

OCTOBER  
2006

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# First English

www.firstenglishlutheran.org

## News

We are People of God who Gather to Worship, Grow in Faith and Give to Others

### Making life holy is about dedication to God

The thesaurus says that to “consecrate” something is to bless it or to make it holy. Sometimes you hear of a new church being “consecrated” or a baptismal font being “consecrated” or “blessed.”

**Consecration Sunday focuses on our gifts**

On Nov. 5, we’re going to do some serious consecrating at First English Lutheran Church. We’ll be consecrating ourselves — our very lives. God has given us these lives of ours. God’s intention is for them to be holy. God works with us in the process of making them holy.

Some might say that to make life holy we ought to withdraw from the world, take a vow of poverty, and move into a cloistered community dedicated to prayer and worship. For some people, that’s just the ticket. But here at First English, we believe that we can — and should — make holy, consecrate, the daily lives we live in the real world. We do that by dedicating what we have and are to God. Specifically, on

Nov. 5, we will focus on how we consecrate our financial lives by determining what portion of the financial gifts we have from God we will keep for ourselves, and what portion we will return to God, their true owner.

It’s going to be a great day with marvelous music, lots of excitement, and a brunch following each service. It will be my privilege to be the preacher for all three services at the Downtown Site, and my good friend (and Nancy Hershfield’s father), Pastor Gene Hermeier, will be preaching at the North Site.

**All members invited to worship on Nov. 5**

During October, you’ll be hearing more about Consecration Sunday from the Stewardship Ministry Team. They will be inviting you to sign up to make it clear which service you will be attending on that day, just so we can have enough food on hand. It’s a day you won’t want to miss.

It was my privilege to be part of Consecration Sunday at First English last

**Consecration Sunday**

Plans are underway for Consecration Sunday on Nov. 5. Our goal is to have all members of First English attend Consecration Sunday worship and the Celebration Brunch after each service. Mark your calendar and plan to participate. For more news from the Support Ministry Team, see Page 11.

year. The atmosphere was electric, and the results have helped underwrite the significant ministry First English Lutheran Church has had this year. Now we look ahead to 2007 filled with hope and confidence. Consecration Sunday on Nov. 5 will be a great day. Pastor Hermeier and I are honored to be part of it. I look forward to seeing you then.

— *Pastor Steve McKinley*

Pastor McKinley is a retired minister and author. You can call him at 651-452-2353 or contact him by e-mail at smckin1050@aol.com.

## Task Forces

### Join a short-term task force on a variety of activities

Are you looking for a role within First English that would not be a long-term commitment? Take a look at the following task forces that have information posted in the Gathering Areas at both sites:

#### Teacher Appreciation

**Goal:** Develop innovative ways to show our appreciation for volunteers and learning staff.

**First meeting:** October 2006

**Estimated time commitment:**  
4-6 hours

**Initial committee:** Lisa and Barry Hoff.

**Contact:** Anita Damon at  
anita\_damon@tds.net.

#### 2008 Summer Musical

**Goal:** Work with the Youth Ministry Team to help select, organize, coordinate and publicize a 2008 summer musical.

**First meeting:** January 2007

**Estimated time commitment:**  
2-3 meetings

**Contacts:** Meghan Cieslik at  
meghan\_cieslik@tds.net or Julie Doerfler at  
julie\_doerfler@tds.net.

#### 2007 Winter Camping Retreat

**Goal:** Plan and explore options for a winter weekend retreat for First English Members. Task force also will gauge interest.

**First meeting:** October 2006.

**Estimated time commitment:**  
2-3 meetings.

**Initial committee:** Emilie Fraley.

**Contact:** Jean Monson at 920-733-2303 or  
jean\_monson@tds.net.

(See **TASK FORCES**, Page 11)

## Growing the church — whose job is it?

### Ministry Team Spotlight

A core group of Welcome Hosts at the North Site have been piloting a model where they — rather than the pastors — conduct visitor follow-up after Sunday worship. We want to thank this group for their tremendous efforts



throughout the summer. This pilot recently has been rolled out to all Welcome Hosts at the North Site. In his cover article in the September newsletter, Pastor Detweiler shared how all members are ministers and noted the lay follow-up model will begin at the Downtown Site soon.

#### Welcome Hosts focus on meeting needs of visitors

At the North Site, we recognized that we were not growing at a rate we would expect, given the growth that is occurring in the Fox Valley. Before increasing or improving our evangelism efforts, we wanted to be sure that we had our “house in order” with respect to how we treat visitors.

