

# First English Lutheran Church

Wapakoneta, Ohio



Our APRIL 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](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net) Website: [www.myfelc.org](http://www.myfelc.org)

## Meet our staff...

### Pastor

Lorenzo Thomas.....[pastor.lorenzo@myfelc.org](mailto:pastor.lorenzo@myfelc.org)..... 330-506-6025

### Vicar

Michelle Kouse .....[wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net) ..... 419-738-3911

### Office Administrator

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

### Bookkeeper

Anderson Accounting.....[felc.finance@myfelc.org](mailto:felc.finance@myfelc.org) ..... 419-738-3911

### Financial Secretary

Marsha Jackson .....[felc.finance@myfelc.org](mailto:felc.finance@myfelc.org) ..... 419-738-3911

### Music Director

Darla Frame.....[darlaframe@gmail.com](mailto:darlaframe@gmail.com)..... 419-234-3283

### Choir Directors

Susan Miller, Adult.....[sugartime@bright.net](mailto:sugartime@bright.net) ..... 567-356-1844

Darla Frame, Bells .....[darlaframe@gmail.com](mailto:darlaframe@gmail.com)..... 419-234-3283

### Church Council

Brenda Shoffstall .....[shoffstall08@yahoo.com](mailto:shoffstall08@yahoo.com) ..... 419-233-1956

Richard Yocum .....[richiyocum@yahoo.com](mailto:richiyocum@yahoo.com) ..... 419-234-8919

Char Curry .....[char.curry@bright.net](mailto:char.curry@bright.net) ..... 419-738-4392

Georgeann Stienecker...[nksoccer@nktelco.net](mailto:nksoccer@nktelco.net) ..... 419-305-5066

Jon Schmidt.....[ohthreeohsix@gmail.com](mailto:ohthreeohsix@gmail.com) ..... 419-231-3284

Darla Frame.....[darlaframe@gmail.com](mailto:darlaframe@gmail.com)..... 419-234-3283

Catherine Fisher .....[wapakelc@bright.net](mailto:wapakelc@bright.net) ..... 419-738-3911

Chris Nagel.....[mnagel@ohiolink.net](mailto:mnagel@ohiolink.net) ..... 419-657-2554

### Audio/Visual Specialist

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

### Audio/Visual Staff

Jeff Ritchie.....[jritchie002@woh.rr.com](mailto:jritchie002@woh.rr.com) ..... 419-296-3794

Noah Kirby.....[noah.w.kirby@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## MARCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

Council met for the monthly meeting before Church on March 29, 2026. We established a quorum and then discussed the business reports and secretary minutes. They both were approved.

There were no committee reports given, but there will be some meetings in April coming up.

Brenda asked everyone to look over the constitution so that we can discuss a couple things that need to be possibly amended in April. We also discussed the signed agreement that has been done between our church and God's Storehouse to permanently house this important mission.

Brenda passed out a bidding estimate from Trisco Systems to repair our moisture problem on outside and inside. There will be much more to be discussed at our next meeting and also for the congregation.

We approved the transfer of membership from St. Marks to First English for Bill Long and Diane Brubaker. We welcome them as new members. We will be putting together a team of people on May 27<sup>th</sup> to help pack Kids Against Hunger meals in Jackson Center. If interested, contact Brenda.

We adjourned our meeting and will have our next one on April 19 following worship.

Blessings,  
Church Council

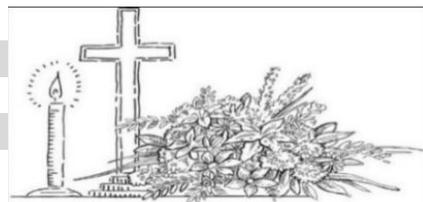
## FELC Committees, Chairpersons, Council Liaisons

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Liaison</b>
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	Char Curry	Char Curry
Stewardship	Meets with Finance	Brenda Shoffstall
Worship & Music	Darla Frame	Chris Nagel

## Flowers and Candles

### Altar Flowers for the month of APRIL:

April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Hilary Roeger
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Amelia Sterner
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	--Available--*
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Nagel



### Altar Candles for the month of APRIL:

The **Altar Candles** are given to the Glory of God  
by Mark & Chris Nagel in celebration of  
all the April birthdays in their family.

**\*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	\$915.00
March	Camp KNO-KOMA	\$1,970.35
April	Morgan's Place	



## *Our Mission*

Morgan's Place was established to assist families through the grieving process when experiencing the loss of a baby. We aid this process by memory-making, birth planning, funeral and burial services, and post-partum support groups for parents.

