

*First English Lutheran Church is
a congregation of the*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

"Sharing the Light of Christ"

STAFF AND CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor Erik Olson

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Parish Administrator: Debra Kluetz

Email:

Debra@firstenglishwausau.onmicrosoft.com

Minister of Music: Dan Larson

Pianist: Hal Osborn

Handbell Choir Director/Thursday Worship

Pianist: Chris Berenz

Senior Choir Director: Alan Sexter

Custodian: Dawn M. Kramer

Sunday School Superintendent: VerJean Detert

Church Council:

Officers:

President: Nina Dittmar

President-Elect: Sharon Hunter

Past President: Reese Aarthun

Treasurer: Marla Zumann

Recording Secretary: Erin Radke

Council Members:

Mike Alters

Susan Oberbeck

Paula Aschbrenner

Cindy Petzke

Bonnie Grau

Earl Zabel

Sandi Hiller

Kathi Zoern

John Motl

*Your comments, questions and concerns are
important to us. Feel free to talk to any member of
our staff or Church Council.*

Synod Assy Recap: "To Live Among God's Faithful People"

Keynote speakers were Paul and Connie from Music that Makes Community. They taught us songs using a 'repeat after me' style. No hymnals or sheet music or music notes; they directed where the next note was using their hands. The overall theme was the connection that comes between people and groups as we sing together.

Biggest discussion was around the Synod Council decision to sell the Synod Office building. The bishop and staff have been working remotely for almost all of the past 2+ years. The Office building sat mostly empty. Council decided that with the new communication technology, the building really wasn't needed. The debate around the decision was whether the Synod Council had the authority to make that decision or if it should have come to the Synod Assembly. The process of revisiting that decision would have been to generate a motion to override the Council's decision. I am guessing after some break-time discussions, the person most vocal in opposition decided to not make the motion.

Resolutions passed for the work and ministry to fight hunger, learn more about how to combat racism, lessen our carbon footprint, and for churches to be safe spaces for children.

New synod council members elected. 2023 Budget passed. Synod Compensation Guidelines passed - the Housing Allowance was adjusted to account for rising housing costs.

Overall - good to be in person. Good to reconnect w/ old colleagues and meet new ones.

Reminder that our Thursday worship will be in the Air-Conditioned comfort of the Fellowship Hall starting on June 9.

Peace,

Pr. Erik



June Worship...

June 5: *The Day of Pentecost*

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

The color of the day is RED. So be sure to come to worship wearing your red attire!

June 12: *The Holy Trinity*

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

We will celebrate the baptism of Colson Bradley Oberbeck.

June 19: *The 2nd Sunday after Pentecost*

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

June 26: *The 3rd Sunday after Pentecost*

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

Thursday Evening Worship

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

6:00 p.m.

Beginning June 9, Thursday worship will be held in Fellowship Hall.

Committee Night...

TO ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS.....

We have had Committee Night for three months and we will evaluate and discuss the COMMITTEE NIGHT concept at our September meeting. Because the Council changed its meeting night from the third Monday to the second Monday, it would be better for information flow if our Committee Night were the FIRST Tuesday rather than the second Tuesday.

We will have Committee Night on Tuesday, September 6. At that time we will evaluate the Committee Night idea by doing a short survey and having discussion.

Please put this date on your calendars. Over the summer, if your committee needs to meet, please do so and try to get the meeting information to Deb for the Lantern and/or the Sunday bulletin. See you on September 6.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING ON A FIRST ENGLISH COMMITTEE!! NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

Treasure Sale Update...

Mark your calendars for our 2022 Sale!

August 25, 26, and 27

Our Treasure Sale is only about 2½ months away. Many wonderful items have come in already, but more are needed.

-- Clothing of all sorts are always good selling items...men's, women's, children's, and infant...from underwear to outerwear.

-- Purses, shoes and boots also sell well.

