



MAY 2024

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Heating Up This Month in CYF

Sunday, May 5	9 am during Worship	11th Grade Milestone
		5th Gr First Communion (Reception following)
	10 am	Mentor Sunday and Breakfast
Monday, May 6	10 am	Play Group
Sunday, May 12	10 am	Pre-K/Elementary Listening Session
Weds., May 15	7 pm	2024 Baccalaureate
Saturday, May 18	10 am	Playground Playdate
Sunday, May 19	9 am during Worship	Senior Recognition
	10 am	Middle/High School Listening Session

For more information, see our CYF update on page 6!

Making Resurrection Rolls



Families enjoyed making resurrection rolls after worship on Sunday, April 14.



**First English
Lutheran Church**

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Jim Nelson	Bill Peterson
Robin Stewart	Amanda Thompson
Carna Visagie	

FOUNDATION BOARD

Barb Elias	Denise Holz
Tiffany Kiffmeyer	Elvena Schmutge
Emily Spicer	Kathy Swanson

**Visit our Website
for Updates!**

www.firstenglishchurch.com

PASTOR LUKE

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Note from the Pastor

New Communion Ware

You may have noticed we purchased new communion ware with our undesignated memorial funds. The new communion ware helps us better meet our needs. The old set was, well, getting old. Cups were getting stuck and hard to retrieve for our members, and, with a growing congregation, we didn't have enough for our better-attended services. The altar guild is thrilled!

Council Retreat

The Council met in April. We spent some time getting to know one another better. After all, the church is meant to be relational. It was time well spent. We also talked about who we are as a congregation and who we would like to better become. I have already led 30 baptisms since I started here – wow! This growing population of families provides us opportunities. One of the council's take-aways was education and spiritual direction. We asked the question: how do we be a vibrant church community that engages people of all ages? So, a task force is being formed to help us better identify how our Children, Youth, and Family Ministries and Adult Education can better engage members and meet their spiritual and communal needs. In May, there will be a couple of listening sessions to get families' input. In the future, there will be additional listening sessions and a survey as we start to imagine how we might do this kind of ministry.

Stay tuned for more!

Pastor Luke

Gathering at Cannon Rivers



On March 27, a special service and get-together was held for our members at Cannon Rivers Assisted Living. Thank you to Betty Nelson and Sue Josephson for their planning and Marge Barnett for playing violin!



First English Trip to Guatemala

Join Pastor Luke and Bill Peterson as they lead a team from First English on a cultural immersion trip to the western highlands of Guatemala. Our host is "The Mission" in San Lucas Tolimán which has served the people of San Lucas since 1963. We will learn about Mission programs, visit communities and sacred places, and immerse ourselves in the ancient culture of the Maya people.

Dates of the trip are October 22-28, 2024.

This is a great opportunity to learn about international development work, to gain perspective on another culture and to experience first-hand what God is doing in San Lucas. We will end the trip with two nights in the beautiful colonial town of Antigua.

Cost of the trip is \$500 plus airfare. The team is housed in a local hotel and the Mission provides all ground transportation and meals (meals in Antigua are not included). Participants need valid passports (not expiring before 2025) and must be able to walk on uneven ground.

To register, make a \$250 deposit with First English by May 15. Group size is limited.

For questions, contact Bill at 612-325-3667 or bipet001@gmail.com. Bill is the recently retired Executive Director of Friends of San Lucas and has led dozens of groups to San Lucas. For more information about the Mission and Friends of San Lucas go to: sanlucasmission.org.



FELC Women's Scholarship Available

for 2024 Graduating High School Seniors

The Women of First English Lutheran church will be giving a scholarship to one of this year's graduating high school seniors who are planning to continue their education at a four-year college, junior college, or vocational school. The application can be found on the church website at www.firstenglishchurch.com, along with the criteria. **Deadline to apply is Friday, May 10.** The scholarship will be awarded during worship on Senior Recognition Sunday.

Prayer Chain Requests

Deb Stark and Pastor Luke have discussed the prayer chain and want to continue increasing the presence of prayer at First English. Please let us know if you would like to join the prayer chain.

We will begin listing prayer requests in our monthly newsletter, so if you would like your church to pray for you, please let us know. This month, please keep

Royce Anderson,
Donna Kimmes,
Marcine Lundell,
Bonnie Simon,
Jim Soule, and
Marlys Weber

in your prayers. Prayers for comfort, healing, and peace.



Lawn Mowing

The grass is already green and growing! We need some help in maintaining our lawn at First English this year. Please contact Pastor Luke if you would be interested/available to help us.



