

First English Lutheran Church

Wapakoneta, Ohio



Our FEBRUARY 2026 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

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

Meet our staff...

Pastor

Rev. Lorenzo Thomasfelc_office@myfelc.org 330-506-6025

Office Administrator

Hilary Roeger.....wapakelc@bright.net 419-738-3911

Bookkeeper

Anderson Accounting.....felc.finance@myfelc.org 419-738-3911

Financial Secretary

Marsha Jacksonfelc.finance@myfelc.org 419-738-3911

Music Director

Darla Frame.....darlaframe@gmail.com..... 419-234-3283

Choir Directors

Susan Miller, Adult.....sugartime@bright.net 567-356-1844

Darla Frame, Bellsdarlaframe@gmail.com..... 419-234-3283

Church Council

Brenda Shoffstallshoffstall08@yahoo.com 419-233-1956

Richard Yocumrichiyocum@yahoo.com 419-234-8919

Char Currychar.curry@bright.net 419-738-4392

Georgeann Stienecker...nksoccer@nktelco.net 419-305-5066

Jon Schmidt.....ohthreeohsix@gmail.com 419-231-3284

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Chris Nagel.....mnagel@ohiolink.net 419-657-2554

Audio/Visual Specialist

Dave Currydscy@bright.net..... 937-307-8596

Audio/Visual Staff

Jeff Ritchie.....jritchie002@woh.rr.com 419-296-3794

Noah Kirby.....noah.w.kirby@gmail.com..... 419-905-8243

The mission of First English Lutheran Church is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and to love one another as He loves us.

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

January 18, 2026

Council met, following worship for our monthly meeting. After a quorum was reached, Brenda gave a devotion.

We discussed our financial and secretary reports and then approved the business of the church. Everyone agreed that our reports are so much easier to understand after finance team's hard work and everyone is working together nicely.

We heard committee reports from fellowship and Music & Worship.

Fellowship will host a Souper Bowl lunch free of charge to all of our members on Feb 8. We also will be doing movie night with pizza and popcorn on Feb. 13th. We will be having some great baskets to raffle off on the 8th. All proceeds will be going to a charitable cause. So be sure to get some tickets.

We also discussed committees getting chairs on all of them and to improve the Committee's commitments and liaison changes were made.

Brenda gave an update on the call vote on January 25th.

The annual meeting letter was approved to be mailed on Feb 9. It will be held on February 22 after worship.

After looking into changing our insurance, it was agreed that we will stay with Koenig Insurance for the best coverage at a reasonable price.

Council then went into Executive Session for the rest of the meeting.

Our next meeting will be February 22, 2026.

As we move forward in this new year, there will be exciting times ahead for our Church!

Blessings to all
Church Council

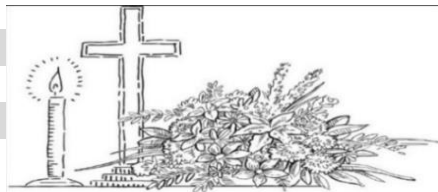
FELC Committees, Chairpersons, Council Liaisons

Committee	Chairperson	Liaison
Building & Property	Brenda Shoffstall	Richard Yocum
Christian Education/Youth	Hilary Roeger	Jon Schmidt
Evangelism	Brenda Shoffstall	Catherine Fisher
Finance/Stewardship	Georgeann Stienecker	Georgeann Stienecker
Life & Fellowship	Brenda Shoffstall	Darla Frame
Staff Support	Richard Yocum	Char Curry
Stewardship	Meets with Finance	Brenda Shoffstall
Worship & Music	Darla Frame	Chris Nagel

Flowers and Candles

Altar Flowers for the month of FEBRUARY:

February 1 st	Hilary Roeger
February 8 th	--Available--*
February 15 th	Brenda Shoffstall
February 22 nd	Marsha Jackson



Altar Candles for the month of FEBRUARY:

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God
by Mark & Chris Nagel in celebration of birthdays:
their granddaughter, Remi & their daughter-in-law, Lisa.

