

First Edition



**May
2012**



The Rev. Steven Nelson,
Pastor

Newsletter for:

First English Lutheran Church
107 West Mechanic Street

Wapakoneta, OH 45895

(419) 738-3911 or 738-8893

e-mail: wapakelc@bright.net

website: www.myfelc.com



Time to Bloom!

FROM THE PASTOR.....

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl, Shelby. She wanted to know what the United States looked like. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to Shelby and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you our whole country today." After a few minutes, she returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. "Oh," she said, "On the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got Jesus back where he belonged, then our country just came together."

On Thursday, May 3RD at 12 noon behind downtown at Heritage Park, all the churches in town are invited to a **National Day of Prayer observance**. Praying for our country and our community is important to all of us. Please come from 12 to 1pm and pray with us. (Bring a lawn chair if you need to sit).

On Sunday, May 6th we will celebrate the **Affirmation of baptism** at the 10am Worship service. We have the following 8th graders who will be confirmed that Sunday – Michaela Ary, Dakota Austin, Daniel Ehrenberg, Morgan Fisher and Mason Schmalenberger.

Just to let you know – **Vacation Bible School** is on June 18-22 and once again we will offering this jointly with St. Paul's United Church of Christ. We will need lots of volunteers to help with this as well as lots of children to enjoy it.

A couple of changes are coming our way this summer....

1. **Angie Bowersock and Kelly Schattschneider** are giving up their role as the children's choir directors. We are very grateful for their gentle and good-natured way with our children. Under their direction, when the children sing we stop and listen and somehow they always make us smile. Thank you Angie and Kelly.
2. Also **Susan Morgan** has submitted her resignation effective the end of June as our church organist and bell choir director. Susan has given so much of her time and talent to our congregation and has helped to enrich our worship service. Sometimes she also just makes us laugh and that too is a wonderful thing to do as we gather to give thanks to God. Thank you Susan for your musical talent and your big heart.

We are very grateful for what Angie, Kelly, and Susan have given to us all.

**2012 CONGREGATION
Council & Staff**

of
First English Lutheran Church
107 W. Mechanic St.
Wapakoneta, OH
Office Hours:
Monday thru Friday
8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Mission Statement of FELC

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

Pastor:

The Rev. Steven Nelson.....(419)738-9320

Church Council Members:

Brian Van Meter, Pres.....(419) 657-6185
Todd Oren, V. Pres.....(937) 693-2585
Carlene Koch, Secretary(419) 738-6613
Cari Frame.....(419) 230-9261
Jim Zwiebel.....(419) 645-4869
Denise Kantner.....(419) 738-8289
Dale Dicus.....(419) 645-6345
Brenda Shoffstall.....(419) 657-2265
Kevin Bowersock.....(419) 738-3543

Church Secretary:

Becky Dicus, Treasurer.....(419) 645-6345

Organist:

Susan Morgan.....(419) 568-2711

Janitor:

Brenda Shoffstall.....(419) 657-2265

Sunday School Superintendent:

Lisa Kirby.....(419) 738-7843

Christian Education Director:

Robin Klock.....(419) 738-7213

Adult Choir Director:

Susan Miller.....(419) 738-4968

Musical Arts Directors:

Angie Bowersock.....(937) 394-4707

Kelly Schattschneider.....(419) 738-4681

Bell Choir Director:

Susan Morgan.....(419) 568-2711

Faith-Weaver Co-Directors:

Brenda Shoffstall.....(419) 657-2265

Robin Klock.....(419) 738-7213

Webmaster:

David Curry @ dicy@bright.net



May Council-persons
Cari Frame & Todd Oren

**THE
FOLLOWING
PEOPLE WHO
WERE IN
SPECIAL NEED
OF OUR PRAYERS**



DURING April: Mary Geren Lutz, Roger Comes, Family & Friends of Virginia "Ginny" Krites, Family & Friends of Roland Killian, Judy Metz, Jim Coons, Corky Slife, Cindy, John Geren, Patience Simms, Ross Mincks, Ferd Heller, Jake Braun, Lisa Braun, Erica Young, Tasha McPeek, Dane Craft & Family, Jim Walls, Edward & Maxine (Jean) Doseck, Kyra, Kyle Fittro, Todd Lishness, Norma Rickert, Bob Lofland, Becky Mosler, Larry Longsworth & Family, Bob & Lois Bogart, Deb Shenk, Mrs. Herman Thompson, Pat Katterhenry, Barbara Sparklin, Mabel Jackson, Seth Thuman, Donna Perry, Violet & Alice Bowersock, Lynn Belcher, Jill Starrett, Margaret Kantner, Ashley (Slife) Rostorfer, Kate Harris, Sally Van Horn, Tim Jurosic, Lucy Richeson, Scott Garet, Wesley Rodman, John Klock, Sally Moellenkamp & Family, Kit Helmig, Debbie Griffo, Leo Chiles, Pastor John Clausen, Our Troops & their families



**Sunday, May 6th,
2012**

Holy Communion (5th Sunday of
Easter)

-10:00 a.m. Worship
Service w/ Holy Communion by
continuous distribution.

Sunday, May 20th, 2012
(7th Sunday of Easter)

-10:00 a.m. Worship Service w/ Holy
Communion by
continuous distribution.