BODE NELS CHAPEK and **LENORA MAY CHAPEK** were baptized on Sunday, April 7, 2024. Bode was born on August 25, 2021 in Robbinsdale, MN and Lenora was born on August 12, 2023, in Burnsville, MN, both to **Jessica and Jake Chapek**. Bode's sponsors are **Matt and Amanda Vanderplas**. Lenora's sponsors are **Eric and Katie Altermatt**.

COLTON MARSHALL BERGESON was baptized on Sunday, April 21, 2024. He was born on November 25, 2023 to **Katie Beebe** and **Justin Bergeson** in Red Wing, MN. His sponsor's are **Michael Beebe** and **Britney Bergeson**.

MAYA SOFIE VORBECK was baptized on Sunday, April 28, 2024. She was born on January 28, 2024 to **Destiny** and **Ross Vorbeck** in Red Wing, MN. Her sponsor's are **Renee Clark** and **Andrew Clark**.

FELC OFFICE HOURS

Regular church office hours are

Monday-Friday,

9 am-Noon, 1-3:30 pm

Closed on May 27 and May 31



Palm Sunday Service



Easter Flowers



Easter Sunday Service



Prepping for Easter Breakfast



Prepping for Easter Breakfast



Maundy Thursday Service



Easter Flowers

Holy Week 2024

Thank you to all of you for joining in our services, helping at our events and making this Easter Season special! Alleluia!



Good Friday Service



Easter Egg Hunt



Enjoying Easter Breakfast



Our Youth Servers



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Maddie Patterson
Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministry
maddiefirstenglish@gmail.com
507-384-8317

May Activities Abound

Listening Sessions — May 12 and 19

The year is ending and regular programming is coming to a close.

With these programs wrapping up for the year, we want to hear what you think about FELC programs. To facilitate this we will have two listening sessions after worship in May. The first listening session on May 12th after worship will be to discuss what pre-k and elementary aged programming you would like to see. Bring your thoughts on what can change, what you liked, and which activities you want to see more of. On Sunday May 19th after worship, we'd love to hear what you have to say about middle and high school programming. If you have kids this age, are interested in volunteering, and want to make your voice heard, please join us on May 12th and 19th.

That said, Sunday School and Confirmation will both end on May 5th. Confirmation students will close out the year with Mentor Sunday on May 5th. This has been a wonderful way for confirmation students to connect with other members of the congregation. Sunday Schoolers will also end their year this Sunday.

Community Opportunities

Even though Sunday School is wrapping up for the year, opportunities for the littles to be active in church are not over. There are some new opportunities for young kids and their families to build community at FELC. We will kick this off with a play group on Monday, May 6th at 10 am. This is an opportunity to bring babies and littles in your care and connect with fellow members while kids play in the family room.

If outdoors is more your jam, there will be a similar playground playdate at East Side Park on May 18th. Kids and families of all ages are invited to come and play at the park from 10 am—Noon.

For the older youth, we will continue with youth group on Wednesday nights through May. Pizza and pop will be provided for supper before discussing the topic of the night.

Mentors & Milestones

Our older youth also have a host of activities as summer begins. May 5th alone will feature Mentor Sunday, First Communion, and a milestone for the juniors.

Confirmands should bring their mentors to worship at 9 am for the last mentor Sunday, on May 5th. After we gather together, there will be breakfast and discussion time in the fellowship hall. Come ready to discuss and celebrate everything you have learned this year!

During worship that morning, we will celebrate two milestones as the 5th graders as they receive First Communion. Afterwards there will be a reception to celebrate! Juniors will also participate in their surprise milestone during service this morning. Finally, we will honor our graduating students with Senior Recognition on May 19th during the worship service, again with a celebratory reception to follow.

Finally, FELC will host baccalaureate on Wednesday, May 15th at 7 pm to celebrate Cannon Falls Seniors. Baccalaureate is open to all!

Peace,
Maddie Patterson
CYF Director

Annual Ditch Clean Up



Thank you to all who helped during our annual Ditch Clean Up on a very cold Saturday, April 20! Our two-mile stretch of highway is along County Road 24. Watch for the FELCY sign!



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The First English Lutheran Church Council met on April 11, 2024.

The following are the highlights of the meetings:

- Approved council minutes for the February 8, 2024 meeting and the March virtual meeting.
- Heard Pastor's Report.
- Approved Treasurer's Report.

February 2024 Income/Expense Report

Total Income	+ \$ 22,130.85
Total Expenses	- \$ 26,295.26

March 2024 Income/Expense Report

Total Income	+ \$ 33,705.39
Total Expenses	- \$ 23,364.25

- Reviewed items to purchased through undesignated memorial fund.
- Discussed offering envelopes.
- Discussed the need for permanent name tags.
- Heard an update from the Cannon Falls Food Shelf.
- Reviewed Committee Reports.