When people visit a church, the experience can be either positive or negative. This experience will affect the visitor’s decision on whether to pursue membership and will likely be shared with others in their community. The challenge is this: Everyone who visits is looking for something different. While there is no “one size fits all” message to give to visitors, all visitors want to feel welcome and comfortable and to feel that the church is vibrant.

They also want to have their questions answered and to feel that the church cares about them. Appropriate follow-up also is important.

We took it one step further by developing a list of individual, custom needs of every visitor. These needs include education, programs and activities; worship options; pastoral access; counseling and membership.

#### Expanding the role of Welcome Hosts

The above challenge was met by combining what all visitors expect with the ability to minister to the custom needs of each person. We expanded the Welcome Host duties beyond the traditional role of providing a warm welcome, to offering information about First English programs; providing a personal contact to find out more about First English and providing a conduit to pastoral services if needed.

#### Pilot program builds ministry network at First English

Today, Welcome Hosts not only greet visitors and members at the entryway, they also stand near the pastors after the service to be available for visitors after their worship experience. They make a phone call to the visitor within a couple of days to welcome them back and to make sure all their needs are being met. The Welcome Hosts report back to the church office and to other Welcome Hosts. A real ministry network is building — and that’s exciting!

(See **GROWTH**, Page 3)

## Congregational Life

### Adoptive Parents group to meet at the North Site

The Adoptive Parents Support Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 25, in the Gathering Area at the North Site.

Whether you are considering adoption, are in the process of adopting, or are parents with adopted children, this casual, friendly group would love to meet you. New couples also are invited.

Free childcare will be provided.

For information, call Sarah Miles at 920-993-0525.

### Scrapbooking, stamping sessions set for Oct. 13

Free scrapbooking and stamping sessions will be held from 6 to 11 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13, in Room 110 at the Downtown Site. RSVP to Cindy at 920-836-3008. Bring a nonperishable food item.

### City Park worship for 2007 a 'go,' thanks to volunteers

Thank you to the families and individuals who came forward and offered to assist with Worship in the Park for 2007. Without additional volunteers we would have been unable to commit to making the City Park reservations for next summer. First English has the park reserved for the first, second and fourth Sundays in June, July and August of 2007.

## GROWTH: Name tags help us greet one another

(From Page 2)

### Welcoming others should be the goal of all members

Our next areas of focus will be inviting all First English members to assist in providing a more welcoming experience for visitors. This includes wearing name tags, meeting and greeting each other before, during and after worship and creating more opportunities for visitors, new members and existing members to connect with each other. We also will increase and improve our evangelism efforts, now that we are closer to having our "house in order" as it relates to visitor care.

Growing our church and attracting new members has evolved

## Congregational Growth

into much more than merely evaluating the worship experience, pastor and facilities. Today, our members create a nurturing environment — both inside and outside our church — through a variety of programs that are generated by their passions.

– Dan Baumbach, North Site Development Team member and Lance Schmidt, Congregational Growth Ministry Team member

## New fellowship offered for members age 20 to 39

**A**re you between the ages of 20 and 39? Are you interested in meeting other members? Perhaps you just moved to the community and would like to meet new friends.

First English would like to provide fellowship and ministry for all members in this age group. There will be a potluck luncheon for adults ages 20-39 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 15, in the Activity Center at the North Site. Child care will be provided.

Please bring a dish to pass.

There will be volleyball, food and a discussion on the format for

## Congregational Life

future fellowship activities and Bible study. We plan to have one fellowship activity and a Bible study session each month. Please come, introduce yourself and meet new faces in the church.

For more information, contact Meghan Cieslik at meghan\_cieslik@tds.net.

## Congregational Life

### Attend 'Prayer 101 Retreat' on Dec. 2 at the North Site

The Prayer Ministry Task Force is holding a "Prayer 101 Retreat" from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2, in the Gathering Area at the North Site. Please place this retreat on your calendar so you can attend.

Registration will begin in November. The retreat will focus on teaching and small group- and guided-discussions that will help you learn how to pray and help you feel more comfortable about prayer.

### Grief Support Group to meet at Downtown Site

The Grief Support Group, which is open to anyone in the community who is experiencing grief resulting from any type of loss, especially the death of a loved one, will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 18, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site.

### Marriage Encounter scheduled in Brookfield

A Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held Nov. 10-12, at the Doubletree Hotel in Brookfield.

In all marriages, there are times when couples take each other and their relationships for granted. A Marriage Encounter weekend presents each couple with the opportunity to get off the "modern-world treadmill" to stop and take a fresh look at each other, their marriage and priorities.

For information, call Dean and Marcia Redman at 414-771-7534 or visit [www.ilme.org](http://www.ilme.org).