Sunday, May 27th, 2012
(Pentecost Sunday)
-10:00 a.m. Worship Service w/
Holy Communion by
continuous distribution.

Our homebound members are delighted to hear from their FELC Family!

Auglaize Acres – Ruby Kinninger, Bob & Lois Bogart
Otterbein, Cridersville – Ruth Howell, Margene Graessle
The Garden's – Millie Yocum, Margaret Kantner
Wapakoneta Manor – Sally Moellenkamp, Sunrise @ Finneytown, Cincinnati, OH – Eloise Garrod
Homebound – Gaynell Market, Roselawn, Spencerville – Anna Binkley

25 W. Main St., Leipsic, OH 45856 – Kate Harris



Please remember our FELC family members who are both suffering and homebound. Please let them know we are thinking of them daily & keeping them in our prayers. Expressions of love & concern are very much appreciated and needed for healing and our general overall health & well-being.

Greeter(s)



May 2012

Altar Guild

Darla Frame & Deanna Wisener

Pew-straightener

Mary Klock

ACOLYTES/LECTORS/WORSHIP ASSISTANTS/GREETERS/NURSERY VOLUNTEERS for May

- 6 Rob Gerstner, Acolyte
 Georgeann Stienecker, Lector
 Char Curry, Worship Assistant
 Brenda Shoffstall, Mechanic Greeter(s)
 Gae Kassel, Melching Greeter(s)
 Matt Roode, Nursery Volunteer
- 13 , Acolyte
 Trell Yocum, Lector
 Bob & Nancy VanSkiver, Mechanic



The May Altar Candles are given to the Glory of God by Dale & Becky Dicus in honor & celebration of grandson, Jack Fisher's, 5th birthday, May 30th & in loving memory of granddaughter, Kennedy Grace Fisher on the anniversary of her birth, May 24th.

- 20 Betty Lietz, Melching Greeter(s)
 Catherine Fisher, Nursery Volunteer
 Harmon Gossard, Acolyte
 Kevin Bowersock, Lector
 Joyce Brincefield, Worship Assistant
 Chris Nagel, Mechanic Greeter(s)
 Matt, Carrie, Maeson & Nolan Roode, Melching Greeter(s)
- 27 Mindy Tabler, Nursery Volunteer
 Hallie Gossard, Acolyte
 Sandy Brading, Lector
 Brian, Rebecca, Bailey & Eli VanMeter, Mechanic Greeter(s)
 Bonnie Davidson, Melching Greeter(s)
 Renae Eckert, Nursery Volunteer



Three FELC youth received their First Communion on Easter Sunday, April 8th with their families during the Festival Easter Worship Service; Lilly McPeek, Isaac Oren & Taylor McCullough.

Richard Chenoweth proudly presents & invites you to his Pen & Ink Exhibit "The Dick Chenoweth Retrospective" from now thru June 17, 2012 at the Riverside Art Center. His "Pen & Ink" exhibit is open to the public.



FELC is scheduled to serve the evening meal for Loaves & Fishes on Thursday, May 10th! Please see Rollie Kent if you are perhaps willing to assist w/ preparation of, serving the meal, &/or clean up following the meal. Many hands make light work & it also provides a chance to have some fellowship w/ others! There will be a clipboard going around during the Worship services to give everyone a chance to provide desserts for that evening's meal!

Letter-Carrier Food Drive – May 12, 2012 Please donate generously to this important effort to relieve hunger in our community and area. Place food by mailbox just prior to the normal arrival time of your mail (NO glass containers please).



All food will be brought to the back of Mercy Unlimited to be sorted and divided with God's Storehouse, Inc. Youth from the Wapakoneta Middle School will be assisting with this day-long event this year for the first time. If any questions, please call Carol @ (419) 738-5456.



PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION

Lutheran Disaster Response needs our assistance to help victims of the deadly storms on March 2, 2012 that caused considerable damage in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. If you would like to make a difference and assist with the recovery efforts, please consider helping in the following ways:

DONATE

- Bibles
- Gift cards to Lowe's for building materials
- Gift cards to Wal-Mart and Kmart for household items
- Pots, pans, kitchen utensils and spices
- Bedding and quilts
- Cleaning supplies, school kits and health kits
- New socks and underwear – Infant through 12 years and adults
- Women's personal hygiene items
- Money – Thrivent Financial will supplement monies raised, \$1 for every \$3 donated. Checks should be made out to Ohio Lutheran Disaster Response. Please note Thrivent Financial on subject line to ensure matching dollars.

- They have a great need for Construction Estimators who can drive to Moscow, Ohio and assess homes, then compile a materials list and determine the cost of the materials.

****Georgeann Stienecker** has generously donated her time and van to deliver our donations to Lutheran Disaster Response in Caldwell, Ohio. Please bring donations to the church by MAY 12th.

If you have a prayer chain request, **Chris Nagel** can be contacted by calling **(419) 657-2554**. If an urgent need arises during the morning, you can reach **Becky** @ the church office @ (419) 738-3911 Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



FaithWeavers is on Wednesday evenings. Come join the crew at 5:30 p.m. with a meal in the Fellowship Hall. Then at 6:00 p.m., we will come out of the desert and go to the Oasis, located in the basement, where we will drink from the living water of God's Word.