Next Council Meeting:

The next meeting is **Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 7 pm.**

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 (May 4)
10 am to Noon
- 2nd Thursday (May 9)
10 am to Noon
- 3rd Thursday (May 16)
4:30 to 6:30 pm
- 4th Thursday (May 23)
10 am to Noon

Email
foodshelfcannonfalls@gmail.com
or call (507) 263-3257
with any questions.

MEMORIALS & GIFTS

APRIL 2024

In Memory of Eleanor Holt

Elvena Schmugge

In Memory of Bruce Benson

Jim and Jan Edlund

In Memory of Jan Barsness-West

Stephen West

Memorials at Eastertime

Sharon Aamodt in Memory of

Jason Aamodt

Betty Nelson in Memory of

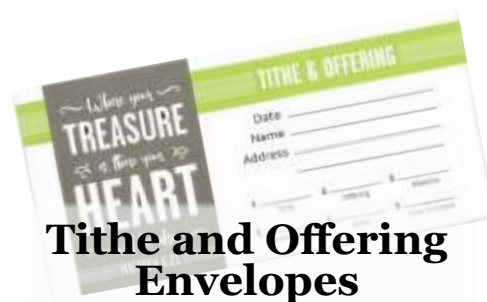
Loved Ones

Rose Pedersen in Memory of

Jerry Pedersen

Dar Qualle in Memory of

Virgil Qualle



Tithe and Offering Envelopes

Special envelopes are now available to anyone who would like to give for a special purpose or for their weekly offering using an envelope. Be sure to note your name or your 2024 family offering number and any specific fund you are donating on the envelop.

Each year in late fall, a box of offering envelopes are available to families listed on our envelope preference group.

MAY 2024

MAY 1, WED

10 am Bird/Nature Hike at Miesville
1 pm Staff Meeting

MAY 2, THU

6:30 pm Annual Prayer for the Cannon Valley at St. Ansgar's

MAY 4, SAT

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

MAY 5, SUN

9 am Communion Worship
Sunday School During Worship
5th Grade 1st Communion
11th Grade Milestone

10 am Mentor Sunday and Breakfast

MAY 7, TUE 124th Anniversary

Spring Cleaning Day

MAY 8, WED

10 am Bird/Nature Hike at Miesville
1 pm Staff Meeting

MAY 9, THU

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

MAY 11, SAT

9 am SE MN Synod 2024 Assembly in Mankato

MAY 12, SUN

9 am Communion Worship & Shaker Hymn Sunday

MAY 14, TUE

10 am Women of FELC Meeting

MAY 15, WED

10 am Bird/Nature Hike at Miesville
1 pm Staff Meeting
7 pm 2024 Baccalaureate Service

MAY 16, THU

4:30 – 6:30 pm CF Food Shelf
5:30 pm Brewed Theology at Tilion

MAY 19, SUN

9 am Communion Worship
Senior Recognition

MAY 22, WED

8 am Bird/Nature Hike at Frontenac
1 pm Staff Meeting

MAY 23, THU

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

MAY 26, SUN

9 am Worship

MAY 27, MON Memorial Day

FELC Office Closed

MAY 29, WED

1 pm Staff Meeting

MAY 31, FRI

FELC Office Closed (Summer Hours Start)



First English Lutheran Church

511 W Belle St
Cannon Falls MN 55009

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Upcoming Opportunities

Bird/Nature Hikes at Miesville Ravine—Wednesdays, 10 am

Pastor Luke will continue to lead bird/nature hikes for the first three weeks of May. Join him starting at 10am on Wednesdays, May 1, 8, and 15 to enjoy the nature of Miesville Ravine Park just east of Cannon River Lutheran Church. We will meet at the pavilion on the south side of 280th Street and hike up the ravine for about an hour following a prayer. **On May 22, there will be a special field trip to Frontenac State Park.** We will meet at 8 am at Sand Point Trail. There is a parking lot at the intersection of Hwy 61 and CR 2. Contact Pastor Luke with any questions.

Brewed Theology at Tilion Brewery--May 16, 5:30 pm

Our next Brewed Theology will be on Thursday, May 16, at 5:30 pm at Tilion Brewery. We will be discussing "individualism." We live in the "information age," but it's also quite possibly the "individual" age. Data, opinions, and connections are immediately available and sharable to just about anyone, and our devices are designed to track and cater to our individual curiosities, desires, and opinions. And our concern for ourselves above others contribute to destruction of the planet, less involvement in community organization and institutions, and toxic political partisanship.

For the church, and a people of faith, this is a problem. Join us as we discuss how our increased independence and individualism contributes to a false sense of less need for a community of faith.

Women of FELC Gathering-- May 14, 10 am

The next gathering of the Women of FELC group will be held on Tuesday, May 14 at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. Join them for fellowship and bible study!