## Weekly Attendance and Offerings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Views</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Current Giving</u>	<u>Benevolence</u>
03/01/2026	16	69	\$3,291.00	\$130.00
03/08/2026	17	60	\$5,791.00	\$230.00
03/15/2026	12	80	\$2,450.00	\$125.00
03/22/2026	13	75	\$1,590.00	\$35.00
03/29/2026		86	\$2,009.50	\$10.00

## OUR PRAYER CORNER

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

The Gardens                      Mary Ann Thomas, Betty Lietz  
Shawnee Manor                  Judy Kentner  
Homebound                        Marty Rostorfer, Eloise Katterhenry,  
   Marsha Henderson, Judy Metz

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

Family & Friends of Todd Sawmiller, Family & Friends of Ed Mornston, 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, Roman Schlegel, Sue Hughes, Dan Havens, Jason Schneider, Bennett Douglas, Norma Jarrells, Jeanie Schnell, Michelle Kouse, Elaine Carlson, Wanda Nuss, Tom Meyer, George Anderson, Jerry Dicus, Pastor Lorenzo & Anastasia Thomas, Pastor Tom, Rick Curry, Teresa Fisher, 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.*



## Ministries in Action

	April 5 <sup>th</sup>	April 12 <sup>th</sup>	April 19 <sup>th</sup>	April 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Lector</b>	Richard Yocum	Jennie Grundey	Ken Frame	Carly Craft
<b>Ushers</b>	Ken Frame & Richard Yocum	Dave Krites & Dave Clift	Ken Frame & Chad Sterner	Jon Schmidt & Maeson Roode
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Makayla Frame	Deanna Ronan	Susan Miller	Hilary Roeger
<b>Musician</b>	Darla Frame	Karen Luginbuhl	Recordings	Susan Miller
<b>Preacher</b>	Vicar Michelle Kouse	Pastor Lorenzo Thomas	Pastor Lorenzo Thomas	Pastor Lorenzo Thomas
<b>Greeter</b>	Needed	Joy Kantner	Needed	Needed
<b>Acolyte</b>	Jacob Schlosser	Kaidence Schmidt	Amelia Roeger	Nolan Roode

**Altar Guild for April: Brenda Shoffstall & Darla Frame**

**Fellowship Cleanup for April: Georgeann Stienecker & Connie Krites**

## The Word of God

Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Psalm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Gospel
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 16	Colossians 3:1-4	Matthew 28:1-10
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 5:29-42	Psalm 148	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 116:1-14	1 Peter 1:17-25	Luke 24:13-35
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60	Psalm 146	1 Peter 3:2-10	John 14:1-14
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 17:16-31	Psalm 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Acts 1:12-26	Psalm 68:1-10	1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11	John 17:1-11
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Numbers 11:24-30	Psalm 25:1-15	Acts 2:1-21	John 7: 37-39
May 31 <sup>st</sup>	Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a	Psalm 8	Acts 2:14a, 22-36	Matthew 28:16-20

## 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](mailto: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](http://www.myfelc.org)

**Quilting Group** will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**Noisy Offering for the month of APRIL: MORGAN'S PLACE** 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: April Items-Pizza kits, mozzarella cheese, muffin mix & canned chicken. 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.

**Christian Ed Meeting** will be held April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in parlor.

**Bingo** at The Gardens in Wapakoneta at 1:30pm on the second Tuesday of the month. All are welcome to join and help!

**Men's Night** is scheduled for 6:00pm on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, at Inn Between in Botkins. All men are encouraged to come and bring a friend!

**Ladies' Lunch** is scheduled for 11:30am on Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Mason Jar in Wapakoneta. All women are encouraged to come and bring a friend!!

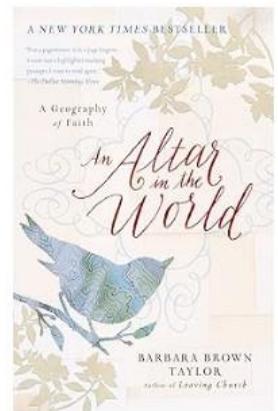
**Worship & Music Committee Meeting** will be held April 12<sup>th</sup> after worship service.

**9-Square Monthly** will be a time for Middle/High Schoolers to come together and play 9-Square while learning about God's word. We encourage youth to invite friends from other churches, school, dance class, sports teammates and any other place they feel called to invite someone. **We will meet once a month, 1pm-2:30pm, see flyer for all dates.** We will have a short Bible Time to learn about God's Love & Good News. Adults are also welcome to join! No need to RSVP, just come! Any questions, contact office/Hilary.