***A new calendar has been hung, please
consider signing up for 2026.**

2026 Noisy Offerings

Month	Recipient	Amount Collected
January	Kingdom Harvest Ministries	\$127.00
February	Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries	
March	Camp Kno-Koma	



Our Mission

LMVFM is a Christian non-profit (501c3) faith based ministry. We are dedicated to serving military veterans, military contractors and their families in need of care and assistance, regardless of their faith or religious affiliation. We offer resources, assistance and training to congregations and other care providers to assist veterans, military contractors and their family members. In order to keep Christ at the center of this mission, LMVFM does not solicit or accept government funding.

Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
01/04/2026	17	64	\$2,754.00	\$155.00
01/11/2026	19	52	\$1,963.00	\$55.00
01/18/2026	15	68	\$1,508.00	\$15.00
01/25/2026	33	In-Person Service Cancelled Due To Weather		
02/01/2026		76	\$19,701.20	\$255.00

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, Judy Metz



We especially remember in our prayers...

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, Alex Shirey, Hunter Smith, Seth Thuman, Harold Wallace, Jim Zwiebel, JJ Truesdale, Sue Bartlett, Ike Schnell, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Jenn Douglas & Baby Bennett, Joyce Brincefield, Norma Jarrells, Jeanie Schnell, Kate Cunningham, Tim Cunningham, Judy Fisher, Michelle Kouse, Elaine Carlson, Wanda Nuss, Tom Meyer, Jerry Dicus, Kingdom Harvest Ministries and WHS-Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

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.



→ → → Christian Education/Youth Committee is looking for someone to Direct our Vacation Bible School for 2026. If you are interested, please let office know no later than February 15th.

Ministries in Action

	February 1 st	February 8 th	February 15 th	February 22 nd
Lector	Richard Yocum	Matt Ronan	Elanor Roeger	Marsha Jackson
Ushers	Ken Frame & Richard Yocum	Dave Krites & Dave Clift	Ken Frame & Chad Sterner	Jon Schmidt & Maeson Roode
Worship Assistant	Ken Frame	Deanna Ronan	Makayla Frame	Susan Miler
Musician	Karen Luginbuhl	Recordings	Darla Frame	Recordings
Preacher	Vicar Michelle Kouse	Vicar Michelle Kouse	Pastor Lorenzo Thomas	Pastor Lorenzo Thomas
Greeter	<i>Needed</i>	Joy Kantner	Roeger Family	<i>Needed</i>
Acolyte	Kaidence Schmidt	Nolan Roode	Vivian Fisher	Faith Whetstone

Altar Guild for February: Amelia Sterner & Catherine Fisher

Fellowship Cleanup for February: Darla Frame & Brenda Shoffstall

The Word of God

Sunday	1 st Reading	Psalms	2 nd Reading	Gospel
February 1 st	Micah 6: 1-8	Psalms 15	1 Corinthians 1: 18-31	Matthew 5: 1-12
February 8 th	Isaiah 58: 3-9a	Psalms 112: 1-9	1 Corinthians 2: 1-12	Matthew 5: 13-20
February 15 th	Exodus 24: 8-18	Psalms 2: 6-12	2 Peter 1: 16-21	Matthew 17: 1-9
February 22 nd	Gen 3: 1-21	Psalms 32: 1-7	Romans 5: 12-19	Matthew 4: 1-11
March 1 st	Genesis 12: 1-9	Psalms 121	Romans 4: 1-8, 13-17	John 3: 1-17
March 8 th	Exodus 17: 1-7	Psalms 95: 1-9	Romans 5: 1-8	John 4: 5-26
March 15 th	Isaiah 42: 14-21	Psalms 142	Ephesians 5: 8-14	John 9: 1-41
March 22 nd	Ezekiel 37: 1-14	Psalms 130	Romans 8: 1-11	John 11: 1-45
March 29 th	Isaiah 50: 4-9a	Psalms 118: 19-29	Philippians 2: 5-11	Matthew 26:1 – 27:66

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 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.

