris Nagel
Acolyte	Nevaeh Estep	Vivian Fisher	Amelia Roeger	Nolan Roode

Altar Guild for November: Denise Kantner & Joy Kantner

Fellowship Cleanup for November: Denise Kantner & Joy Kantner

The Word of God

Sunday	1 st Reading	Psalm	2 nd Reading	Gospel	
November 3 rd	Isaiah 25: 6-9	Psalm 24	Revelations 21: 1-6a	John 11: 32-44	
November 10 th	1 Kings 17: 8-16	Psalm 146	Hebrew 9: 24-28	Mark 12: 38-44	
November 17 th	Daniel 12: 1-3	Psalm 16	Hebrew 10: 11-14 [15-18] 19-25	Mark 13: 1-8	
November 24 th	Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14	Psalm 93	Revelations 1: 4b-8	John 18: 33-37	
December 1st	Jer 33: 14-16	Ps 25: 1-10	1 Thess 3: 9-13	Luke 21: 25-36	
December 8 th	Mal 3: 1-4	Luke 1: 68-79	Phil 1: 3-11	Luke 3: 1-6	
December 15 th	Zeph 3: 14-20	Isa 12: 2-6	Phil 4: 4-7	Luke 3: 7-18	
December 22 nd	Micah 5: 2-5a	Ps 80: 1-7	Heb 10: 5-10	Luke 1: 39-45	
December 24 th	Isa 9: 2-7	Ps 96	Titus 2: 11-14	Luke 2: 1-14	
December 29 th	1 Sam 2: 18-20, 26	Ps 148	Col 3: 12-17	Luke 2: 41-52	





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. Adult and Youth Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship in person and online at www.myfelc.org

Quilting Group will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10am in the parlor. If you would like to join this group or have questions, please contact Darla Frame.

Noisy Offering for the month of NOVEMBER: Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted during the entire month.

<u>Loaves and Fishes:</u> 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.

<u>Collection for Auglaize County Crisis Center</u> We are collecting food items each month for the Auglaize County Crisis Center based on a monthly dinner theme. <u>November's theme is Thanksgiving meal items</u>. 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.

<u>Worship Music</u> 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!

<u>Men's Night</u> is scheduled for 6:00pm on Thursday, November 14th at Ken Frame's house at. More details to come.

<u>Christmas Decorating</u> We will be decorating the sanctuary right after worship on Sunday, November 24th! Please help beautify the church and get ready for the Christmas season.

<u>Youth Quake</u> Inviting all youth 6th grade and older to Youth Quake in Cincinnati, OH on January 3-5, 2025. Early bird registration is done. Contact the office if your youth are interested. It is always a fun time! <u>Pre-Meeting will be November 3rd after worship</u> with lunch, devotional, planning and 9-Square practice!

<u>Ladies' Lunch</u> is scheduled for 11:30am on Tuesday, November 19th at the Whaling Knife in downtown Wapakoneta by the movie theatre.

Advent Calendars All youth are invited to help assemble Advent calendars for themselves and our homebound members during the Sunday school (9am) hour on **November 10th**. Please let Rebecca Van Meter know if you would like an Advent calendar made for you or someone you love. We will not be making extras this year, so please let her know on or by November 3rd if you would like a calendar.

<u>Community Dinner at St. Joe's</u> on November 28th, 11am-1pm. Carry-out meals will be served from 12:30pm-1pm only. Use the Blackhoof St. entrance.

<u>Wapakoneta Community Thanksgiving Dinner</u> Thursday, November 28, has invited First English to provide 10 pies. The request is for ready to serve pies that do not need refrigeration (as oven and refrigerator space are limited). Pies may be dropped off until 9 pm on Wednesday or from 6 to 9 am on Thursday at the St. Joseph Parish Life Center. Please let FELC office know if you are able to do.

<u>Baptism</u> Sunday, November 24, Madelyn Rae Wohn will be baptized during worship service. She was born on 5-20-24 to Adam & McKenna Wohn.

<u>Brunch with Santa</u> on December 15th after worship service. Kids, parents, grandparents, family and friends are invited. Brunch includes casseroles, muffins, pancakes and milk/orange juice. Activities include meeting Santa/other helpers, coloring pages, gift bag and selling plates of cookies for \$10. Signup sheets are in pews or call office, 419-738-3911.