The **Fellowship Committee** would like to thank everyone that helped support a fun filled carry in meal and egg hunt for the kids on Palm Sunday.

We will not be having any fellowship time following the worship on Easter Sunday to allow everyone time to spend with family. Thank you to all.

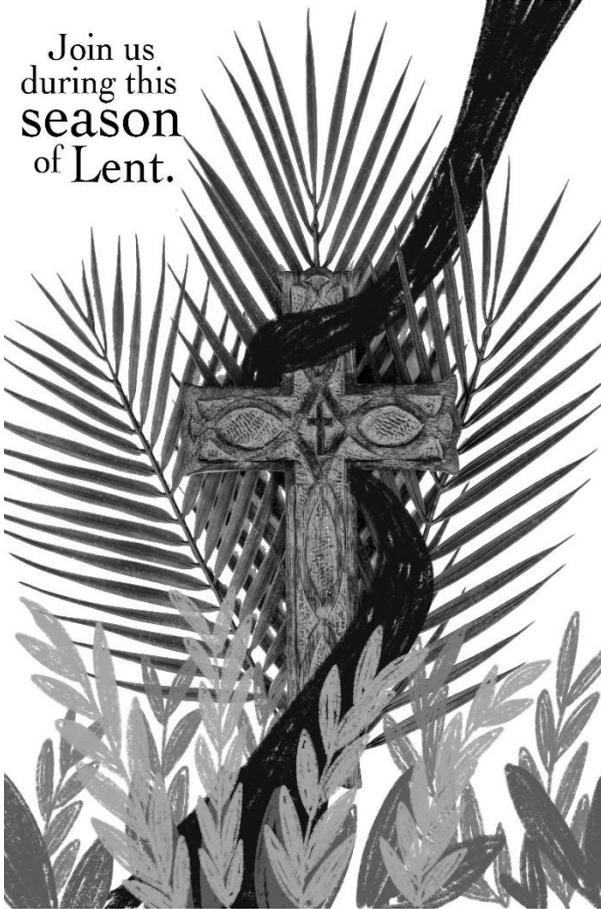
**Book Club** We will be starting on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, every Monday until May 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be reading *An Altar in World* by Barbara Brown. If you need a book let the office know. Please join us!



**Kids Against Hunger** We are putting a team together to help with making meals on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, if you are interested, contact Brenda.

## 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:

**Maundy Thursday** will be on **April 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

**WELCOME**

**OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!**

**Brian Fisher**

**Pastor Lorenzo &  
Anastasia Thomas**

**Bill Long  
Diane Brubaker**



**LUTHERAN MILITARY VETERANS AND FAMILIES MINISTRIES, INC.**  
**3480 STELLHORN ROAD**  
**FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46815**  
**260.755.2239**  
**WWW.LMVFM.ORG**



*"I lift my eyes up to the hills-where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."*

Psalm 121:1-2

March 12, 2026

Dear Friends and Members of First English Lutheran Church,

We would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$915 to Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries. Please know that your contribution is helping our military, veterans, military contractors and their family members receive direct care and support through the programs our ministry has to offer. Despite the many challenges that we are called upon to address, such as rising suicide rates among our military and their family members, it is reassuring to know that we have your prayers and support. As a ministry that provides free services, we look forward to bringing God's unconditional love, healing and comfort to our troops, veterans, contractors and their family members

Our Paws and Effect ministry is comprised of three very special dogs: Patrick Dooley (Dooley 8yrs), Sir Philip Arlington Cooper (Cooper 16mo) and Sir Winston Stanley Kipling (Winston 6mo). Dooley has been very busy with our new and existing clients. Cooper loves his time in churches and schools and has begun his real work of comforting veterans and their family members. Winston, our newest member, has started his newest training and will soon catch up with his brothers. Our dogs have been training from the day they are born and are chosen from specific breeders that begin conditioning on day one. We continue the training and conditioning right here, and the more people they interact with the better. When you meet these sweet boys, please remember to say hello and let them know how appreciated they are.

We are well into scheduling events for the coming year, and our calendar is filling up quickly. We are looking forward to meeting with new and established partners in our work. If you are interested in our ministry coming to your organization, give us a call or send us an email. Please visit our website at [www.LMVFM.ORG](http://www.LMVFM.ORG) or our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/LMVFM](http://www.facebook.com/LMVFM) for our latest events and news. We thank you for your support and partnership with us. Were it not for the blessings that God continues to provide our ministry, and faithful friends like you, we would not be able to carry on with the work we do.

