



# THE FIRST EDITION

SUMMER 2024

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SEPTEMBER 2024

## Save the Dates!

# OUTDOOR WORSHIP

June 9 at 9 am

July 14 at 10 am Eastside Park

August 11 at 9 am

## Outdoor Worship This Summer

We will have outdoor worship the second Sunday of every month in the summer. This tradition allows us a chance to lean into summer, worship in God's creation and experience worship in a new way. In the months of June (9th) and August (11th), we will gather on

the northside of the building. We hope you will bring lawn chairs and picnic blankets to be comfortable. We will set up some old metal chairs from the Fellowship Halls as well. Worship will be about 30-45 minutes with a fun summer feel!

In July (14th), we will meet at Eastside Park for worship at 10 am with a church picnic following. More details on page 3.

## FELC SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

This summer our church office hours are

**Monday-Thursday,**

**9 am-Noon, 1-3:30 pm**

Closed on Fridays, and Holidays

Hours effective Memorial Day through Labor Day



**First English  
Lutheran Church**  
Cannon Falls

511 W Belle St Cannon Falls MN 55009  
507-263-3042 [www.firstenglishchurch.com](http://www.firstenglishchurch.com)

## CHURCH OFFICE

507-263-3042

Summer Office Hours:

M-Th, 9 am - 3:30 pm

E-Mail: [firstenglishchurchcf@gmail.com](mailto:firstenglishchurchcf@gmail.com)

Website: [www.firstenglishchurch.com](http://www.firstenglishchurch.com)

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507-218-1311

[lukefirstenglish@gmail.com](mailto:lukefirstenglish@gmail.com)

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES:  
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## CHURCH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Phil Jacobson  
651-380-3262  
[pdjacobson85@gmail.com](mailto:pdjacobson85@gmail.com)

VICE-PRESIDENT Dean Kautz  
612-750-1868  
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SECRETARY Diane Johnson  
773-960-5382  
[dcjohnson1000@yahoo.com](mailto:dcjohnson1000@yahoo.com)

### MEMBERS

Phyllis Althoff	Brenda Deutsch
Julie Gergen	Scott Johnson
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](http://www.firstenglishchurch.com)



## PASTOR LUKE

[lukefirstenglish@gmail.com](mailto:lukefirstenglish@gmail.com)

507.218.1311

## Note from the Pastor

### Property Help

A huge thank you to those who jumped in immediately with the lawn mowing and others who have volunteered to get involved. Scott Johnson and Phyllis Althoff are helping property volunteers get organized. Please connect with them if you would like to get involved.

### The group previously known as the "Social Committee"

A few members, who care about helping others, have started dreaming about how we might keep doing the important work that the Social Committee has done in the past. We are going to experiment by trying to do this in a new way. We hope that many of you will indicate that you care about outreach and helping others (we know you do care!). The plan will be that each month there will be a different focus. For example, March is food share month, September is care kits, etc.

There will be a core group that helps identify what happens each month and when exactly people will meet. Everyone else will be invited to participate whenever they are available and/or if there is a particular ministry they would like to support. For example, maybe you were really inspired by George from Jesus Driven (the Christian non-profit out of Red Wing that fixes cars for those in need). Maybe in July "the group previously known as the Social Committee" (yes, we are still working on a new name) will meet and figure out how we can best support this ministry so you decide to show up to that particular meeting.

Reach out to Pastor Luke or Sue Josephson if you are interested in getting more involved in this group and watch for more details as we keep developing this experiment. Thank you!

*Continued next page...*

## WORSHIP SERVICES



The livestream of our 9 am worship service is available on YouTube via our website, [www.firstenglishchurch.com](http://www.firstenglishchurch.com) And aired on the local HBC Channel 12 (check local listing for schedule) & MediaCom cable channel 12 (11 am on Tuesday, 3 pm Wednesday, and 4:30 pm on Saturday)

If you'd like to have a DVD of the worship services delivered to your home, contact the church office at 507-263-3042.





### Birding Hikes

A few brave souls endured my birding hikes at Miesville Ravine and Frontenac State Park. Thank you for joining me! It was a treat getting to enjoy my favorite hobby with you, spending time together outdoors, and getting to know you better. We were rewarded with excellent views

of a male Scarlet Tanager on our last hike! This was one way we explored doing ministry in new ways together. I look forward to dreaming up additional new ideas with you.

Stay tuned for more!  
Pastor Luke



## Prayer Chain Update

You may have noticed that there are now prayer request forms in the pews! The prayer chain is getting more involved to help support our community in prayer. As we keep improving our communication methods, we will begin offering prayer chain updates in the bulletins and newsletters when people indicate they wish to have their prayer requests published. Thank you to Debbie Stark for taking a lead.



## Have Musical Talent? Do you like to sing or play an instrument?

The Worship and Music Committee is looking for special music to enhance our worship services this summer. Anyone with musical talent to share is encouraged to sign up on the sheet located on the Welcome desk in the narthex. Check with Debbie Stark or the office if you have questions or need help rehearsing.

## Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic July 14

Our annual church picnic will be at Eastside Park again this year on Sunday, July 14. Bring a lawn chair or picnic blanket for worship at 10 am! And bring a side or dessert to share for the picnic afterwards!

Worship will be music-centered with fun and familiar tunes that you can sing to with a guitar. Additionally, there will be a sending for all of the youth headed to Gustavus for Summer Fest and New Orleans for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. The picnic will be a fun time for us to celebrate being in community. We will provide sandwiches and bottled water, and the rest will be potluck. We had a great turn out and time last year! If rain is in the forecast, we will plan on meeting indoors at First English. Changes will be published on our website and sent out as a congregational email.





# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

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

## Summer Updates

Hi FELC!

Summer is here and that means CYF programming changes for a few months. This will be the newsletter for the summer, so you can find all of the activities here.

We will start off strong in June as school ends with a bonfire for everyone on June 6th at 6 pm! Events continue on June 17th, when we youth who have completed 6th grade and up are invited to come tubing on the river! On June 23rd we will host our annual Car wash Fundraiser, where any youth going on summer trips will get cars sparkly clean in exchange for a donation towards their travels.

And in exchange FELC youth will tour the country this summer! The middle school students will leave for Summer Festival at Gustavus on July 14th after a send off during worship. We will also bless the high school youth during that same worship service as they head off to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering later in the week. Finally we will have a congregational barbeque and bonfire on July 25th.

Shifting into August, there are a few programming events on the calendar including a pool party, which will be scheduled when the pool opens for the summer. So keep watching for a date! We will also have an end of year basement cleanup and bonfire on August 25th.

Peace,  
Maddie Patterson  
Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

## Dates to Note

- June 6th** Beginning of summer bonfire 6pm
- June 17th** Tubing on the Cannon River
- June 23rd** Car Wash Fundraiser
- June 24-26** VBS 5-7:30pm
- July 14th** Send Off for Summer trips during worship, picnic afterwards
- July 14-17** Summer Festival
- July 16-20** ELCA Youth Gathering
- July 25th** BBQ Supper 6pm
- August 18th** Pool Party
- August 25th** Basement Cleanout & Bonfire



## National Youth Gathering July 16-20

First English and St. Ansgar's youth are teaming up for the National Youth Gathering. Pastors Kira and Luke will lead 9 high school youth to New Orleans to experience worship, learning, culture and more. This trip is sure to have a lasting impression on our youth as they gather with approximately 15,000 other young Lutherans around the theme of "Created to Be." While we have had some success with fundraisers, we still need to raise more money to make this trip financially viable. Please help support this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our high school youth. Thank you!



# A few things you should know about the

## Southeastern Minnesota Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



The mission of our synod:  
**To walk together proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod is a faith community of over **117,000** baptized people in **168** congregations. It is one of the **65** synods that make up the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The synod includes **two** synod-authorized worshipping communities, **two** campus ministries, **one** camp, and many South Sudanese worshippers.

### Synod means "to walk together."

The three expressions of the ELCA are congregations and specialized ministries, synods, and the churchwide organization. The synod consists of congregations, groups, leaders, and members. Our domestic partner synod is the New England Synod. Our global partners include Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO), Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania - Central Diocese (ELCT-CD), and Evangelical Lutheran Church of Africa - Mission in South Sudan (ELCA-MSS).

**The Office of the Bishop is one part of the synod.** It exists to accompany congregations and leaders, serve as a bridge between worshipping communities and the churchwide organization, and equip and empower the people in our communities as they proclaim the gospel of Jesus.

### The Five Conferences:

- Blue Earth River Conference
- Cannon River Conference
- Minnesota River Conference
- Root River Conference
- Zumbro River Conference



Each conference serves to cultivate relationships between congregations, provide a community for ministry leaders, select representatives to synod boards and committees, and create workgroups in alignment with the mission of the synod. Each holds monthly meetings and annual conference assemblies. Officers are also elected to represent each conference. Learn more at: [semnsynod.org/conferences](http://semnsynod.org/conferences).

## Thank You for the Baby Blankets!

Thank you to all of you who knitting or stitched baby blankets to gift to our young families upon their baby's baptism! Your generosity and talents are amazing! We now have enough for all our baptisms for the next few months.



## 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](http://www.firstenglishchurch.com).





## First English Lutheran Church-Cannon Falls

300 likes · 328 followers

### About the Good Samaritan Fund

The Good Samaritan Fund is a joint effort of area churches (through the CCIC) to support community members with emergency needs. Donate to help your community members today! Any community members can donate to the CCIC Good Samaritan Fund directly.

The Good Samaritan Fund is available to assist Cannon Falls community members with funds for emergencies. Each household may use these emergency funds only ONCE during the calendar year. For requests, please contact Pastor Shannon Bauer at 507-298-7719 or Lori at 507-298-7282.

All other inquiries for monies should be done through the Public Safety Building - 918 River Rd., Cannon Falls.

# Women of FELC Gathering June 11

The next gathering of the Women of FELC group will be held on **Tuesday, June 11 at 10 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Join them for fellowship and bible study!

