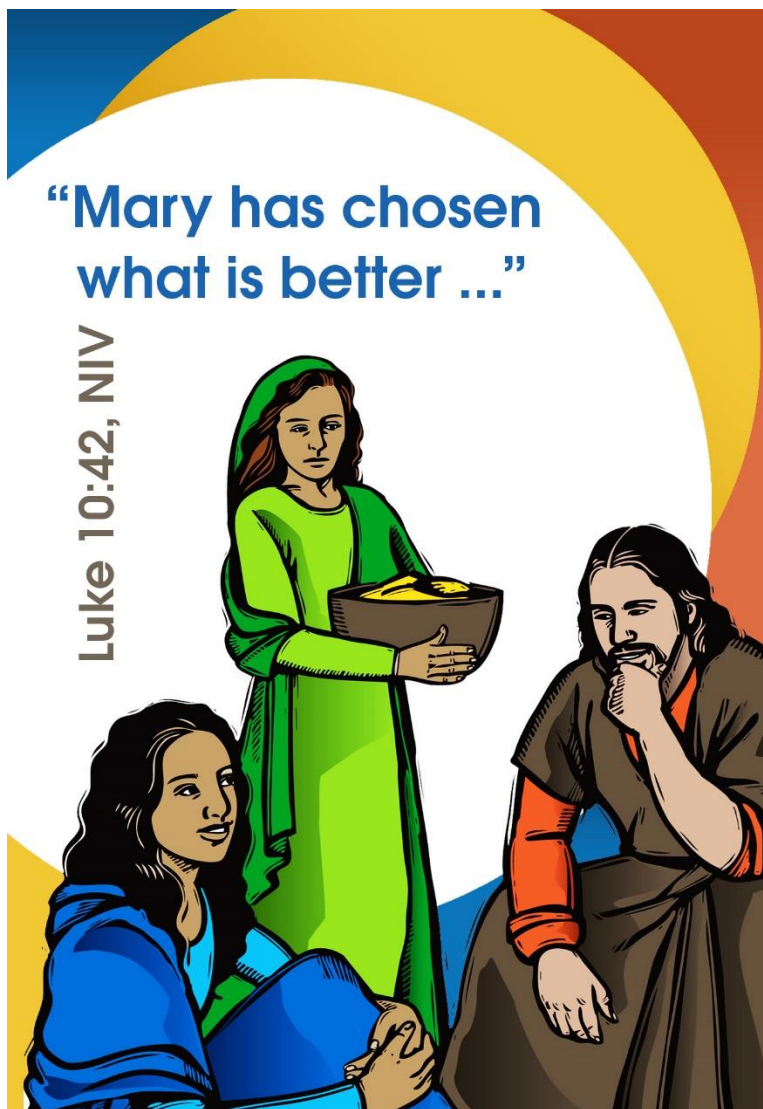


**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Wapakoneta, Ohio**



**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 20, 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 Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God  
by Dave & Char Curry in honor of their family.

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

### MINISTERS for TODAY

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Ken Frame
Ushers .....	Ken Frame & Jon Schmidt
Worship Assistant .....	Darla Frame
Musician .....	Recordings
Pastor .....	Michelle Kouse
Greeter .....	Chris Nagel
Fellowship Cleanup .....	Cari Frame & Hilary Roeger
Altar Guild .....	Cari Frame & Hilary Roeger

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

\* Please rise if able.

## GATHERING

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

### 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

*When Morning Gilds the Skies* (ELW 853)

### \*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. 187)*

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through 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: Genesis 18:1-10a**

A reading from Genesis. <sup>1</sup> The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup> He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." <sup>6</sup> And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." <sup>7</sup> Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. <sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent."  
<sup>10a</sup> Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

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

## **PSALM 27: 7-14**

<sup>7</sup> **Hear, Oh Lord, when I cry aloud,  
be gracious to me and answer me!**

<sup>8</sup> "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"  
your face, LORD, do I seek.

<sup>9</sup> **Do not hide your face from me.**

**Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.**

**Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.**

<sup>10</sup> If my father and mother forsake me,  
The LORD will take me up.

<sup>11</sup> **Teach me your way, O LORD;  
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.**

<sup>12</sup> Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out  
violence.

<sup>13</sup> **I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living.**

<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD!

## **SECOND READING: Colossians 1:21-29**

A reading from Colossians. <sup>21</sup> And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, <sup>23</sup> provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. <sup>24</sup> I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. <sup>25</sup> I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup> the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup> To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup> It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup> For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

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

## **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia* (ELW p. 188)

### **\*GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42**

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

<sup>38</sup> Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.

<sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, <sup>42</sup> there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

## **MESSAGE**

Michelle Kouse

## **\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Give Me Jesus* (ELW 770)

## **\*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.**

## **\*PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

By the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to God our Father in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord, making intercession for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their need.

Lord, thank you for the gift of hospitality. You let us entertain angels unaware! Give us generous hearts, so we may refresh and gladden the hearts of others. Fill us with your Spirit, so that by faith, we may gratefully receive the hospitality of heaven, given to us in your well-beloved Son.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Build up your Church in mature faith, patient suffering, generous service, and gracious hospitality. Use it to reveal the mysteries of your love, so that many people seek your face, and live. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help the people of this congregation to rightly balance the loving hospitality of Martha with the loving listening of Mary. Let all we say and do to lead our neighbors to “the one thing needful” – the strong saving love of Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your servant Paul suffered for the sake of the Gospel, as do many Christians in this day. Make them desire to glorify you. Help them encourage one another to be witnesses to their Savior, who prayed even on behalf of his persecutors.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our nation, for our leaders, and for all the people and nations on earth. Let your holy presence dwell with us. Grant that we may know your will and seek your peace. Teach us to sit at your feet; to love your Law; to display your mercy; and to share your blessings with one another.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be the strength and shield of all who stand in harm's way to protect life and liberty. Give them courage and competence. Heal wounds of body, soul, and mind. Restore them to their loved ones. And help them find new ways to serve you, their communities, and their nation, when their duties have ended.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be the light and salvation of all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, including: Family & Friends of Jean Thompson, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson, Judy Metz, Ted Gibson, Bryan Katterhenry, Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, JJ Truesdale, Sue Bartlett, Ike Schnell, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Jenn Douglas & Baby Bennett, Joyce Brincefield, Liam Kramer, Norma Jarrells, Doris Fisher, Bobbi Bendele, Connie Krites and Wanda Nuss. And anyone that we name out loud or quietly in our hearts. (Brief silence). Strengthen their bodies, refresh their hearts, take away their fears, and give them your peace. Bless all who care for them with kindness and competence. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our departed loved ones who now receive that good portion that shall never be taken from them. Help us to comfort those who mourn. Help us to nourish all who hunger for food, fellowship, or forgiveness. Help us to grow in faith, hope, and love. Welcome us, and all whom you have redeemed, into your spacious House. There, let us no more be strangers, servants, or guests, but your dear children, who see you face to face forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the power of the Holy Spirit, we entrust our prayers and petitions into your hands, gracious Father, for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 182)

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we humbly offer to you the gifts of our treasures, talents, and time. Use them to you glory, and for the benefit of all your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(ELW p. 190)

### \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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**

As we come to this time of Holy Communion, please let me extend to you an invitation to come forward and share in this Holy supper. You do not need to be member of this church or any Lutheran church to participate. If you profess faith in Christ Jesus, you are welcome. He is extending this invitation and that is His only requirement. Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## **COMMUNION SONG**

*Lamb of God* (ELW p. 191)

**SONGS DURING COMMUNION** *For by Grace You Have Been Saved* (ELW 598)  
*Great Is the Lord* (Screen)  
*Jesus, the Very Thought of You* (ELW 754)

## **\*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**

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. Send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **SENDING**

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

### **\*CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER**

Heavenly 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.**

### **\*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 Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts* (ELW 658)

### **DISMISSAL**

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

## Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
06/15/2025	14	56	\$1,218.00	\$105.00
06/22/2025	17	60	\$2,215.00	\$10.00
06/29/2025	16	50	\$905.00	\$10.00
07/06/2025	12	58	\$3,285.50	\$10.00
07/13/2025	13	47	\$1,547.00	\$150.00

### OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

The Gardens	Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz
Burton Ridge in Lima	Judy Kentner
Homebound	Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson
Manor	Judy Metz

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

Family & Friends of Jean Thompson, Betty Hague, Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz, Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry, Marsha Henderson, Judy Metz, Ted Gibson, Bryan Katterhenry, Judy Kentner, Lauren Makuh, Sasha Maslov, Jenny Oliver, Pam Schulz, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Seth Thuman, Norma Wachauf, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, JJ Truesdale, Sue Bartlett, Ike Schnell, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Jenn Douglas & Baby Benett, Joyce Brincefield, Liam Kramer, Norma Jarrells, Doris Fisher, Bobbi Bendele, Connie Krites 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.*