Sunday School is in session. The High School class is in the Parlor and the Youth are meeting in the basement after the children's sermon. *Stay tuned for details of when Junior Church begins!*



There are still plenty of opportunities to sign up for a Sunday morning to provide snacks for fellowship time following the **Worship Service**. Please sign-up on the bulletin board outside of the chapel area following the service.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services and are encouraged to participate, as they are able. The ability and desire to participate in worship comes in different stages and at different ages for each child. To assist parents as their children learn about worship, we have the following options:

The nursery is available for children 3 years old and younger. We have children's activity sheets & bags available in the back of the sanctuary, to occupy children age 4 thru elementary during worship. Also, at our Worship service following Children's Time, children age 4 thru 5th grade can go to Jr. Church (during summer) & Sunday School (during school year).



Mercy Unlimited has 2012 needs of hair-care products (shampoo & conditioner).

When on vacation

When on vacation, be with us in spirit.

The rest of the summer, please be with us in person.

Vacation time



Someone has said, "Vacation is what you take when you can't take what you've been taking any longer."

There are good reasons to take a vacation every year: spending time with friends and loved ones, experiencing physical and mental refreshment, enjoying changes in scenery and routine, and preparing for another year of productivity.

Please enjoy your vacation! Try to be faithful to the Lord by attending church while you're away, if you have the opportunity.

Just remember that during vacations and weekend getaways, you're especially missed by your friends at church. The work of the church suffers because no one can fill your place of responsibility quite like you.

God's work goes on all summer long. Your presence and gifts are needed to enable the church to be strong and vigorous throughout the entire year. When you're away, please bring or send your offering before you go.

Have a wonderful summer!

The Auglaize County Agricultural Society and the Gospel Tent Committee are making preparations for the upcoming 12th Annual Auglaize County Fair Gospel Tent. They are excited about the opportunity to continue to bring the Performers, to the Gospel Tent, to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, through their Music Ministries. There will be approximately \$20,300 to cover the week's expenses, they are asking for your financial support, to help make the Gospel Tent possible. The following groups will perform during the fair: Just Us Quartet, Gold City, Mark Trammell Quartet, Soul'd Out Quartet, Brian Free & Assurance and The Isaacs. Wednesday night is set aside for the YOUTH with bands performing, which they hope the youth will enjoy.



They would like to "thank you for your support" and look forward to hearing from you. Please make your check payable to the AUGLAIZE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY and mark to the Attention: Gospel Tent. Please mail your check to the Gospel Tent treasurer, Audrey Knoch, P. O. Box 105, Uniopolis, OH 45888.



If anyone is interested in becoming a member of FELC, please see Pastor Steve or call the church office @ (419) 738-3911. We welcome your inquiry or interest in becoming a confirmed member. We also on the other hand, welcome everyone who wants to be a part of our Worship in any way. Welcome to all!!!

Please see the Council-persons of the month if you have questions or concerns. They will be glad to take your info & if they aren't sure of the answer or the solution, they will be in contact with the appropriate person(s) & someone will get back with you in a reasonable amount of time. They may be contacted in person following our worship services or be contacted at the phone # from the front inside page of this newsletter.



Science confirms the link between mind-set and disease: "A person's psychological state is a prominent factor in health." "Attitude, social networks and a healthy diet are woven together in their importance for physical and mental health."

Attitudes such as forgiveness, faith, optimism, happiness and perseverance lower stress and, along with trust in God, are linked with a reduced risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, infection, ill health and countless stress-related conditions. They also lessen the severity of illness and speed recovery when illness occurs.

A steady state of worry, hostility, unforgiveness, hopelessness, grief and depression increases the risk of infection, inflammatory conditions, disease and slows recovery from sickness. Many factors contribute to disease and even those with a positive outlook on life get sick. Nevertheless, a positive mindset is as important to good health as exercise and diet.

Try the following seven suggestions, which may help tip your scales toward the positive side of life:

1. Smile – smiling is free – but its benefits are priceless. Doing so, lowers stress hormones in the brain, and may power up the body's immune system.
2. Express gratitude – People who express gratitude tend to live longer & healthier lives. Mentally rehearsing or writing a list of daily blessings is a powerful buffer against mental depression and physical illness.
3. Focus on the positives – Continually mulling over sad events or worrisome thoughts is linked to many kinds of depression. Do you control your attitude or does it control you? Concentrating on positive solutions and opportunities will help reduce negative thinking.
4. Forgive – Harboring anger and grudges hurts you by increasing stress hormones, blood pressure and triggering other physical ailments. An act may not be excusable, but it is forgivable. Forgiving allows you to let the injury go. The healing spirit of forgiveness is a gift that God bestows to all who ask.
5. Don't give up – Successful people are not mistake-free – they just refuse to give up. Each one of us can change, learn and improve. Persevere in spite of challenges and failures. Be inspired by the success of others and learn from criticism. Building a more resilient, wholesome attitude will put the oil of enthusiasm back into the mechanics of everyday life.
6. Nurture your brain and body – Nutrition and lifestyle powerfully affect brain function, mood, memory and learning. Eating whole grains, fresh fruits & vegetables, nuts and beans has long-term mood and brain-boosting effects that no snack cake can rival! Drinking water instead of caffeinated and sugary beverages improves alertness naturally. Adequate rest is essential for resisting fatigue, irritability and temptations. And daily exercise, especially in the sunshine and fresh air, has a calming, stress-lowering effect often more powerful than anti-depressants.
7. Help others – Offer to help someone in some way. It takes less than a minute to open a door for someone, but these little courtesies help others while boosting your own health and relieve depression. Many studies demonstrate that those who spend regular time helping others in service not only cut their overall risk of death, but also improve their quality of life.