-- Books of all sorts, magazines, craft items, holiday things, houseware and decorative items, jewelry (even broken) and linens. Almost anything...but please be sure that your items are **clean and in good working condition!**

Please bring your items to the "treasure room" near the library or large items such as furniture directly to the basement.

We now have enough quart bags, thank you! Treasure Sale shoppers always say ours is the best church sale ever. Let's make this a real sale-a-pa-looza!

Any questions call Karen Zumann at 715-675-7402 or LeRoy Stark at 715-848-0266.

Thanks to all and keep your treasures coming! It's such a good fundraiser!



The Lawn Mowing Schedule...

is on the narthex table for those who would like to mow our church lawn this spring and summer. We can always use more volunteers. If you are interested and willing, stop and take a look at the sign-up sheet in the narthex and indicate which date works into your schedule.

Time...

Time is too slow for those who wait,
too swift for those who fear,
too long for those who grieve,
too short for those who rejoice.

But for those who Love,

Time is Eternity. – Henry Van Dyke

Worship Servants...

**Acolytes – Greeters – Lectors –
Ushers – Communion Servers –
Communion Set – Worship Assistants -
Communionware Washers**

To all worship servants: if you are unable to serve on the Sunday you are scheduled, please try to switch with someone or find a sub – then give Deb a call in the office to let her know of the change. Thanks!

ACOLYTES:

June 5: Eli Akey
June 12: Georgia Dittmar
June 19: Kendall Sherfinski
June 26: Nicholas Schumacher

July 3: Eli Akey
July 10: Liz Baumgardt
July 17: Emma Race
July 24: Kendall Sherfinski
July 31: Nicholas Schumacher

GREETERS:

June 5: Mike & Connie Vaningan
June 12: Jenny Blaschka / Lowanne Brokaw
June 19: Cody & Mandy Herning
June 26: Bill Schruba / Sharon Carlsson

July 3: VerJean Detert / Linda Kittel
July 10: John & Karen Otto
July 17: Deb Kufahl / Lois Stasko
July 24: Roger Thorpe / Lynne Santangelo
July 31: LeRoy & Eunice Stark

LECTORS:

June 5: Sherry Larson
June 12: Sue Juedes
June 19: Russ Michalski
June 26: Karen Otto

July 3: Lynne Santangelo
July 10: Bill Schruba
July 17: Pat Seivert
July 24: Connie Vaningan
July 31: Reese Aarthun

USHERS:

Like in the past if you cannot usher, please call one of the subs or switch Sundays with another team or person.

June 5: Mike & Connie Vaningan
June 12: Scott & Deb Kufahl
June 19: Amy Abitz Akey / Deb Kluetz
June 26: Sharon Hunter / Jenny Blaschka

July 3: John Motl / Kathi Zoern
July 10: Earl Zabel / Bob Lampe
July 17: LeRoy Stark / Steve Wendorf
July 24: Sue & Neil Juedes
July 31: Gene & Lynn Schulz

Subs: Amy Abitz Akey, Matt & Lori Heyne, Sharon Hunter, Neil & Sue Juedes, Deb Kluetz, Clarissa Krueger, Scott & Deb Kufahl, John Motl, Earl Zabel

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

June 5: Lynne Santangelo
June 12: Reese Aarthun
June 19: Connie Vaningan
June 26: Pat Seivert

July 3: Pat Seivert
July 10: Reese Aarthun
July 17: Connie Vaningan
July 24: Lynne Santangelo
July 31: -

COMMUNION SERVERS:

June 5: Lette Becker / Jenny Blaschka
June 12: Cody & Mandy Herning
June 19: Bill & Tryphine Schruba
June 26: Pat Seivert / Sharon Hunter

July 3: Connie Vaningan / Joan Heahlke
July 10: Jessica Olson / Lette Becker
July 17: Lynne Santangelo / Jenny Blaschka
July 24: Scott & Deb Kufahl
July 31: Pat Seivert / Sharon Hunter

COMMUNION SET-UP:

June 5: Deb Kluetz
June 12: Dawn Kramer
June 19: Joan Buckmaster
June 26: Deb Kluetz

