



THE FIRST EDITION

OCTOBER 2024

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JOIN US ON

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

October 6 is our dedicated day of service to celebrate who we are as members of the ELCA and to share God's love with our community.

Join our teams after worship for any of these service options:

- 1 Cannon Falls Cemetery Clean-up:** Bring whisk brooms, small shovels, and wire brushes if you have them. Group leader: Denise Holz.
- 2 LSS House:** Yard cleaning and other maintenance. Group Leader: Pastor Luke and Mark Dubbels.
- 3 Cannon River Senior Interviews:** Teams will interview residents to share as a report document. Group Leader: Sue Josephson.
- 4 Cannon Rivers Sing-along:** Warm up your vocal chords for a sing-a-long with residents. Group Leader: Kathy Illa.
- 5 Fleece Blankets:** Help tie blankets at FELC for our graduating seniors. Group leader: Kathy Grosland



6 Weeding around church and town: Bring gloves and a trowel. Group leader: Denise and Phil Jacobson

7 Sunday School Kids Projects: The children's projects include painting rocks, creating thank you cards and decorations for the Cannon Falls Christmas Parade float.

Teams can return to church for a meal and fellowship. In case of rain, the cemetery, LSS group and weeding groups will have an option to make cards for local first responders, police, fire and veterans.



**First English
Lutheran Church**
Cannon Falls

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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR UPDATES!**

www.firstenglishchurch.com



PASTOR LUKE

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NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

FELC Strategic Goals—During the Transition Process, prior to calling Pastor Luke, First English identified four strategic goals:

- 1) Broaden Leader Representation
- 2) Provide MEANINGFUL Opportunities for Service
- 3) Enrich our Worship Experience
- 4) Develop our Spiritual Education

I am happy to see we are making progress in each of these goals. And, from where I am sitting, our best success at achieving these is when people identify where their interests and the needs of the church intersect. In the last couple of months, four teams/committees have been doing just that: Children, Youth and Family Ministry, Love in Outreach, Faith and Life Conversations, and Property.

Children, Youth and Family – While no official committee has been resurrected yet, many individuals have stepped up to lead our Sunday School and Confirmation programs.

Love in Outreach – a new team has started to form in order to meet the needs of the previous *Social Ministry Committee*. They have taken initiative on leading God's Work Our Hands, facilitated the LWR School Kits and more.

Faith and Life Conversations – This is a brand new committee facilitating conversations around theology, Bible Study, Social Justice, and other spiritual education-related topics both during the "Education Hour" on Sundays and during the week.

Property – We have been blessed by Royce Anderson who has taken good care of the FELC property and now others are stepping up to help as well.

In each of these, people have volunteered their skills and interest to help FELC accomplish its goals and be a more engaging community. Thanks to all who are stepping up!

Pastor Luke

WILL YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR? (FALL THEOLOGICAL RETREAT)

From October 13-15, Pastor Luke will join other area synod leaders on a "Will You Be My Neighbor? Called to Community" Retreat in Onalaska, WI.

The Retreat's primary question echoes one asked in a ubiquitous children's television program by a universally beloved host. But a different host asked a similar question nearly 2,000 years earlier: "Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" (Luke 10:36)

Today, we sometimes wonder how the church impacts the communities it serves. What does it mean to live faithfully in our changing neighborhoods? To serve a wide variety of communities? What does it mean to be called to community? How are we connected? And how do we even define "community" in our context(s)?

At the Southeastern Minnesota Synod's 2024 Fall Theological Retreat, we will ponder what it means to answer Jesus' call to "go and do likewise" for pastors and other church leaders, laypeople, and congregations today.

SUPPORTING THE FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN EVENT

Cannon Falls continues to host the ministry Feed My Starving Children. This will be our 14th Mobile Pack Event. Last year, over 500 volunteers came together to pack 101,088 meals feeding 276 children for a year in Nicaragua via a FMSC partner, LeSEA Global Feed the Hungry. This year we hope to raise \$30,000 to purchase the ingredients needed to match last year's Mobile Pack Event. During the month of October, First English will collect monies to support this via a "noisy offering" following the Children's Time every Sunday. Confirmation students, and any other members that wish, are encouraged to sign up as volunteers for the actual event as well.