Chronic worry, anxiety and fear are the opposite of trust. Trust in God is the most potent weapon against mental and physical problems. "Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us" Psalm 62:8

Christian Education News for May

Woman of the Word will start up again in the fall. Have a blessed God filled summer.

YOUTH

It's not too early to plan on attending or on helping out with Bible School!



June 18th-22nd

9:00 to 12:00

FELC/St. Paul's at St. Paul's Church

Pick up a registration form at Church or there is one included in this newsletter.
If you want to be a Crew Leader, sign-up is on the table in the Chapel.

FaithWeaver Friend's Parent(s)!

Faith Weavers is coming to an end for the year on Wednesday, May 9th. We would like to thank you for faithfully sending your children to learn and have fun with the Word of the Lord. We pray that the seeds that were planted grow into a relationship with the Lord that can only be pruned by Him.



To celebrate the year, we will be traveling to The Neil Armstrong Museum for a tour, a movie (Indescribable) and then on to McDonalds for supper.

Thanks be to God and may God bless everyone involved with FaithWeavers this year.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Simon Ehrenberg	5-02-99	Cameron Bowersock	5-03-00
Abby McCullough	5-04-04	Taylor Hager	5-29-97

If you see any of these youth, please remember to wish them a happy birthday or just give them the gift of a prayer for God's blessing on their birthday and the year to follow.



Vacation Bible School

June 18-22

9:00-12:00PM

Registration Form (One Per Child)

Child's Name: _____

Child's Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Parents: Mother's Info

Father's Info

Name: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

T-Shirt size: Youth _____ (S, M, L) Adult _____ (S, M, L, XL, 2XL)

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Work Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____



Allergies or other medical conditions:

Home Church: _____

Would like to be in same

group as: _____

Please make your check payable to St. Paul UCC

Registration per Child \$5.00

Add Music CD \$6.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Total Paid \$ _____

For Office Use Only Amount Paid _____ cash or check # _____

Crew number or name (for Church use only): _____

Please contact Robin Klock if you need financial assistance 567-204-2835

Question of the Month

www.gotquestions.org

Question: "What does it mean for salvation to be a gift from God?"

Answer: The word gift is an important one in the Bible, and it is good that we understand its definition and implications.

In the New Testament, there are several Greek words translated "gift." Some of these words are used in contexts other than God's gift of salvation, such as the reciprocal gift-giving of celebrants (Revelation 11:10), the things received from fathers (Matthew 7:11), offerings to a ministry (Philippians 4:17), and the gifts of the magi (Matthew 2:11).

However, when it comes to the matter of our salvation, the New Testament writers use different Greek words—words that emphasize the gracious and absolutely free quality of the gift. Here are the two words most commonly used for the gift of salvation:

1) *Dorea*, meaning "a free gift." This word lays particular stress on the gratuitous nature of the gift—it is something given above and beyond what is expected or deserved. Every New Testament occurrence of this word is related to a spiritual gift from God. It is what Jesus offers to the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:10). It is called the "free gift" in Romans 5:15. It is the "unspeakable [or indescribable] gift" in 2 Corinthians 9:15. This gracious gift is identified as the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:38; 8:30; and 11:17.

The adverb form of this word is *dorean*, translated "freely" in Matthew 10:8; 2 Corinthians 11:7; Revelation 21:6; 22:17. In Romans 3:24, immediately following God's pronouncement of our guilt, we have this use of *dorean*: "Being justified **FREELY** by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." The gift of salvation is free, and the motive for the gift is nothing more than the grace of the Giver.

2) *Charisma*, meaning "a gift of grace." This word is used to define salvation in Romans 5:15-16. Also, in Romans 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death, but the **GIFT** [charisma] of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." This same word is used in conjunction with the gifts of the Spirit received after salvation (Romans 12:6; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6; 1 Peter 4:10).

Obviously, if something is a "gift of grace," it cannot be earned. To work for something is to deserve it, and that would produce an obligation—a gift of debt, as it were. That is why works destroy grace (Romans 4:1-5; 11:5-6).

When presenting salvation, the New Testament writers carefully chose words that emphasize grace and freedom. As a result, the Bible could not be more clear—salvation is absolutely free, the true gift of God in Christ, and our only responsibility is to receive the gift by faith (John 1:12; 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9).

Yours in Christ,
Robin Klock

2012 Worship Attendance Offerings

Month	Attendance	Current Offerings	Benevolence Offerings	Food Items	Cart/Pantry Offerings
January	133 avg.	\$14,881.20	\$1,137.00	39	\$117.00
February	149 avg.	\$13,462.18	\$1,053.00	28	\$71.00
March	152 avg.	\$13,498.79	\$1,079.00	29	\$68.00
April					
	1 153	\$4,911.50	\$519.00	8	\$15.00
	8 57/248	\$3,173.40	\$292.00	4	\$10.00
	15 178	\$3,120.60	\$255.00	18	\$7.00
	22 172	\$2,298.50	\$354.00	11	\$18.00
	S/G	\$280.00	\$55.00		
Totals as of 4/22/2012		\$55,626.17	\$4,744.00	137	\$306.00
proj. exp. 17 wks. into 2012		-\$61,979.79	-\$5,950.00		
proj. shortfall to-date		-\$6,353.62	-\$1,206.00		

What is a steward?