July 3: Dawn Kramer
July 10: Joan Buckmaster
July 17: Deb Kluetz
July 24: Dawn Kramer
July 31: Joan Buckmaster

COMMUNIONWARE WASHERS:

June 5: Lowanne Brokaw
June 12: Joan Buckmaster
June 19: Deb Kufahl
June 26: Dawn Kramer

July 3: Lonnie & LeAnn Lewis
July 10: Sue & Neil Juedes
July 17: Larry & Jan Wiederhoeft
July 24: Deb Kluetz
July 31: Lynne Santangelo

Summer Church Office Hours...

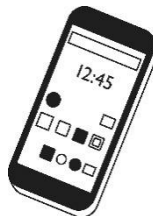
Beginning Tuesday, May 31
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Closed for lunch: Noon - 1:00 p.m.)

Deadlines:

Bulletin: Wednesday afternoon
Lantern: 20th of the month

We are going to try and utilize...

a messaging system for texting sub-groups and new members at church through our cell phones. Call or email Deb with your cell phone number. Thanks!



Let us remember...

those in our congregation who are confined to their homes or are in nursing home or assisted living facilities due to illness or are just unable to attend worship or fellowship activities. Especially now, when we are still hesitant of being together in person...they would love and appreciate to hear from their church family with a card, note or phone call.

- ✓ **Athenian Living LLC**
716 Caroline St. Athens, WI 54411
- Mary Stone #310
- ✓ **Cady Home**
1805 N. 6th Ave., Wausau 54401
- Michelle Detert
- ✓ **Mount View Care Center**
2400 Marshall St., Wausau 54403
- Ron Wolfe
- ✓ **Mountain Terrace Senior Living**
3402 Terrace Ct. #116, Wausau 54401
- Lydia Rachu
- ✓ **Our House Senior Living**
210 W. Campus Dr., Wausau 54401
- Marion Madden
- ✓ **Sylvan Crossings on Evergreen**
1605 Evergreen Rd., Wausau 54403
- Dolores Hintz (Room #13)
- Delbert Barttelt 1109 N. 1st Ave.,
Wausau 54401
- Ila Barttelt 4602 Barbican Ave. #206
Weston 54476
- Carol Henke 540 E. Thomas St. #23
Wausau 54403
- Beverly Myrick 1016 Grand Ave. #107
Wausau 54403
- Delphine Saeger 151700 Fern Ln.
Wausau 54401

Highway Clean-up...Sat., June 4

The sign-up sheet is on the narthex table.



Meet at the Decator Drive underpass at 9:00 a.m. Questions? See John Motl or call him at 715-675-2819. Volunteers need to be 16 years of age to help out. The more people we have will make the

job much easier!

Lutheran World Relief Health Care Kits Update...

"Many thanks to all who have donated towels, soap, and money towards the Health Kits so far. I have a great start to the project. I will continue to be collecting these items through June, as I like to be finished by July. I appreciate your support! Lori Heyne"

Dark Colored Bath Towels and Bars of Soap (4 oz. size). There is a basket available in the narthex for your donations.

Parish Records: May...

Affirmation of Baptism:

"Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in your children the gift of your Holy Spirit. confirm their faith, guide their lives, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life. Amen."

On Sunday, May 22, five of our young members made public affirmation of their baptismal vows. May God bless their faith journey and service to their church here at First English.

Congratulations and God's blessings to
Abigail Maureen Schumacher
Ella Elizabeth Ann Radke
David Joseph Kramer
Gracin Louise Dittmar
Addison Marion Fochs

Our thanks...

to these members and friends who have designated First English as the recipient of their Thrivent Choice dollars for May...

Reese Aarthun
Connie Vaningan
Mike Vaningan

Open Door Update...

Summer needs are coming up: men's jeans, summer shorts, caps and jackets. Sizes needed most are 30 and 32 inch waists. Rain gear, boxer shorts, wallets & coin purses and blankets are always needed.