## Volunteers put 'Faith in Action' at Volunteer Fair

The Volunteer Fair at both sites on Sept. 17 was exciting. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the event a success, including the Ministry Teams who made displays, assisted with setup and hosted on Sunday morning; the coffee-hour hosts who went "above and beyond" to make special refreshments; Bob Damon, Deni Lundwall, Linda Schraa and Amy Henderson for all their behind-the-scenes work and, most importantly, First English volunteers who completed their annual Faith in Action Time & Talent form.

If you haven't completed a form yet, the deadline is Oct. 29. Forms and catalogs can be found in the Gathering Area at either site.



The committee asks all church members to complete a form annually. Yes, it already has been a year since we did this last.

Thank you again. It is volunteers who make First English so special.

## ... and the Volunteer Fair winners are ...

The following Ministry Team members and Volunteer Fair attendees have won prizes in the various categories and will be contacted by Jean Monson:



### Best Display — Ministry Team Cheesecake Winners

Downtown Site:  
Worship Ministry Team  
North Site: Youth Ministry Team

### Best Host — Ministry Team Sweatshirt Winners

Downtown Site: Judy Snavely  
North Site: Lance Schmidt

### Returned Time & Talent Form

Downtown Site: Jenny Haas  
North Site: Nicole Eidahl  
Confirmation Student:  
Grey Harrell

### Booth Host Drawing

Downtown Site: Gary Akgulian  
North Site: John Zweig

## Fall outing planned to orchard in Chilton

A fall outing to Heritage Orchard and pumpkin patch in Chilton will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 15.

Please bring a favorite snack to pass. Call Carey McElrath at 920-

730-4145 to sign up. The outing is free. Apples and pumpkins will be sold in the store. Maps are on the bulletin board in the Gathering Areas at both sites.

## Learning

### Ministry Teams to gather first Tuesday in October

Ministry Teams will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, in the Sanctuary at the North Site.

### Book Club to discuss 'The Four Agreements'

October's Book Club selection is "The Four Agreements," by Don Miguel Ruiz. The simple ideas in this book provide an inspirational code for life; a personal development model and templates for behavior, communications and relationships. All adults are welcome to read the book and join us for an interesting discussion at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30, in the Gathering Area at the North Site.

### 'Three Cups of Tea' offers inspirational read

Every once in a while a book comes along that is so well written and so interesting that it's good from the first paragraph to the last.

"Three Cups of Tea" is that book. It is about Greg Mortenson's mission to fight terrorism and build nations ... one school at a time. It is coauthored by David Oliver Relin.

It begins with Mortenson's failure to climb the K-2 peak in Pakistan and ends a few years after 9-11. (You can imagine the impact of that on conditions in Pakistan). What Mortenson accomplishes and Relin records later is truly amazing.

— Barb Mattheis

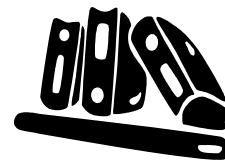
## Check out the books for sale at the Book Fair

The First English Lutheran Church Library Committee is sponsoring a Book Fair at both sites on Sunday, Oct. 8 and Sunday, Oct. 15.

Many great books will be on display beginning Oct. 1. Orders will be taken Oct. 8 and 15. Think ahead to Christmas, birthdays and

other occasions.

Augsburg Fortress is furnishing the books and donating a copy of those on display at both sites, so our libraries will benefit when you purchase books.



## 'Saturday Morning' delivers compelling stories

I picked up a book to read off the Summer Reading Table and hit a real winner.

"Saturday Morning," by Lauraine Snelling, tells the story of four very different women who come together and help each other with their individual needs and concerns.

The characters are very well drawn — it was easy to envision each person the author developed. But the really wonderful part of their stories is that they each consulted with God before making de-

isions in a delightful, refreshing way, such as calling God "Big Dad."

I definitely will be seeking more books by this author. If there aren't any in our church library, I will check out the public library.

Snelling definitely is an accomplished writer who says she's written about 50 books. She'd rather write them than count them.

— Barb Mattheis

## Next baptismal workshop set for Nov. 13

Baptism is God's gift of love and hope. All families seeking to have their child baptized should plan to attend a baptismal workshop.

The next workshop is at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 13, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site. Please RSVP by calling the church office and indicating if child care is needed.

Another workshop will be held on Jan. 15, 2007.

Whether or not you already have had a child baptized at First English, please plan to attend a workshop before scheduling a baptism. We welcome you to attend one of the bimonthly workshops before your baby is born.