One definition states that a steward is a person who manages the affairs of a household or an estate for the owner.

In the Christian sense, a steward is the manager of the affairs of God on earth. God has made each of us a steward and has given us abilities and talents that are unique. We should use these abilities and talents to serve God in how we:

- respect and care for ourselves, each other and our world
- receive, share and reflect the Gospel in our day-to-day lives.

The Ascension challenge

Ever wonder what it might have been like to be a disciple when Jesus ascended into heaven? He gave them the monumental task of making disciples of all the world. Plus, they'd have to do it without relying on Jesus' physical presence, as they had until then. Were the disciples overwhelmed, uncertain, afraid?

Maybe, yet they went on to spread the gospel throughout the world nonetheless. They rose to the challenge because they fixed their gaze above as they watched Jesus disappear into the clouds.

When we follow that example, offering ourselves as willing servants and keeping our eyes trained on Jesus instead of our circumstances, there's no limit to what God can accomplish through us.

Special dates

- National Day of Prayer, *May 3, 2012*
- Christian Family Week, *May 6-13, 2012*
- Mother's Day, *May 13, 2012*
- Ascension of the Lord, *May 17, 2012*
- Armed Forces Day, *May 19, 2012*
- Victoria Day (Canada), *May 21, 2012*
- Pentecost, *May 27, 2012*
- Memorial Day, *May 28, 2012*

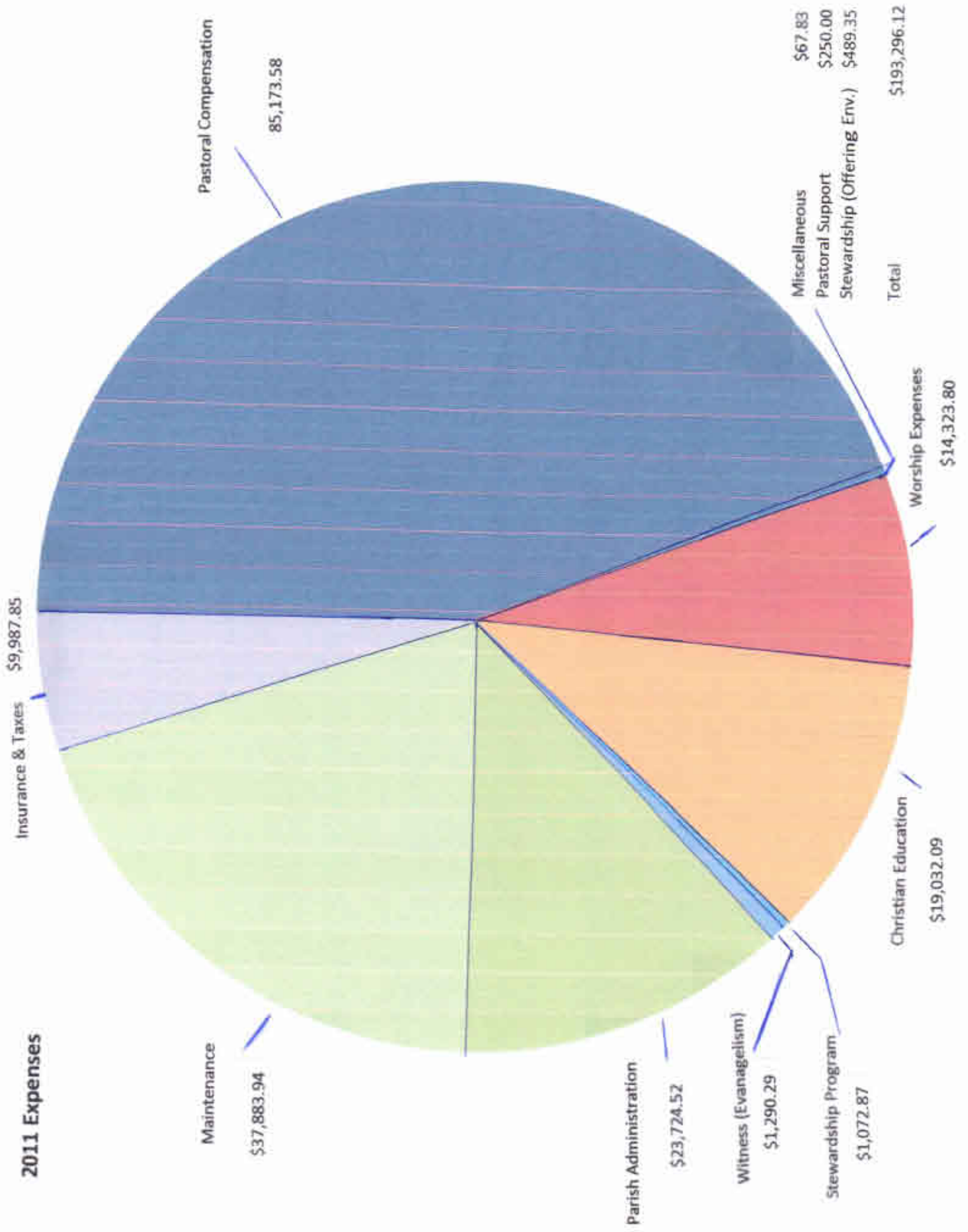
Someday

"Someday" is a snake whose tongue has mastered the talk of deception. "Someday," it hisses, "I'll take her on that cruise ... we'll have time to sit and chat ..."