"What you have done onto the least of these, you have done onto me."

Any questions call Karen Zumann at 715-675-7402.

Natalie Streveler and
Karen Zumann
Open Door Closet Coordinators

2022 Graduates...

Our sincere congratulations to...

Erin Radke

who graduated on May 21, 2022
from North Central Technical College with a
Paralegal/Legal Studies Degree.

To Erin and all graduates: Remember that no matter where the road leads you or what paths you take, God will be with you. Congratulations and our very best wishes from your First English family!

Congregational Survey...

Efforts are being made to send out a Congregational Survey. We will keep trying to send via email and paper copies are available in the narthex.

Please take a few moments to fill out the survey. This will help us in planning our fellowship and outreach activities, worship, etc. and your input is very important.

Your participation will be greatly appreciated!

With Summer...

just around the corner, it's time for relaxing weekends, vacations and leisure time with family and friends.

However, your congregation still needs your financial support, even in the summer.

We ask and encourage you to remain faithful to your pledge and offerings of financial support. Have a wonderful summer and enjoy the beauty of God's creation! We appreciate your faithfulness and dedicated support to your congregation!



2022 Synod Assembly...

From Reese: I like attending Synod Assembly. We hear that many of the synod churches are dealing with similar questions and concerns. We hear about the business of the greater church. Specific breakout sessions I attended were about Wis council of Churches recommendations for churches during the pandemic. Recommended actions now are looking to number of cases and number of hospitalizations. There is no overreaching explanation for taking precautions or having no precautions. They hope each congregation will fairly equate outcomes from each set of decisions keeping in mind the best welfare for all in the congregation. The second session was about Lutheran World Relief and the aid to the Ukraine. Aid is mostly being given to countries which are welcoming the refugees. LWR is providing the goods and logistics for getting it into the hands of those who need it. They thank those past and future contributors. The slides showed real need.

Thank you for allowing me to attend the 2022 Synod Assembly. Reese Aarthun

From Deb: This was my first Synod Assembly and it was a very positive experience for me. It's a chance to meet people from all over the East Central Synod and being in conversation with them, singing and sharing a meal. There was voting on resolutions and elections to Synod positions. All voting was done by eballot so we

had to make sure our phones were always charged up and down-loaded!

The singing was inspiring! Connie and Paul, our music leaders, did such a great job! Their message to us is that our congregations become a community of faith through singing and how music brings people together.

The first session I attended was one led by Connie, one of our music leaders. The second session was more heartbreaking yet inspiring. The speaker spoke about how his congregation, Christ the King Lutheran Church in Combined Locks, WI, formed Good Neighbor Teams to help Afghanistan refugees. One of the speakers was a young man from Afghanistan, his name is Azim and he spoke good English. He lives in Oshkosh, and is adjusting well to life in Wisconsin. Along with his parents, he has 5 siblings. His story begins back home. Azim was playing soccer with some friends when the Taliban attacked. Azim was shot 5 times but managed to escape. He lost his leg but has a prosthesis. He had to leave his family behind in Afghanistan and he fears for them even though he lives here and is safe. His siblings don't go to school and he is worried they will become illiterate. His family is basically in hiding. He sends them money to survive. When asked what his family does, Azim said they eat, sleep, and try to stay alive.

He is so grateful to Lutheran World Relief and the congregations who have given him so much help.

My thanks for allowing me to attend the Synod Assembly. I encourage everyone to think about attending. It's a great experience! – Deb Kluetz

Fair Stand News...

The 2022 Wisconsin Valley Fair is August 2-7. Our Fair Stand will be open for business.

Sign-ups will begin in early July so watch for the charts!

There will be a Fair Stand Committee meeting on Sunday, June 26, 10:00 a.m. , right after worship.

Anyone who is interested may attend this meeting. Come and hear about the changes that will be made.



Don't let your offerings take a holiday

Ahhh, summer! A time to relax and grab much-needed R & R. Vacations and weekend getaways may keep you away from church, but our congregation is still bustling with activity. The bills never take a summer holiday.