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. No Loaves & Fishes on January 1st.

Noisy Offering for the month of FEBRUARY: 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.

Collection for Auglaize County Crisis Center We are collecting food items each month for the Auglaize County Crisis Center based on a monthly dinner theme. February's Items: Taco kits, cake mixes, frosting, chunky soups, soup in a cup, & cooking spray. Please put donations on the counter in the library for us to deliver weekly or bi-weekly.

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.

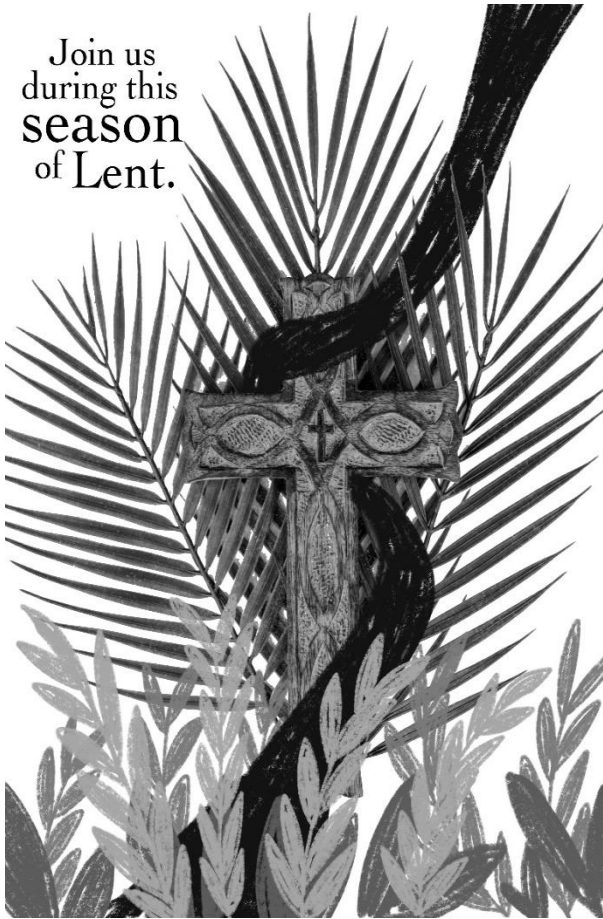
Bingo at The Gardens in Wapak at 1:30pm. All welcome to join and help!

Men's Night is scheduled for 6:00pm on Thursday, February 12th, at Astro Lanes. All men are encouraged to come and bring a friend!

Ladies' Lunch is scheduled for 11:30am on Tuesday, February 17th at Whaling Knife. All women are encouraged to come and bring a friend!!

Lenten Tri-Congregational Worship Services

Join us
during this
season
of Lent.



We will be joining St. Mark's Lutheran Church and St. Paul's UCC for our Lenten Services:

ASH Wednesday will be on **February 18th at St. Paul's UCC** with FELC preaching **at 7pm**. Readings will be Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51: 1-17; 2 Corinthians 5: 20b – 6:10; Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Maundy Thursday will be on **April 2nd at St. Mark's Lutheran Church** with St. Paul's preaching **at 7pm**. Readings will be Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14; Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26; John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday will be on **April 3rd at First English Lutheran Church** with St. Mark's preaching **at 7pm**. Readings will be Isaiah 52: 13 – 53: 12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10: 16-25; John 18: 1 – 19: 42

FELC will also be having
**Wednesday Evening Lenten Services on
March 11th, 18th & 25th at 6:30pm.**

Souper Bowl Gathering Join us on **February 8th** after worship service for fellowship with your church family. Save the date and invite family and friends for great food, wonderful raffles and fun playing 9-Square! There is no charge for attending event, **FREE Lunch!**

Souper Bowl Luncheon
February 8, 2026
11:30am – 1:00pm

First English Lutheran Church



**Raffle for
Several
Gift
Baskets**

Meal includes Soup, Sandwich and Dessert!!

