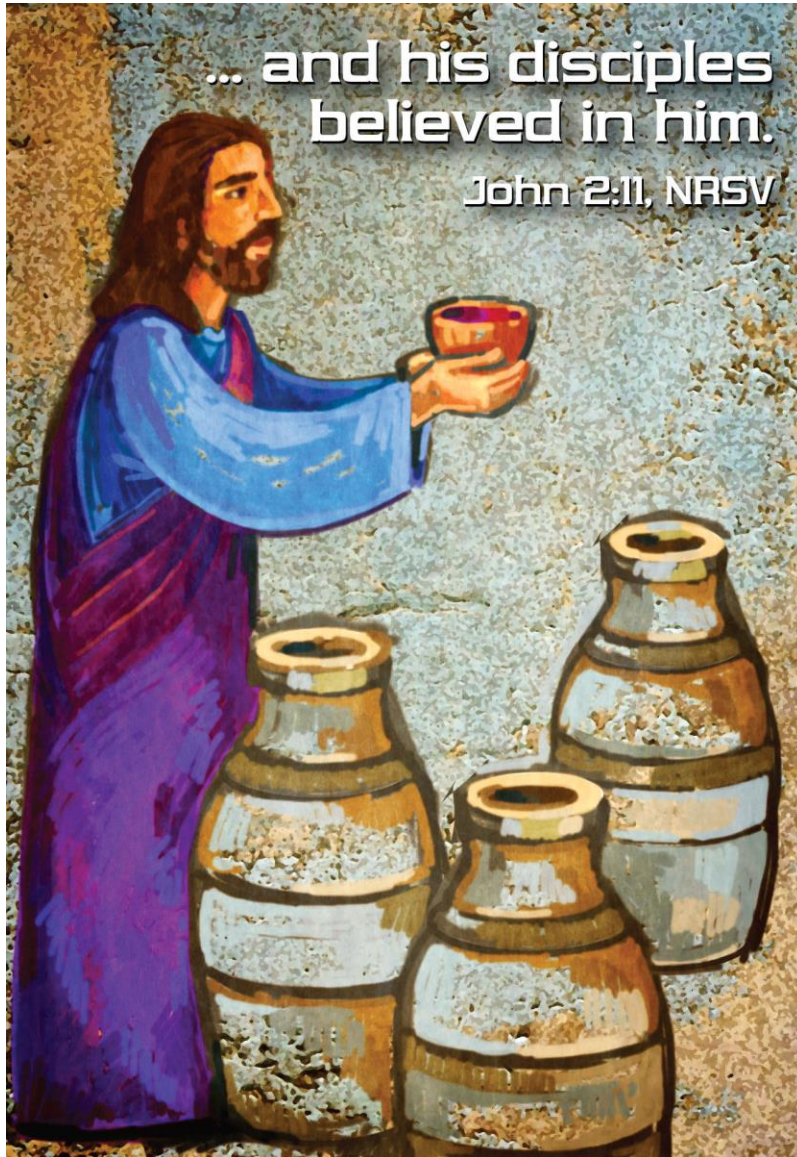


**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wapakoneta, Ohio**



**2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 19, 2025**

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 Mark & Chris Nagel
in celebration of Mark's birthday and son, Brian's birthday
and in memory of Chris' father, John Zuber's birthday.

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

MINISTERS for the TODAY

Audio/Visual.....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector.....	Chris Nagel
Ushers.....	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt
Worship Assistant.....	Darla Frame
Musician.....	Recordings
Pastor.....	Pastor Bill Schultz
Greeter.....	Needed
Acolyte.....	Amelia Roeger
Altar Guild.....	Sara Young
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

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*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

In Christ Called to Baptize (ELW 575)

*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

This is the Feast (ELW p. 185)

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rebecca Van Meter

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

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

PSALM 36: 5-10

⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches ^l to the heavens,
and your faithfulness ^l to the clouds.

⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like ^l the great deep;**

you save humankind and ani- ^l mals, O LORD.

⁷ How priceless is your ^l love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow ^l of your wings.

⁸ **They feast upon the abundance ^l of your house;**

you give them drink from the river of ^l your delights.

⁹ For with you is the ^l well of life,
and in your light ^l we see light.

¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to ^l those who know you,
and your favor to those who are ^l true of heart.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia (ELW p. 188)

***GOSPEL: John 2:1-11**

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

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Bill Schultz

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness (ELW 488)

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us profess our faith using 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.**

***PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You are a refuge to those in peril, grant help, safety and wholeness to all who are in need of your care: especially for victims of the California wildfires, and lives impacted by bitter cold. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need *especially* Dorothy Dickman, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Kathy Link, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, James Benshoff, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Ed Meckstroth, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Tasha McPeek, Bonnie Davidson, JJ Truesdale, Kathi, Nancy Bush, Anne J., Anthony, Sue Bartlett and Wanda Nuss. And those we speak out loud or in our hearts. (Brief silence). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for neighboring congregations and ministry sites. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **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 provided, and for the gifts you share.

OFFERTORY

***OFFERING HYMN**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW p. 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, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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. 190)

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

(ELW p. 190)

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**

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. 191)

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly (ELW 461)

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet (ELW 523)

I Love to Tell the Story (ELW 661)

*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

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.