It's enormously helpful to the congregation's balance sheet if your gifts, tithes, and offerings continue to come in regularly, even if you are away. Here are some ideas for staying current:

Pay in advance: Plan ahead by offering more in the weeks in advance of your time away from church.

Make it up: When you return, give a little more in the weeks that follow.

Use your envelopes: Here's a tip that's good not only for summer, but year-round: If you use giving envelopes and checks, simply prepare them weeks in advance and bring them to church when convenient.

Use banking bill pay: Most online banking services will write and send checks for you. Just plug in the church address, the amount of the gift and how often you want it sent. Viola! You're done!

Enroll in electronic giving: Use the congregation's online giving portal to regularize your gift, tithe or offering.

Give monthly or quarterly: Sometimes it's hard to anticipate how many Sundays you'll be away from church. Planning your gift, tithe or offering for monthly or quarterly can keep you current.

Of course, these methods are beneficial not only for the summer months, but also for the whole year through. Those who embrace giving as a spiritual discipline often find that their lives of faith are enriched, and their sense of joy and fulfillment is deepened. Choosing a regular-giving strategy can help you to discover the joys of generosity.

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FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES May 9th, 2022

Members present: Reese Aarthun (Zoom), Michael Alters, Paula Aschbrenner Nina Dittmar, Bonnie Grau, Sandy Hiller,

John Motl, Susan Oberbeck, Pastor Erik Olson, Cindy Petzke, Erin Radke, Kathi Zoern, Marla Zumann
Members absent: Earl Zabel, Sharon Hunter
Susan Oberbeck led the opening devotions.

Reports:

Minutes: The minutes of the April meeting were approved via email.

Financial Reports: Marla Zumann reported nothing new or needing to be addressed. The April Secretary's Report was provided. Waiting on March's report from Wausau Tax & Accounting. Elevator Fund will be listed on the April reports.

Pastor's Report:

Pastoral Acts: Nursing Home Services: *Benedictine Manor and Colonial Manor* on April 20. Baptism: *Zachary Austen Rosicky* on April 24.

Holy Week & Easter- I thought the services went very well. Attendance was a bit light on Maundy Thursday, but Good Friday and Easter Sunday had good attendance. But it is hard to define 'good' attendance as we are coming out of 2 years of pandemic stuff.

Mother's Day Worship: We renewed the Annual Youth Service on Mother's Day. Went very well and was well received.

Synod Assembly: is this coming Friday and Saturday in Oshkosh. Deb Kluetz and Reese Aarthun are our representatives. Since the last 2 years the Assembly was held over Zoom, it will be good to be back in person.

Internship Supervisor: Pilgrim will not be getting an intern for this coming year. Luther Seminary had more intern sites than actual intern students. Pilgrim will be working with Pastor Asher in the Synod office to see what they will do next. Vicar Pat will complete his internship at the end of July.

Affirmation of Baptism: Worship will be on May 22. 5 of our young people will affirm their baptisms: Abigail, Addison, David, Ella, and Gracin. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this important step in their life of faith.

Wellness Symposium: through the Wausau Fire Department, I will be attending this symposium in Green Bay on May 25 & 26 with the other WFD chaplains.

Looking forward to: End of Sunday school year; Affirmation of Baptism service; Ascension Day service on May 26; Vacation week starting after worship on May 29 with a visit to MN to see Kaleb, Taylor & Charlotte – June 3-6.

Committee Reports:

First English Bounce Back: No meeting currently scheduled
Parish Ed: Sandy Hiller, Pastor Erik to order material for the fall. Marsha Schumacher will continue to do the Sunday Funday, Sunday Funday and Mother's Day service went well.

Stewardship: Susan Oberbeck reported, Easter Cards for shut-ins were completed and sent. Will be doing a survey in September to see how committee night has been going. Discussed how the Stewardship Committee could reach out to new members and/or visitors. Information gathered from Time & Talent sheets returned by new members can be used.