Soups: Chicken Noodle, White Chicken Chili, Tomato Tortellini & Chili

Sandwiches: Hot Dogs & Shredded Chicken

Variety of Desserts donated by Fellowship Committee

Join us, bring friends and family!

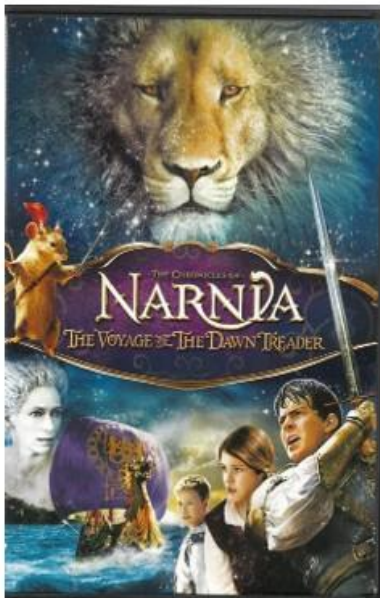
Make sure to purchase your Raffle Tickets before event or at event!

Raffles include: Dish Set & Christmas Tray; Lottery Tickets & Gift Card Bucket; Christian Movie & Goodies Basket; Pie of the Month Club; Spa Item Bag; OSU Wreath; KAH Meats Certificate; Walter Meats Certificate; Valentine's Centerpiece; Easter Wreath; Buckland Acres Bistro Certificate – 2.

Proceeds will be donated to Flying Horse Farms.

Movie Night on February 13th at 5:30pm, Pizza & Popcorn will be provided.

MOVIE NIGHT at FELC
February 13th at 5:30pm
Pizza & Popcorn provided
Invite families and friends, all are welcome!



In Parlor →

OR

In Council/
Confirmation
Room
←



Thank Yous

Our youth and adult leaders had an amazing time at Youth Quake-Cincinnati, OH. They are very thankful for the financial support to attend event and their Saturday dinner at Five Guys. There were many memories made, please ask youth and leaders about their trip.



Maesha

We had a great time @ Youth Quake!!