But you know the truth before I even write it, don't you? Someday never comes! Wise up! Invest the time. Send the flowers. Write the letter. Make the apology. Take the trip. Purchase the gift. Do it! The seized opportunity brings joy — the neglected one brings only regret!

—Max Lucado, *And the Angels Were Silent*

2011 Expenses





We thank the following people for sharing their beautiful Easter flowers with us this Easter season.

Brice & Sara Young in loving memory of Harry & Doris Bryan and Dick & Joanne Young and in honor of Teresa, Terry, Audrey, Taylor, Morgan, Grant, Allison, Peyton, Lydia & Lyla.

Trell & Marisa Yocum in loving memory of Howard Yocum and in honor of Millie Yocum.

Richard & Melanie Yocum in memory of their grandparents and in honor of their parents and grandmother, Millie Yocum.

Bob & Nancy VanSkiver in memory of their parents.

Brian & Rebecca VanMeter in memory of their grandparents, Robert Tomlinson, Marilyn VanMeter & Lloyd Schwieterman.

Ryan, Kara & Makenzie Schneider in honor of Ryan's parents, Wayne & Connie Schneider.

Ryan, Kara, Courtney & Makenzie in honor of Kara & Courtney's parents, Jake & Patti Braun.

Paul & Norma Rickert in memory of their parents and in honor of their Children, Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren.

Pastor Steve & Terry Nelson in honor of their children.

Chris Nagel in memory of John Zuber, Lorna Piper and Nicholas Piper and in honor of her sons, Adam, Brian & Craig.

Tom & Susan Miller in memory of Henry & Clara Miller and in honor of Bob & Lois Bogart.

Betty Lietz in loving memory of Bob Lietz, grandfather of Aaron and Riley.

Shirley, Tracy, Larry & Arliss Lee, Dennis & Tina Gossard & Family in memory of husband, Grandpa and father, Charles A. Lee.

Becky Kohreiser in memory of her parents, Carl & Pauline Brading.

Don & Mary Klock in honor of our Men & Women In-service.

Jennie, Luke & Matthew Kline in loving memory of Jason Kline.

Jim & Denise Kantner in memory of Jim's parents, Bill & Rosemary Kantner and in honor of Denise's parents, Dale & MaryAnn Thomas.

Chuck & Joy Kantner in memory of Emmett Kantner, Fred & Evie Fisher and in honor of Margaret Kantner.

Helen Deerhake in memory of loved ones.

Dave & Char Curry in memory of Charles Jackson, Don & Clara Curry and in honor of Mabel Jackson, their children, grandchildren and their two great-grandsons.

Courtney Braun, Ryan, Kara & Makenzie Schneider in memory of Grandpa Harry Braun & Grandpa Tom Hoying and in honor of our grandparents, Ferd & Ruth Heller.

Kelsey, Marc & Cameron Bowersock in memory of grandparents, Carl & Marge Bowersock, Grandpa Lowell Albright and Uncle Scott and in honor of Grandma Joan Albright.

Larry & Karen Beard in memory of Irene Brooks, Guy & Mary Beard and in honor of their Children & Grandchildren.

Thank you again for sharing your beautiful flowers with us on Easter morning!

Please be sure to remove page 11/12 from the Constitution that was mailed out earlier this year & replace it with this page!

- e. If, in the course of proceedings described in *C9.05.d., the committee concludes that there may be grounds for disciplinary action, the committee shall make recommendations concerning disciplinary action to the synodical bishop, who may bring charges in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the constitution of this synod.
- f. If, following the appointment of the committee described in *C9.05.b. or d., it should become apparent that the pastoral office cannot be conducted effectively in the congregation(s) being served by the ordained minister due to local conditions, the bishop of the synod may temporarily suspend the pastor from service in the congregation(s) without prejudice and with pay provided through a joint synodical and churchwide fund and with housing provided by the congregation(s).
- *C9.06. At a time of pastoral vacancy, an interim pastor shall be appointed by the bishop of the synod with the consent of this congregation or the Congregation Council.
- *C9.07. During the period of service, an interim pastor shall have the rights and duties in the congregation of a regularly called pastor and may delegate the same in part to a supply pastor with the consent of the bishop of the synod and this congregation or Congregation Council. The interim pastor and any ordained pastor providing assistance shall refrain from exerting influence in the selection of a pastor.
- *C9.08. This congregation shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to a former pastor before calling a successor. A pastor shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to this congregation before beginning service in a call to another congregation or employment in another ministry setting related to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- *C9.09. When a pastor is called to serve in company with another pastor or pastors, the privileges and responsibilities of each pastor shall be specified in documents to accompany the call and to be drafted in consultation involving the pastors, the Congregation Council, and the bishop of the synod. As occasion requires, the documents may be revised through a similar consultation.
- *C9.11. With the approval of the bishop of the synod, the congregation may depart from *C9.05.a. and call a pastor for a specific term. Details of such calls shall be in writing setting forth the purpose and conditions involved. Prior to the completion of a term, the bishop or a designated representative of the bishop shall meet with the pastor and representatives of the congregation for a review of the call. Such a call may also be terminated before its expiration in accordance with the provisions of *C9.05.a.
- *C9.12. The pastor of this congregation:
 - a. shall keep accurate parochial records of all baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials, communicants, members received, members dismissed, or members excluded from the congregation;
 - b. shall submit a summary of such statistics annually to the synod; and
 - c. shall become a member of this congregation upon receipt and acceptance of the letter of call. In a parish of multiple congregations, the pastor shall hold membership in one of the congregations.
- *C9.13. The pastor(s) shall submit a report of his or her ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- *C9.14. The parochial records of this congregation shall be maintained by the pastor and shall remain the property of the congregation. The secretary of this congregation shall attest in writing to the bishop of this synod that such records have been placed in his or her hands in good order by a departing pastor before the installation of that pastor in another field of labor or the granting by the synod of retired status to the pastor.
- C9.20. Ecumenical pastoral ministry**
- C9.21. Under special circumstances, subject to the approval of the synodical bishop and the concurrence of this congregation, an ordained minister of a church body with which the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America officially has established a relationship of full communion may serve temporarily as pastor of this congregation under a contract between the congregation and the ordained minister in a form proposed by the synodical bishop and approved by the congregation.