## Learning

### 'Getting Ready for Sunday' looks at upcoming texts

The "Getting Ready for Sunday" study will gather from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site.

The focus of conversations, which will be facilitated by Jerry Anderson, will be lectionary texts for the coming Sunday. Please come as often as you can to discuss the following texts:

#### Texts for Sunday, Oct. 1

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29  
James 5:13-20  
Mark 9:38-50

#### Texts for Sunday, Oct. 8

Genesis 2:18-24  
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12  
Mark 10:2-16

#### Texts for Sunday, Oct. 15

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15  
Hebrews 4:12-16  
Mark 10:17-31

#### Texts for Sunday, Oct. 22

Isaiah 53:4-12  
Hebrews 5:1-10  
Mark 10:35-45

#### Texts for Sunday, Oct. 29

##### Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Romans 3:19-28  
John 8:31-36

### 'Daily Discipleship' study available online

Hearing God's word daily is an important part of your faith journey. For personal study or group study, check out the online lectionary Bible study, "Daily Discipleship," provided by the ELCA at [www.elca.org/evangelism/dailydiscipleship](http://www.elca.org/evangelism/dailydiscipleship).

## Hear about God's love throughout the week

First English offers many different formats to read the Bible and learn about God's love. Among them are:

- **Adult Learning Hour**

Learn how to hear God's voice during Adult Learning Hour, which meets at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays in Room 221 at the Downtown Site and at 9:45 a.m. in the Office at the North Site. At the Downtown Site, Peter Peregrine facilitates "On the Job Training," from the "No Experience Necessary" Study Series. At the North Site, join a discussion on the Sunday texts and sermon, based on questions prepared by the presiding pastor that day.

- **Women's Circles**

Women's Bible studies are a great way to connect every month. Circles are monthly Bible studies in which women gather to explore faith topics and meet new friends. Discussions include articles published in "Lutheran Woman Today" magazine. September's study is "Hope in God in Times of Suffering." Visit [www.lutheranwomantoday.org](http://www.lutheranwomantoday.org) to view the complete session. Subscribe to the magazine at 800-328-4648. Upcoming circles:

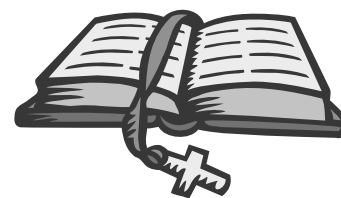
**Judith Circle** meets at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site.

**Sarah Circle** meets at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 11. Call 920-739-7972 for directions to the host home.

**Miriam Circle** meets at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 11. Call 920-733-1039 for directions to the host home.

- **"Wednesday Study"**

A study of "Traveling Light," by Max Lucado, is at 6:30 p.m. on



Wednesdays, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site.

Lucado shepherds readers through the 23rd Psalm, leading them beside the still waters of quiet reflection, using familiar verses to walk through an inventory of emotional and spiritual baggage.

Donna Bub is the facilitator.

- **Early-morning study**

Enjoy a cup of coffee and visit the "Women's Early Riser Bible Study" from 6 to 7 a.m. on Thursdays, in the Lounge at the Downtown Site. The study, "Listening to God, a Guide to Discernment," focuses on how we know that God is calling. Annette Ford is the facilitator.

- **"Thursday Study"**

The purpose of studying Isaiah and Timothy 1 and 2 is to help us see God's love in our world and inspire us to take part in God's mission of love to the world.

The study, which meets weekly beginning Thursday, Oct. 5, is from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the lounge at the Downtown Site.

The study is open to men and women. Barb Mattheis is the facilitator. Books are available the first day of class.

- **"Tuesday Bag Lunch**

Bring a bag lunch and study the Old Testament from noon to 1 p.m. on Oct. 10 and 24 in the Fellowship Hall at the Downtown Site. Pastor Detweiler will facilitate the study.

## Prayer Partners needed for Confirmation students

Each year, First English members volunteer to become prayer partners for one confirmation student.

As these eighth- and ninth-graders are put to the challenge of learning about their faith, they need your prayer support.

We need prayer partners for eighth-grade students. If you would be willing to pray regularly for one of these confirmands, please contact Anita Damon or Julie Doerfler in the church office.

## Parent Connection offers parenting workshop

The Parent Connection, a program of Family Services of NE Wisconsin, is presenting "1-2-3 Magic," a two-week session for parents of children ages 3-12 to learn how to stop the behavior that they don't want, and start the behavior they do want.

It is based on the work of Thomas W. Phelan, Ph.D.