There will be no gathering in July. Be sure to watch for more information about the annual Women's Picnic in August!



## 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.

### Summer Hours

1st Saturday (June 1, July 6, August 3)  
10 am to Noon

2nd Thursday (June 13, July 11, August 8)  
10 am to Noon

3rd Thursday (June 20, July 18, August 15)  
4:30 to 6:30 pm

4th Thursday (June 27, July 25, August 22)  
10 am to Noon

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





## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The First English Lutheran Church Council met on May 9, 2024. The following are the highlights of the meetings:

- Approved council minutes for the April 11, 2024 meeting.
  - Heard information about the local Tree House ministry.
  - Heard Pastor’s Report.
  - Approved Treasurer’s Report.
- April 2024 Income/Expense Report
- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Total Income   | + \$ 29,920.72 |
| Total Expenses | - \$ 32,474.83 |
- Reviewed the Foundations’ financial report
  - Discussed janitorial and property needs, including organizing a property work list and volunteers.
  - Followed-up on the Council Retreat.
  - Heard an update on the church AED for new batteries and pads.
  - Discussed the Mission trip to Guatemala.
  - Noted that the 125th Anniversary of First English Church will be in May 2025.
  - Approved purchasing a white banner for the altar.
  - Discussed update to Microsoft 365 for Nonprofits for church archives and data base.
  - Reviewed Committee updates.

## Summer Council Meetings:

The council meetings for this summer are scheduled for

- Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 7 pm,**
- Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 7 pm**
- Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 7 pm**

## 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 envelope.

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



## MEMORIALS & GIFTS

MAY 2024

### In Memory of Marge Dracy

- Betty Nelson
- Glen and Christine Pofahl
- Kay Sabin
- Mark and Roxanne Sauter

### In Memory of Eleanor Holt

- Jim and Babe Nelson
- Darlene Sundheim
- Todd and Kathy Swanson

### In Memory of Bonnie Norstad

- Gary and Kathleen Robinson

### In Memory of Mary Ann Glenn

- Dort and Roland Spillman
- Lowell and Sharon Anderson

## Let Us Know When Your Contact Info Changes

In this day and age when phone numbers, mailing addresses and email addresses are frequently changing, getting ahold of our church members can be challenging, especially when unexpected and emergency situations develop.

If your address, email or phone number has changed, please call (507-263-3042) or email (firstenglishchurchcf@gmail.com) with your current information. We will do our best to keep you informed of important notices.





**First English Lutheran Church**

511 W Belle St  
Cannon Falls MN 55009

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First English is hosting the last Cannon Falls Breakfast Club of the 2023-24 school year! It will be held on **Tuesday, June 4 at 7 am at St. Ansgar's.**

**Breakfast Items are Needed!**

If you can buy, bake or prepare any breakfast items for the Cannon Falls youth, please let Pastor Luke or Maddie know you can bring something to the end-of-the-year Breakfast Club.

**SUMMER 2024**

**JUNE**

**JUNE 1, SAT**

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

**JUNE 2, SUN**

9 am Communion Worship

**JUNE 6, THU**

6 pm Youth Bonfire

**JUNE 9, SUN**

9 am Outside Worship at FELC

**JUNE 11, TUE**

10 am Women of FELC Meeting

**JUNE 13, THU**

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

**JUNE 16, SUN Fathers Day**

9 am Communion Worship

**JUNE 17, THU**

Youth Tubing on Cannon River

**JUNE 20, THU**

4:30 – 6:30 pm CF Food Shelf

**JUNE 23, SUN**

9 am Worship  
Youth Car Wash Fundraiser

**JUNE 24-26**

5:30 pm Vacation Bible School

**JUNE 27, THU**

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

**JUNE 30, SUN**

9 am Worship

**JULY**

**JULY 6, SAT**

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

**JULY 7, SUN**

9 am Communion Worship

**JULY 11, THU**

9 am– Noon Goodhue Cty WIC

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

7 pm Church Council Meeting

**JULY 14, SUN**

10 am Outside Worship at Eastside Park  
Church Picnic to follow

**JULY 14-17**

Summer Festival for Youth in St. Peter

**JULY 16-20**

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans

**JULY 18, THU**

4:30 – 6:30 pm CF Food Shelf

**JULY 21, SUN**

9 am Communion Worship

**JULY 25, THU**

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf  
5 pm Congregational BBQ and Bonfire

**JULY 28, SUN**

9 am Worship

**AUGUST**

**AUG 3, SAT**

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

**AUG 4, SUN**

9 am Communion Worship

**AUG 8, THU**

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

**AUG 11, SUN**

9 am Outside Worship at FELC

**AUG 13, TUE**

11:30 am Women's Group Picnic

**AUG 14, WED**

6 pm Basement Clean Out and Bonfire

**AUG 15, THU**

4:30-6:30 pm CF Food Shelf

**AUG 18, SUN**

9 am Communion Worship  
Youth Pool Party

**AUG 22, THU**

10 am – Noon CF Food Shelf

**AUG 25, SUN**

9 am Worship  
Basement Cleanout and Bonfire