Operation Christmas Child 2024

Our mission at FELC is...

"To spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to love one another as He has loved us." One rather wonderful way to do this is through Operation Christmas Child.

Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts lead to evangelism, discipleship, and the multiplication of believers and churches around the world.

To think that just filling a shoebox with goodies for a child and then with the addition of a discipleship book with/classes included, that we play a part in saving souls who are many times inspired to go further to minister to others is beyond comprehension.

This year there are self-stick labels for the boxes which are on a table in the back of the Chapel area. They have a code which you can scan to follow your box(es) after paying the \$10.00 shipping cost online. This is optional, you can use the label without scanning. The shipping fee for each box is again \$10.00. If you do more than one box, you can put the cost of shipping for as many boxes as you fill in just one box. If you cannot cover the cost of shipping, but still want the privilege and fun of filling a box, please let Hilary know and we will take care of the shipping. As always, there are suggestions as to what to fill the boxes with, and what is not

As always, there are suggestions as to what to fill the boxes with, and what is not allowed in your boxes, on a list on the table in the Chapel.

Lastly, I know that these boxes are prayed over at Church and also when we deliver them to the drop-off location, but what a wonderful feeling to be able to pray over them as a family or an individual before you bring them to Church.

What a blessing this is in the lives of the receivers and more important, as we the givers. Thank you

~ November 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9am-2/2:30pm Congregation Workshop- Carry-In Meal Please join us!
All Saints Sunday 9am Adult & Youth Sunday School 10am Worship-Bells Pastor Bill Schultz Acolyte Neveah Estep Finance Meeting Youth Quake Meeting	4	5	6 5:30pm Confirmation	7 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 7:15pm Christian Ed Meeting	8	9
10 21st Sunday of Pentecost 9am Adult & Youth Sunday School 10am Worship Jennie Grundey Acolyte Vivian Fisher	Veteran's Day! Office Closed	12	5:30pm Confirmation 7pm Women's Choir	4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 6pm Men's Night at Ken Frame's House	15	16
17 22 nd Sunday of Pentecost 9am Adult & Youth Sunday School 10am Worship-Wom. Choir Michelle Kouse Acolyte Amelia Roeger	18	11:30am Ladies' Lunch at Whaling Knife	20 10am Quilting 5:30pm Confirmation 6pm Bell Choir	21 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	22	23
24 Christ the King Sunday 9am Adult & Youth Sunday School 10am Worship-Baptism Pastor Bill Schultz Acolyte Nolan Roode Christmas Decorating Right after worship!	25	26	No Confirmation	28 NO Loaves & Fishes 11am-1pm Community Dinner at St. Joe's Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed	Office Closed	30

~ December 2024 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1st Sunday of Advent 9am Adult & Youth Sunday School 10am Worship Pastor Mick Althauser Acolyte Kaidence Schmidt	2	3	4 No Confirmation- Advent Bible Study 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Women's Choir	5 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	6	7
8 2 nd Sunday of Advent 9am Adult & Youth Sunday School 10am Worship-Bells Pastor Bill Schultz Acolyte Faith Whetstone	9	10	No Confirmation- Advent Bible Study 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Women's Choir	12 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 6pm Men's Night At TBD	13	14
15 3 ^{rdt} Sunday of Advent 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship-Play Michelle Kouse Acolyte Nevaeh Estep Brunch with Santa	16	17 6pm Ladies' Night at TBD	18 10am Quilting No Confirmation	19 NO Loaves & Fishes	20	21
22 4 th Sunday of Advent 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Chaplain Leslie Haines Acolyte Vivian Fisher	23	24 8pm Christmas Eve Service Pastor Bill Schultz Acolyte Amelia Roeger Women's Choir	JESUS is born! Merry Christmas!! No Confirmation Office Closed	26 NO Loaves & Fishes Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29 1st Sunday of Christmas 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Council-Lessons & Carols Acolyte Nolan Roode	30	31				

First English Lutheran Church 107 West Mechanic St. Wapakoneta, OH 45895