If you would like to send **Connie Krites & Joyce Brincefield** a card to let them know you are thinking of them, here are their addresses:

Connie Krites 20056 Main Street Rd. Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Joyce Brincefield 407 S. Blackhoof St. Apt. 21 Wapakoneta, OH 45895

## MINISTERS for Next Week 7-27-25

Audio/Visual .....	Noah Kirby & Jeff Ritchie
Lector .....	Joyce Brincefield
Ushers .....	Luke Kline & Chad Sterner
Worship Assistant .....	Char Curry
Musician .....	Susan Miller
Pastor .....	Jennie Grundey
Greeter .....	Joy Kantner
Fellowship Cleanup .....	Cari Frame & Hilary Roeger
Altar Guild .....	Cari Frame & Hilary Roeger

### **PLEASE PRAY THE CALL COMMITTEE PRAYER THROUGHOUT THE WEEK:**

Heavenly 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.

### **DID YOU KNOW:**

In Lutheran churches, the **baptismal font** is a container, usually bowl-shaped, that holds water used for baptisms. It's often placed near the entrance of the sanctuary to symbolize that our journey of faith begins with baptism. As people walk in, it serves as a reminder of their own baptism and the grace they've received. Why it's important:

- The font represents cleansing and new life in Christ. Through the water and God's Word, baptism washes away sin and marks the start of life in God's grace.
- Lutherans believe baptism is more than just a symbol—it's a means of grace, where God gives forgiveness and promises new life.
- Both infants and adults are baptized at the font, usually by pouring water over the head.

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

**Noisy Offering for the month of JULY: "FLYING HORSE FARMS** Offering pans are located in the chapel and at the back of the church. Donations are accepted all month. To learn more about Flying Horse Farms click on link to view news story on Channel 4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-S38Rh0ojnk> If you have paper newsletter, type link into address bar on search engine. Call office if you need assistance.

**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.

**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. July's theme is Snack Foods. 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.

**Egg Carton Ministry** Asking for all sizes of clean empty egg cartons. Please put them in the boxes in the church library. They will be used to distribute eggs to those in need.

**Plastic Bag 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 back door.

**Flower/Candle Calendar & Greeter Sign Up Sheet** The 2025 Flower/Candle Calendar is up and ready for members to sign up! We still have many available dates.

**BACKPACK GIVEAWAY!** SAVE the DATE: Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> 11-1pm  
Location: St. Paul's UCC Church Hall, 101 Perry St, Wapakoneta  
If you would like to donate school supplies or help us serve the kids please contact Pastor Melodi Hagen at Trinity Lutheran Church, 419-738-6547.

School List Supplies Needed: 12 pack of #2 Pencils, Pens, Bottle glue, Glue Sticks, Pink Erasers, Pocket Folders, Scissors, Highlighters, Dry Erase markers, 24 Crayon Box, Markers, Tissue Boxes, Clorox Wipes.

## **FELC Upcoming Calendar of Events**

<b>Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship – Michelle Kouse</b>
		<b>Council Meeting</b>
Mon, July 21 <sup>st</sup>	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Wed, July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Thurs, July 24 <sup>th</sup>	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Fri, July 25 <sup>th</sup>	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Saturday, July 26 <sup>th</sup>	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God's Store House
<b>Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship – Jennie Grundey</b>
	Auglaize Co. Fair Starts!! Visit the Gospel Tent 😊	
Mon, July 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AUGUST Newsletter Information DUE!!</b>	
	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Wed, July 30 <sup>th</sup>	5:15pm	Spiritual Movement Class
Thurs, July 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>AUGUST Newsletter Available</b>	
	9-11:30am	God's Store House
	4:30pm	Loaves & Fishes
Fri, Aug 1 <sup>st</sup>	9-11:30am	God's Store House
Saturday, Aug 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:15am	Spiritual Movement Class
	9-11:30am	God's Store House

## **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

Bookkeeper

Treasurer

Music Director

Audio-Technology

Hilary Roeger; [wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net); 419-738-3911

Anderson Accounting

Cari Frame; [felc.finance@myfelc.org](mailto:felc.finance@myfelc.org)

Darla Frame; [darlaframe@gmail.com](mailto:darlaframe@gmail.com)

Dave Curry; [dlcy@bright.net](mailto:dlcy@bright.net); 937-307-8596



**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Wapakoneta, Ohio**

*Our mission is to  
spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
and to love one another as  
He has loved us.*