Chapter 10.

CONGREGATION MEETING

C10.01. The semi-annual meeting of this congregation shall be held at a time specified in the bylaws.

C10.01.01 A Congregation meeting shall be held in December for the primary purpose of electing Congregation Council members. The election of Congregation Council members may be by ballot or voice vote as determined and announced by the Congregation Council or shall be by ballot vote when a proper motion has been adopted in the meeting calling for a ballot vote.

- C10.01.02** An annual Congregation meeting shall be held in February, on a date determined by the Congregation Council, at which shall be submitted by the Congregation Council a comprehensive report of the previous year's ministry and financial activities and to adopt a budget for the coming year. The report shall include reports from the Pastor, the President of the Congregation, the Secretary of the Congregation Council and Congregation, the Treasurer, the officers of the various organizations and schools within the Congregation, the chairpersons of the various committees and task groups operative during the calendar year.
- C10.02.** A special Congregation Meeting may be called by the pastor, the Congregation Council, or the president of this congregation, and shall be called by the president of the congregation upon the written request of ten percent (10%) of the voting members. The call for each special meeting shall specify the purpose for which it is to be held and no other business shall be transacted.
- C10.03.** Notice of all meetings of this congregation shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding two consecutive Sundays and by mail to all voting members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the meeting. The posting of such notice in the regular mail, with the regular postage affixed or paid, sent to the last known address of such members shall be sufficient.
- C10.04.** Ten percent (10%) of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- C10.05.** Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted.
- C10.06.** All actions approved by the congregation shall be by majority vote of those voting members present and voting, except as otherwise provided in this constitution or by state law.
- C10.07.** *Robert's Rules of Order*, latest edition, shall govern parliamentary procedure of all meetings of this congregation.

Chapter 11. OFFICERS

- C11.01.** The officers of this congregation shall be a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer
- Duties of the officers shall be specified in the bylaws.
 - The officers shall be voting members of the congregation. If any of them ceases to be such, that office shall be declared vacant by the council, and the council shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.
 - Officers of this congregation shall serve similar offices of the Congregation Council and shall be voting members of the Congregation Council.
 - If the Congregation Council elects its officers, the president, vice president, and secretary shall be selected from the elected membership of the Congregation Council. If the treasurer is not selected from the elected membership of the Congregation Council, the treasurer shall have voice but not vote at the meetings of the Congregation Council.

C11.01.01 The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

President: The president shall preside at meetings of the congregation and Congregation Council.

Vice-president In the event of the president's inability to serve, the vice-president shall preside.

Secretary: The secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the congregation and of the Congregational Council. Such minutes shall be retained by the congregation and preserved permanently as a part of its archives.

Treasurer: The treasurer shall keep the books of account of the congregation and shall receive all funds and disburse them on proper orders, making monthly remittance of benevolence receipts to the treasurer of the Synod. The treasurer shall make a written report of all financial transactions to the Congregational Council at its regular monthly meetings and to the congregation, together with a satisfactory audit, at its annual meeting. The treasurer shall give corporate surety in an amount determined by the Congregational Council, the premium for which shall be paid by the congregation. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed fulfillment of this requirement.

Scripture Reading: John 10:11-18

THOUGHT: Resentment or grudges do no harm to the person against whom you hold these feelings, but every day and every night of your life, they are eating at you. —Norman Vincent Peale

Let me talk to you about bombs for just a minute. It's an unlikely subject, I know, but there's a very important lesson in this for us.

Last fall, the United States completed the dismantling of a B53 nuclear bomb that was so lethal that its destructive power was 600 times that of the "Little Boy" bomb that destroyed Hiroshima! Built during the Cold War, it was a multi-warhead device — an atomic bomb that triggered a hydrogen bomb — designed to penetrate Soviet bunkers deep underground.