Together in His Service,

CH Leslie Haines, (MAJ) ret., STS, MA  
 Executive Director  
 Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, Inc.  
 260.755.2239  
[Lmvfm.org@gmail.com](mailto:Lmvfm.org@gmail.com)  
[www.lmvfm.org](http://www.lmvfm.org)

*Hello it's Carly - the high school intern here at LMVFM. As a Marine "brat" and reservist myself I wanted to say a special thank you for your donation. Thanks again!*

*"Serving With Christ's Love Those Who Serve"*

# 9-Square Monthly Schedule

Invite friends to come and play and  
for a short bible time.

Once a month at FELC, 1pm-2:30pm.  
Come when you can and invite friends each month to join us!  
Geared for Middle & High School aged youth, adults welcome.

Save these dates so you don't miss out!

March 5<sup>th</sup> • April 19<sup>th</sup> • May 3<sup>rd</sup> • June 7<sup>th</sup> • July 19<sup>th</sup>

August 16<sup>th</sup> • September 13<sup>th</sup> • October 18<sup>th</sup>

November 15<sup>th</sup> • December 13<sup>th</sup>



~ April 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	<b>2</b> 9-11:30 GSH NO Loaves & Fishes 7pm Maundy Thursday @ St. Mark's Lutheran Church	<b>3</b> 9-11:30 GSH 7pm Good Friday @ First English Lutheran Church-Ladies' Choir	<b>4</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>5</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> Resurrection of Our Lord 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship-Ladies' Choir Vicar Michelle Kouse Acolyte-Jacob Schlosser	<b>6</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	<b>7</b> 6pm Christian Ed Meeting	<b>8</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class 6pm Bell Choir	<b>9</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 6pm Men's Night at Inn Between	<b>10</b> 9-11:30 GSH	<b>11</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>12</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship-Bell Choir Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Kaidence Schmidt Worship & Music Meeting	<b>13</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:30pm Book Club	<b>14</b> 1:30pm Bingo at The Gardens	<b>15</b> 10am Quilting 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class 6pm Bell Choir 7pm Ladies' Choir	<b>16</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>17</b> 9-11:30 GSH	<b>18</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>19</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Amelia Roeger  Council Meeting 1pm-2:30pm 9-Square	<b>20</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:30pm Book Club	<b>21</b> 11:30am Ladies' Lunch @ Mason Jar	<b>22</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class	<b>23</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>24</b> 9-11:30 GSH	<b>25</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>26</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship – Bell Choir Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Nolan Roode	<b>27</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:30pm Book Club  May info for Newsletter DUE	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6pm Confirmation Class 6pm Bell Choir	<b>30</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes May Newsletter available		

~ MAY 2026 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> 9-11:30 GSH	<b>2</b> 8:15am SMC 9-11:30 GSH
<b>3</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship-Ladies' Chr Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Vivian Fisher  1pm-2:30pm 9-Square	<b>4</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:30pm Book Club	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class 6:00pm Confirmation- 3 <sup>rd</sup> yrs only	<b>7</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>8</b> 9-11:30 GSH	<b>9</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>10</b> HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship-Bell Choir Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Faith Whetstone	<b>11</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	<b>12</b> 1:30pm Bingo at The Gardens	<b>13</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	<b>14</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes 6pm Men's Night	<b>15</b> 9-11:30 GSH	<b>16</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>17</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Confirmation Sunday 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Pastor Lorenzo Thomas Acolyte-Jacob Schlosser	<b>18</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	<b>19</b> 11:30am Ladies' Lunch	<b>20</b> 10am Quilting 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	<b>21</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>22</b> 9-11:30 GSH	<b>23</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>24</b> Day of Pentecost 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship  Council Meeting	<b>25</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class	<b>26</b> June Newsletter info DUE!	<b>27</b> 5:15pm Sprtl Mvmnt Class  Kids Against Hunger in Jackson Center	<b>28</b> 9-11:30 GSH 4:30pm Community Loaves & Fishes	<b>29</b> 9-11:30 GSH June Newsletter Available	<b>30</b> 8:15am Sprtl Mvmnt Class 9-11:30 GSH
<b>31</b> Holy Trinity Sunday 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship Vicar Michelle Kouse						

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