Cannon Falls Community FMSC Event

Saturday, November 9, 2024

Cannon Falls High School

To volunteer and to donate, go to

<https://give.fmsc.org/cannonfalls>



Registration begins September 25 for area churches.
Use Special Code CFFMSC if registering on line before October 16
Registration for the General Public begins October 16



**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US,
SEPTEMBER 8, RALLY SUNDAY!**



HEADING TO GUATEMALA

First English is sending 15 adults to Guatemala from October 22 to October 29. We hope this will be the first of many trips to "The Mission of San Lucas Tolimán." The primary purpose is education as we learn from a centuries-old culture and about the seven program areas led by more than 120 Guatemalans, including: healthcare, education, coffee, construction, charity, women's center, and visitor program. Additionally, we will visit one of the most beautiful lakes in the world and encounter the presence of God in a new and compelling way.

How can you support this trip? On Sunday, October 20, you are invited to attend worship when we will commission the trip. During the trip, you can pray for the participants. That they will have an open mind as they learn from the communities, peoples, and cultures of Guatemala, and that they may stay safe. Following the trip, you are invited to attend the "Education Hour" from 10:15-10:45 am in the sanctuary, on November 10 and 17, to hear from participants as they share about their experiences.

FELC OFFICE HOURS

Our church office hours are
Monday-Friday,
9 am-Noon, 1-3:30 pm
Closed on Holidays



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Maddie Patterson

Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry

maddiep@firstenglishchurch.com

FALL PROGRAM UPDATES

Fall programming is in full swing! Sunday School has started and kids are getting into the new routines. Children’s Time has continued during worship, where kids come downstairs with Maddie to read through the Bible and put those stories into memory with games and activities. After worship each week Sunday Schoolers have been finding their way downstairs after worship at 10:15am to their classrooms and spending half an hour exploring the lesson of the day with their teachers.

On September 29, we had our Kindergarten Spotlight during worship. This means that Kindergarteners and their families were invited to participate in worship as ushers and greeters! Spotlights will continue throughout the year, and each grade level will get a chance to be involved in worship as ushers, greeters and readers. This is a great way to try new things and see if there is a way you like to serve!

It isn’t just the elementary schoolers with lots to do though! Confirmation began with a parent meeting and intro night as we kick off the year. Each Wednesday Confirmation students pour in from 6-6:30pm for pizza before we go through the lesson for the night and worship together. This year we will explore the stories of the New Testament and learn about the life of Jesus and His disciples.

For the older kids, there is also the 5th Quarter Fun Night coming up on Friday, October 11th. After the home football game, 6-12th graders are invited to come back to FELC for a bonfire, hot dogs, smores and games!

Another new addition this fall has been Youth Group. Erica Peterson will lead our older youth on Wednesdays. Youth Group is a laid back space for teenagers to be in church. There are less lessons and structure to Youth Group. It is designed to be a space for teens to bring whatever questions they have and simply hang out. So come whenever you are free, there will be pizza from 6-6:30 pm and a space for you!

Finally, we will have God’s Work our Hands on October 6th. This is a congregation-wide endeavor, so everyone is

invited to join in. After worship that day there will be several service projects you can take part in. For families looking to stay close to the church building, there will be rock painting to brighten up the neighborhood, making cards for the homebound, and making decorations for the parade float we will have this fall. 10th graders who have the confirmation retreat that day will stay with Maddie and work on outdoor projects at the church, before heading back inside for lunch with everyone and writing faith statements.

Peace,
Maddie Patterson



CANNON FALLS BREAKFAST CLUB ROLLS INTO NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Cannon Falls Breakfast Club got rolling again this year on Tuesday, September 17. CFBC will continue to meet on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7 am at St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church.



CANNON FALLS BREAKFAST CLUB

INVITES YOU!