Union
Mackenzie
Elanor

VERY MACH

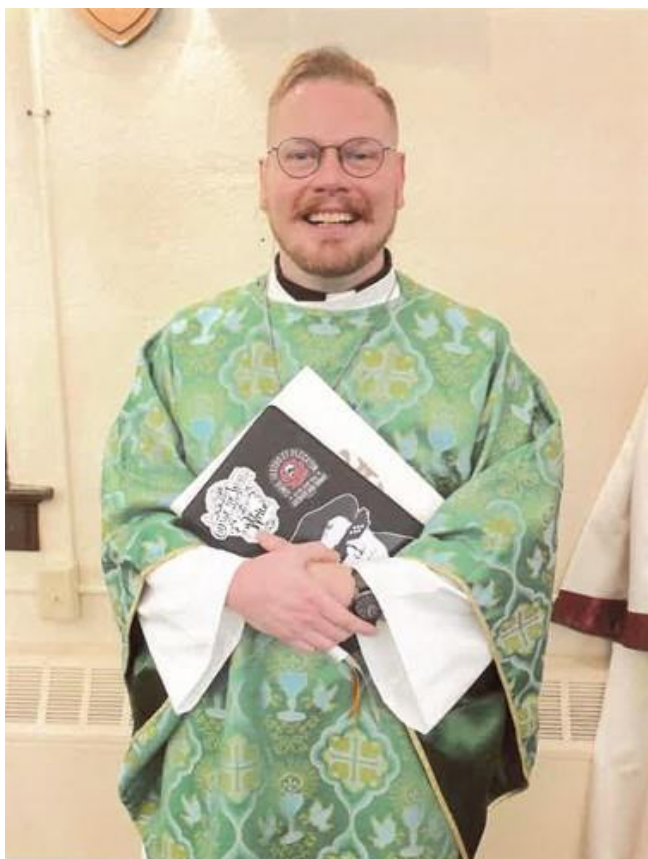
Doris
Carrie

Kandance
Amelia
Matt
Faith
Hilary
Isabel
Mackenna

Thanks for everything
- Nolan

Dear Members of First English Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much for your incredible generosity this Christmas season. The thoughtful chosen gifts for our children were truly amazing, and it was clear how much care and love went into each one. Even providing gift wrap was such a thoughtful touch, and we truly enjoyed wrapping the kids' gifts. The ham and veggies made the perfect Christmas meal. We prepared it together as a family along with our family favorites.
We are also deeply grateful to the individua who gifted us financially. Because of your kindness we were able to fix our vehicle, take care of some bills and experience the joy of giving to others. Allowing our children to shop for gifts for their grandparents and enjoy the Christmas lights and coco at the fairgrounds and we created memories we will always cherish.
Thank you for the thoughtful Mom gifts. Your kindness and generosity meant more to our family than words can express. May you all be blessed in the years to come. All with gratitude, Angel Tree Family

Please help
WELCOME
Pastor Lorenzo Thomas
as our
New Part-time Pastor!!



Installation Date:
February 15,
2026

Join us for a
celebration,
welcoming
service and
luncheon!

~ February 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 4 th Sunday after Epiphany 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship – Bell Choir Vicar Michelle Kouse Acolyte-Kaidence Schmidt	2 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	3	4 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class	5 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	6 9-11:30 GSH	7 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
8 5 th Sunday after Epiphany 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Vicar Michelle Kouse Acolyte-Nolan Roode Join us for Souper Bowl Gathering In Fellowship Hall After Worship Service	9 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	10 1:30pm Bingo at The Gardens	11 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class 7pm Ladies' Choir	12 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 6pm Men's Night at Astro Lanes	13 9-11:30 GSH 5:30pm Movie Night	14 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH Happy Valentine's Day! God Loves You! 
15 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship-Ladies' Choir Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Vivian Fisher Pastor Installation & Luncheon	16 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class President's Day!	17 11:30am Ladies' Night at Whaling Knife	18 10am Quilting 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 7pm ASH WEDNESDAY @ St. Paul's	19 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	20 9-11:30 GSH	21 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
22 1 st Sunday of Lent 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Faith Whetstone Council Meeting	23 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class March info for Newsletter DUE	24	25 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Ladies' Choir	26 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	27 9-11:30 GSH March Newsletter available	28 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH

~ March 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 2nd Sunday of Lent 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Nolan Roode	2 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	3	4 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class	5 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	6 9-11:30 GSH	7 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
8 3rd Sunday of Lent 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Kaidence Schmidt	9 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	10 1:30pm Bingo at The Gardens	11 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:30pm Lenten Service	12 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 6pm Men's Night at	13 9-11:30 GSH	14 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
15 4th Sunday of Lent 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship-Bell Choir Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Amelia Roeger	16 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	17 Ladies' Lunch/ Dinner	18 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:30pm Lenten Service 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Ladies' Choir	19 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	20 9-11:30 GSH	21 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
22 5th Sunday of Lent 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Vivian Fisher	23 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	24	25 10am Quilting 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:30pm Lenten Service	26 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes April Newsletter info DUE!	27 9-11:30 GSH	28 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
29 Palm Sunday 9am Council Meeting 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship- Vicar Michelle Kouse Ladies' Choir Acolyte-Faith Whetstone Egg Hunt & Refreshments	30 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	31 April Newsletter Available		April 2nd – 7pm Maundy Thursday @ St. Mark's Lutheran Church	April 3rd – 7pm Good Friday @ First English Lutheran Church	

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