*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

O Day Full of Grace (ELW 627)

DISMISSAL

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

MINISTERS for Next Week 1-26-25

Audio/Visual Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
 Lector Joyce Brincefield
 Ushers Luke Kline & Chad Sterner
 Worship Assistant Ken Frame
 Musician Darla Frame
 Pastor Pastor Mick Althausen
 Greeter Needed
 Acolyte Faith Whetstone
 Altar Guild Sara Young
 Fellowship Cleanup Brenda Shoffstall & Chris Nagel

Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
12/24/2024	11	117	Combined 12/24 – 12/29	
12/29/2024	17	38	\$2,762.06	\$0.00
01/05/2025	18	37	\$2,740.00	\$20.00
01/12/2025	17	61	\$1,281.06	\$25.00

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!



OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

Otterbein at St. Marys Dorothy Dickman
 The Gardens Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz
 Homebound Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry

We especially remember in our prayers...

Dorothy Dickman, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Kathy Link, Staff and Students at Concordia University at Ann Arbor, James Benschhoff, Janet Case, Dominic Cousins, Ted Gibson, Ben Jauert, Bryan Katterhenry, Wayne & Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Nixon Palte, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Ed Meckstroth, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, Tasha McPeek, Bonnie

Davidson, JJ Truesdale, Kathi, Nancy Bush, Anne J., Anthony, Sue Bartlett and Wanda Nuss.

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.

What's Happening at First English....

Noisy Offering for the month of JANUARY: Women's Crisis Center 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. January's theme is Snack 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.

New Ministry! FELC will be collecting clean empty plastic grocery bags for our Prison Ministry. Allen/Oakwood Correctional incarcerated persons are making mats for the homeless. There is a collection container located at the backdoor.

January Book Club We will be meeting on **Monday, January 20th at 6:00pm.** We will be reading Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails." We will meet in the parlor. There are a few hard copies of the book available to borrow (in library on table) or feel free to download or purchase the book on your own. All are welcome to join! Any questions please contact Jennie Grundey.

Spiritual Movement Classes We will be hosting Spiritual Movement Classes- Stretch & Strength in our fellowship hall on Monday and Wednesdays at 5:15pm & Saturdays at 8:15am until they are able to move back to their pervious location

at St. Joe's. This is a healthy opportunity to move the body at all levels and everyone is welcomed.

FELC 2024 Tax Statements will be available to pick up outside the chapel on Sunday, January 12, 2025. If you did not receive a statement, please contact Georgeann Stienecker or Cari Frame.

FELC Youth Gaming Night Do you like playing video games? Come to play on January 18th at 5:00pm. Pizza and snacks will be provided. Any questions contact office or Carrie/Jon Schmidt.

Flower/Candle Calendar The 2025 Flower/Candle Calendar is up and ready for members to sign up! Please check your calendar and pick a Sunday or two to help the church out. Thanks in advance! And thank you to those that have signed up.

Greeter Sign Up Sheet The Greeter Sign Up sheet is up and ready for volunteers through March. Greeters come a bit early to service and welcome everyone to church with a smiling face and a handshake/hug/hello. Thanks in advance! And thank you to those that have signed up.

Christ Candle The Christ Candle in the front of church is to symbolize God's presence and light. On designated days, it will be lit by the usher before church service, and it will be extinguished after service is over and the congregation has left by usher. The Christ Candle has its own schedule of when it should be lit, which includes baptisms, funerals and certain days in the church calendar. Schedule is located at back of church, back of sanctuary or can be provided by office.

Souper Bowl! Mark your calendars for February 9th, 11:30am-1pm, to join us for Souper Bowl Community Luncheon. Meals are Adult \$10, Kids (3-12 yrs old) \$5 and 2 & under are Free. You will be able to purchase tickets before church out in Melching Hall. Meals include Soup, Sandwich and Dessert! There will be raffles for several Gift Baskets (including OSU coolers). Tickets will be sold at the door the day of event.

Call Committee Checklist for seeking a Pastor:

- × 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.
- × 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 The Congregational Workshop 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 NALC Call Process.
- × Call Committee completes the Congregational Profile and video to the NALC website.
- **Call Committee develops list of ministry questions to be asked in full interviews. ...**

CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER: Please pray throughout the week:

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.

SOUPER BOWL COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

FEBRUARY 9, 2025 11:30-1PM

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

ADULTS \$10 KIDS 3-12 \$5

2 & UNDER FREE



Images For Illustration Only

TICKET

Raffle for
Several
Gift
Baskets
Including
OSU
Coolers

It's About Great Soup For You!

Meal includes Soup, Sandwich and Dessert!

Soups: Chili, White Chicken Chili, Chicken Noodle, Vegetable Beef, Vegetarian, Tomato Tortellini

Sandwiches: Shredded Chicken and Hot Dogs

Whole Pies: \$15 **Pints of Soup:** \$5

Carry outs Available

FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events

Sunday, Jan 19th	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship – Pastor Bill Schultz
		Council Meeting
Mon, Jan 20 th	Office Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	6:00pm	Book Club
Tues, Jan 21 st	11:30am	Ladies' Lunch at Side Rails
Wed, Jan 22 nd	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
Thurs, Jan 23 rd	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Saturday, Jan 25 th	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
Sunday, Jan 26th	9:00am	Adult & Youth Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship–Pastor Mick Althaus
		Women's Choir
Mon, Jan 27 th	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	7:00pm	Book Club
Wed, Jan 29 th	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
	5:30pm	Confirmation
	6:00pm	Bell Choir
	7:00pm	Women's Choir
Thurs, Jan 30 th	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Sat, Jan 18 th	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class

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: 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; wapakelc@bright.net ; 419-738-3911
Bookkeeper	Anderson Accounting
Treasurer	Cari Frame; felc.finance@myfelc.org
Music Director	Darla Frame; darlaframe@gmail.com
Audio-Technology	Dave Curry; dscy@bright.net ; 937-307-8596