•GREAT FOOD •SPIRITUAL MESSAGE •GAMES •PRIZES

ALL 7-12TH GRADE STUDENTS TO JOIN THEM
ON THE FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY EACH MONTH
7:00 a.m ST. ANSGAR'S CHURCH BASEMENT

*The breakfast club is a place for kids to gather in a spirit of kindness,
to be fed in word and fellowship, and grow in their faith.*

HELP ON SUNDAYS!

Help is needed in multiple areas during our services. Consider assisting as an usher, lay reader, communion assistant, or with fellowship afterwards. If you can assist in any of these areas, sign up at the welcome desk on the date you are available.

Questions? Contact the church office at 507-263-3042 or email info@firstenglishchurch.com. Thank you for your consideration!



ELLERY MAE JACOBSON was baptized on Sunday, September 8, 2024. Ellery was born on March 28, 2024 in Rochester, MN to **Marcus** and **Sydney Jacobson**. Ellery's sponsors are **Ben** and **Rachel Danovsky**.

LEIGHTON JAMES BENSON was baptized on Sunday, September 22, 2024. Leighton was born on June 30, 2024 in Rochester, MN to **Korie Jackson** and **Matthew Benson**. Leighton's sponsors are **Katie** and **Jesse Gesme**, **Tanner Jackson**, and **Lauren Zuidema**.



Fellowship Of Christian Athletes Huddle Meetings will begin on Tuesday October 22. They will meet on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th (when there is one) Tuesdays of the month at 7am in Coach Huseeth's Room.



**First English
Lutheran
Church-Cannon
Falls**

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WOMEN OF FELC GATHERING

AND BIBLE STUDY

The next gathering of the Women of FELC group will be held on **Tuesday, October 8 at 10 am** in the Family Room. Join them for fellowship and bible study!



NEW CHOIR MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

Everyone is welcome in the FELC choir, no matter what level of your singing ability.

Why join the FELC choir?

- we have fun, meet new people, learn some great music
- it's a way to share with the congregation
- choir music makes a lovely addition to services

We sing twice a month and on some special holidays. Practice is held at 8 am on the days we sing in worship. Contact Jill Serres (phone or text) 507-649-0851 or email jserres@mac.com.

FIELDS OF FAITH

OCTOBER 9, 2024

John Burch Park

100 7th Street North

Cannon Falls, MN 55009 - 7:00PM

7:00-7:15 Fellowship 7:15-8:15 Program

ONE DAY. ONE MESSAGE. ONE STAND.

Fields of Faith is a peer-to-peer movement where thousands of students from across the nation and world gather on their school's athletic field to share faith stories and challenge each other to apply the Bible as their "game plan for life."

Join us for music, speakers, and other activities

Main Speakers: Local student/athletes including state champions, section champions, FCA leaders, and more...

FIELDISOFFAITH.COM

CANNON FALLS FOOD SHELF

For over 25 years, the volunteers of the Cannon Falls Food Shelf has devoted their energy to passionately advocating for the needs of our community family.

Consider donating food to restock the shelves for our community today.

The Cannon Falls Food Shelf is run by a local volunteer board and is not under the administration of First English Lutheran Church. Tax ID# is 30-0221349.

HOURS

1st Saturday (October 5)
10 am to Noon

2nd Thursday (October 10)
10 am to Noon

3rd Thursday (October 17)
4:30 to 6:30 pm

4th Thursday (October 24)
10 am to Noon



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The First English Lutheran Church Council met on September 12, 2024.

The following are the highlights of the meeting:

- Approved August 8, 2024, council minutes.
- Pastor's Report—Meeting weekly with CYF Director; supervising janitor; identifying/empowering new leaders; looking to expand stewardship; feeling proud of what is happening at First English.
- Approved Treasurer's Report.

August 2024 Income/Expense Report

Total Income	+ \$ 25,840.67
Total Expenses	- \$ 32,626.27

2024 Year to Date Income/Expense Report

Total Income	+ \$ 218,685.82
Total Expenses	- \$ 237,280.03

Noted that \$30,000 down payment has been made for new projection system.