About 300 of these bombs, the size of minivans, were built beginning back in 1962. Now the last of them is gone, and in some measure the world is a safer place. Plenty of bombs still remain in our hands, and the hands of others, of course. But these 300 are gone. The United States used to have bombers in the air 24 hours a day carrying these things! That's very frightening!

Perhaps there is a message here for us. Do we carry "bombs" within us that are capable of inflicting enormous destruction on others? Do you have days when you're like a walking, ticking, time bomb seething with resentments and anger? Do you ever feel like you'd like to drop a few good ones on someone who irritates you, bothers you, interrupts you or gets in your way?

It's a common feeling. But we should dismantle these emotional "bombs" that can be so dangerous to our spiritual health and the well-being of others. To help us defuse the resentment, anger, envy, jealousy or bitterness, ask God to so fill your heart and life that there is no room for anything else.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, let me be an instrument of your peace today. In your name. Amen.

Activity Page

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Luke 14-17

Monday: 1 Samuel 4-7

Tuesday: 1 Samuel 8-10

Wednesday: 1 Samuel 11-13

Thursday: 1 Samuel 14-16

Friday: 1 Samuel 17-20

Saturday: Psalms 43-45

Verse to Remember

"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God."

—Psalm 43:5

FIND OUT A PERSON'S AGE!

Just ask a friend to do a few simple math problems, and you can tell the person's **date of birth** as well as **his or her age!**

Ask the person to:

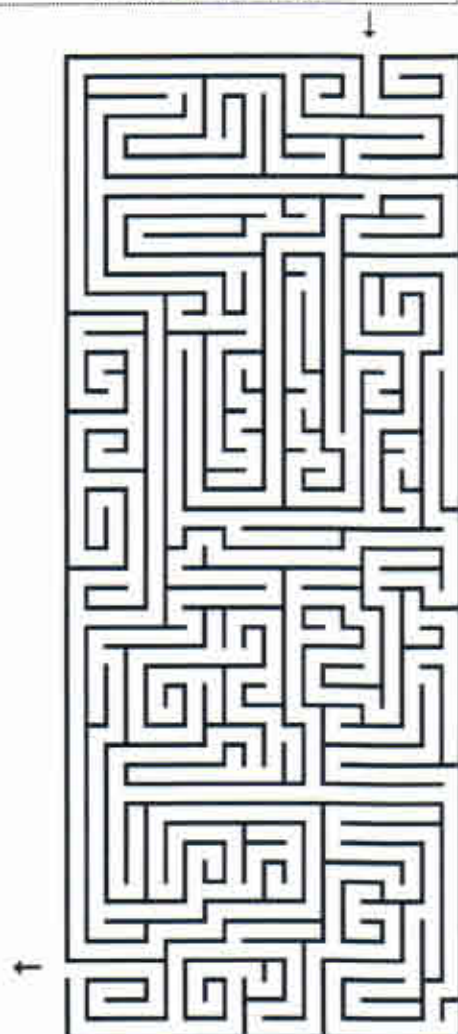
1. Multiply the number of the month of his/her birth by 100.
2. Add the date of the month.
3. Multiply this sum by 2.
4. Add 8.
5. Multiply this by 5.
6. Add 4.
7. Multiply this by 10.
8. Add 4.
9. Add his/her age to this total.
10. From this total subtract 444.

Ask the person to show you the answer. **The last two digits are the age of the person; the other digits indicate the month and day of his or her birth.**

For example: Suppose a person is 50, and was born on February 17. Following the directions given above, the math looks like this:

1. $2 \times 100 = 200$
2. $200 + 17 = 217$
3. $217 \times 2 = 434$
4. $434 + 8 = 442$
5. $442 \times 5 = 2210$
6. $2210 + 4 = 2214$
7. $2214 \times 10 = 22140$
8. $22140 + 4 = 22144$
9. $22144 + 50 = 22194$
10. $22194 - 444 = 21750$ or 2 (Feb.) 17 (date) 50 (age)

The Ark of the Covenant returns to Israel. Read the story in Monday's reading. Pretend that the start arrow is in Philistia. Bring the Ark through the maze to Israel.



First English Lutheran Church, Wapakoneta, Ohio Calendar for May 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 7:30 pm AA & Al-Anon	2 5:30 pm Faith-weavers	3 12 noon National Day of Prayer Observance in Heritage Park 7:30 pm AA	4	5 8 am Men's Bible Study @ St. Mark's
6 10 am Worship Serv. w/ Holy Communion & Confirmation & SCS	7	8 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 7:30 pm AA & Al-Anon	9 5:30 pm Faith-weavers	10 4:30 pm Loaves & Fishes @ First United Methodist	11	12
13 10 am Worship Service & SCS	14	15 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 7:30 pm AA & Al-Anon	16	17 7:30 pm AA	18	19 8 am Men's Bible Study @ St. Mark's assembly in B. Green
20 10 am Worship Serv. w/ Holy Communion & SCS	21	22 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 7:30 pm AA & Al-Anon	23	24 7:30 pm AA	25	26
27 Pentecost Sunday 10 am Worship Service & SCS	28	29 11:30 am Lunch Bunch 7:30 pm AA & Al-Anon	30	31 7:30 pm AA		

FROM: First English Lutheran Church
107 W. Mechanic St.
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

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TO:



**Thursday,
May 3rd
in
Heritage Park
@ NOON**

**FELC Confirmation
Sunday, May 6th**