Will also gather names from blue pew cards and the visitor book. Pastor Olson currently sends a letter when he is aware of a visitor. He also meets with new members. Next meeting: Tuesday, August 9 at 4:00 p.m.

Worship & Music: Reese Aarthun has nothing new to report. No meeting scheduled. Evenings do not work for the committee members.

Church in Society & Evangelism: Cindy Petzke, discussed crop walk, talked about the Ukraine's settlements discussion to reached out to ECDC but have not gotten any response so they are thinking there not any need at this time. Hwy clean-up has been delayed till June 4th sign up sheet will be in the back of church.

Property: John Motl mentioned Gary Treu donated his new snowblower and reclaimed his older one. Outlets for the speakers has been completed. Water leak is being addressed waiting on the quote from Kulps. Price for down spout few options have been discussed. Kathi Zoern asked when the plaster will be fixed in the balcony, John indicated they are looking for someone who can fix this. Parking Changes were discussed. Meeting on parking was on Maundy Thursday. No proposed date was given. Nina will be contacting the alder person and discuss options/clarifications.

Youth: Youth Gathering July 16-20th 2024.

Wage & Policy: Nothing new to report, no meeting currently scheduled.

Fair Stand: Paula/John Communication (Google Docs., Signup Genius) discussion on utilization, next meeting May 10th. Wisconsin Valley Fair August 2nd-7th, 2022. No vendors have been contacted yet, will be contacting Chet about the hood next meeting scheduled for mid-May/early June more research needed. Information will be provided in the Lantern when ready.

Old Business:

Church Survey Google Docs & Survey Monkey – Will be done the week of 5/16 and then sent out.

Kitchen Protocol- Chuck Schmitt (Presbyterian Church) provided a list that is like ours we already have in place. Gloves are not required for serving when not directly touching food. Food needs to be at the correct temp and those are the guidelines from the Health Dept. Sounds like the they will be doing the "to go" option v. in house as it has been working so well.

Clear Stream (texting platform). IO demos range from 29.00-49.00 a month. Allows to send text messages for invites, reminders or just to say hello. More questions, who would man it, who and how can it be accessed. Worth looking at to see what options are available and if it would fit our need. Nina and Pastor Erik to continue to investigate. Motion to approve Susan Oberbeck, 2nd Sandy Hiller, motion passed.

New Business

Pastor Erik Housing Allowance- Due to an increase of taxes and the need for new furniture it has been requested to raise the housing allowance by \$250 per paycheck through the rest of the year. This amount would be subtracted from Pastor

Erik's salary. Motion to approve Nina, 2nd Paula Aschbrenner, motion passed.

Opening the FE food pantry, even if it's prebagged - Bobbie and Dawn will be contacted to see if interested to assist and rolling out, will also be looking for volunteers. Research to find a set list to see what would be best in the bags. - Motion to approve Mike Alters, Erin Radke 2nd, motion passed.

Screen in sanctuary to follow along with service- Discussion on if this would work in the church, and if it would be a benefit. Further research is needed copyrights, placements, etc., John will discuss with Scott and find out the options are from the audio architects may be able to do a demo and get us pricing.

Contemporary music once a month, special music jazz band, polka, contemporary every six weeks- Nina will send out communication with this information to the Worship and Music Committee to see for this in the future. Funding would need to be looked for the future projects as there could be costs associated with this.

Deb Microsoft 365 profile 70.00 a year – Would offer more tools that would assist her in her daily items as well as having the cloud to access files in the future. Motion to approve Nina Dittmar, 2nd Reese Aarthun, motion passed.

Endowment Fund- They have not met and there was a question as to if any funds were sent/distributed. Mike Alters will call Bill/Scott and get update. Future meeting should be scheduled.

Closing Devotions: Susan Oberbeck

Kathi Zoern, moved to adjourn. Cindy seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Next meeting: Monday, June 13th, 2022.

Erin E. Radke, Recording Secretary



*Happy Father's Day to all dads!
Enjoy your day!*