- Pr. Emily Carson from the Synod office who will work with us on strategic planning that will help us determine staffing needs.
- New projection system - will work on fundraising
- Pictorial Directory: 75 units have signed up; volunteers calling to sign up more; we will also have "on line" pictorial directory with Church 360 program
- Property and Janitorial
 - Scott Johnson reported on meeting with Royce Anderson – much to learn
 - List of property tasks is being compiled as well as list of volunteers
 - New janitor is now working 2 days/week and will cover clean up after special events
 - Royce Anderson will continue spot clean up after Sunday worship and fellowship
- God's Work, Our Hands is Sunday, October 6. Short 30-minute worship with projects to follow; all area ELCA congregations doing projects on this date.
- Stewardship, Finance Committee, 2025 Budget: Intentional budget planning; Committee: Pr. Hollander, P. Jacobson, D. Kautz, D. Johnson, P. Althoff, B. Peterson
- Approve authorizing Memorial Committee to spend up to \$2,500 from memorial fund without council approval.
- Bill Peterson gave update on Guatemala trip and Education task force.
- The CCIC is working on possible resource center in Cannon Falls - what are unmet needs in Cannon Falls that should be addressed.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 7 pm



MEMORIALS & GIFTS

SEPTEMBER 2024

In Memory of Harlean Hanson

Mark and Cynthia Brown

In Memory of Bonnie Simon

C Adelman Family

In Memory of Marge Kurtz

Phil and Terry Ruud

In Memory of Jim and Liz Foss

Jim and Jan Edlund

In Memory of Bonnie Simon

Orchard Rangers

In Memory of John Althoff

Bev Stedman

Jim and Jan Edlund

Roland and Dort Spillman

In Memory of Kevin Ehlers

Roland and Dort Spillman

Dean and Marcia Kautz

Ken and Barb Elias

NEW BABY?

We want to know!

Are you expecting a child through birth or adoption? Do you have a new infant at home? In these sacred times of welcoming a baby, First English Lutheran Church is here for you. We have resources to support the whole family and look forward to connecting with you! Contact our office for more information. For baptism requests, please fill out the Baptism Request form found on our website at

www.firstenglishchurch.com.



OCTOBER 2024

OCT 2, WEDS

1 pm Staff Meeting
6 pm Confirmation
7:30 pm Wednesday Worship

OCT 5, SAT

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

OCT 6, SUN

9 am Communion Worship
9:30 am Confirmation Retreat
10 am Gods Work Our Hands Service Day

OCT 8, TUE

10 am Women of FELC Meeting

OCT 9, WEDS

1 pm Staff Meeting
6 pm Confirmation at Fields of Faith
Event

OCT 10, THURS

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf
7 pm Church Council Meeting

OCT 11, FRI

9-11 pm 5th Qtr Fun Night

OCT 13, SUN

9 am Confirmation Sunday Worship
10:15-10:45 am Education Hour—
Sunday School and Faith and Life
Conversations

OCT 16, WEDS

1 pm Staff Meeting
No Confirmation or Wednesday Worship

OCT 17, THU

4:30 – 6:30 pm CF Food Shelf

OCT 20, SUN

9 am Communion Worship
No Education Hour

OCT 23, WEDS

6 pm Confirmation
7:30 pm Wednesday Worship

OCT 24, THU

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

OCT 27, SUN

9 am Worship
10:15-10:45 am Education Hour—
Sunday School and Faith and Life
Conversations

OCT 30, WEDS

1 pm Staff Meeting
6 pm Confirmation
7:30 pm Wednesday Worship



FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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CONFIRMATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 13

Ten students will affirm their baptism as they take over their promises of faith that were made for them by parents and communities when they were young on Sunday, October 13 at 9 am. Help us celebrate this milestone with them during worship and with a cake reception following the service.

Tyler Meyers Evan Miller Rylann Miller
William Montgomery Griffin Peterson Joel Spicer Avery Stark
Katie Tipton Beck Swanson Kaeda Rezac

These students have completed four years of confirmation classes during a time of transition. They explored their faith through Bible Study, Catechesis work, service, mentor discussions, community fun, and more. On October 6, they will write their faith statements during the confirmation retreat. This will be a time when they reflect on their faith journey and put it in action through worship and service. Posters highlighting their faith statements and journeys will be posted on Confirmation Sunday.