**When:** 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 7 and 14

**Where:** Room 110 at the Downtown Site

**Cost:** \$5 per person

Register in advance by calling ThedaCare on Call at 920-830-6877 or visit [www.thedacare.org/](http://www.thedacare.org/) classes. Free child care is available with advance registration.

## Parents, encourage kids to learn Bible verses

Parents, please encourage your first- through sixth-grade students to learn Bible verses this year.

The students in Grades one through three at the Downtown Site and Grades one through four at the North Site learn one verse each month. The verses are listed in "I Can Learn Bible Memory Book."

Students in Grades four through six at the Downtown Site and grades five through six at the North Site learn the "ABC" memory verses. As your child learns the

### Learning

verses, please record it on the memory book they brought home and update the teacher of their progress.

After students memorize five verses, they receive a certificate and are acknowledged in the church announcements and newsletter.

Extra copies of the memory verses are on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area at both sites.

## Learn how to get into good financial shape

First English is hosting the Financial Fitness Club, which is which is being offered by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

It is a fun, interactive way to develop good saving and spending habits and get better control of your finances. Club participants meet for one hour a week at sessions led by a financial fitness trainer.

Learn new topics every week, including:

- Healthy spending and saving habits.
- Living your life in financial balance.
- Using credit to your advantage and avoiding credit downfalls.

The program offers a new way to improve your financial skills in a



very positive and upbeat environment. There are no sales involved. The financial fitness trainer isn't licensed and cannot sell financial products or services.

The first session is free. After that, the fee is \$39 for 5 sessions. Thrivent offers a money-back guarantee if at any time during the course of the sessions you're not satisfied.

The Financial Fitness Club will meet from 7 to 8 p.m. on Mondays, beginning Oct. 3, in Room 110 at the Downtown Site.

Pre-register for your free session by calling 800-596-4225 or by visiting [www.thriventffc.com](http://www.thriventffc.com).

## Outreach & Social Ministry

### Team calendar of events: Outreach & Social Ministry

**Sunday, Oct. 8:** CROP Hunger Walk — Meet at 12:15 p.m. in the Gathering Area at the Downtown Site.

**Sunday, Oct. 8:** Forum on Immigration — Event begins at 7 p.m. at St. Therese Catholic Church, 213 E. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton. Several local Hispanic immigrants will offer testimonials on why they left their homes, how they got to the Fox Valley and what it's like to work and live in the community.

**Sunday, Oct. 15:** ESTHER Banquet and Silent Auction — Details to follow in upcoming bulletin announcements.

**Sunday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 10:** — Alternative Gift Fair — Event will be held on Dec. 3 at the Downtown Site and on Dec. 10 at the North Site. Look for more details in upcoming bulletin announcements and in the November newsletter. To find out how you can participate in this event by joining a task force, see **Page 11**.

### Salvation Army needs donations of cereal

First English was designated the "Cheerio Church" by the Salvation Army because the agency experiences an on-going need for breakfast cereal. Please bring a box of cereal to church at either site. Look for signs where your donation can be placed.

## World hunger emphasized during October

### Ministry Team Spotlight

The Outreach and Social Ministry team has selected hunger as its emphasis in October. Beginning with the CROP Hunger Walk on Oct. 8, there will be additional information shared during the month on ELCA World Hunger.

The ELCA World Hunger program improves the lives of people in need in the United States and around the world by:

- Providing immediate relief for people affected by chronic hunger and poverty.
- Assisting whole communities through long-term, sustainable development to help alleviate chronic hunger and poverty.
- Advocating for justice by changing laws and systems; and educating members of the ELCA about issues relating to hunger, poverty and justice.

### How does the ELCA program carry out these functions?

ELCA World Hunger supports partner organizations that carry out international relief and development on the ELCA's behalf with grants from money raised by the



World Hunger Appeal. Also through grants, the program helps fund more than 200 relief and development projects in the United States.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional Candidate Forum to be held at Lawrence

Candidates for the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, running for the position formerly held by Congressman Mark Green, will participate in a public forum at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13, in the Stansbury Theatre at the Music and Drama Center at Lawrence University. The forum is sponsored by ESTHER, the Fox Valley League of Women Voters, Lawrence University, the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, Goodwill Industries, the Rotary Multicultural Center of the Fox Cities and the Wisconsin Alliance for Retired Americans.

The purpose of the forum is to give voters an opportunity to talk to candidates and to find out what their positions are on various issues. It's also designed to stir up voter interest in the November elections; to spark the interest of nonregistered voters in the election process; and to nurture an ongoing relationship of communication and accountability between the voters of the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and their representatives in Congress.

— Diane Putzer  
Outreach & Social Ministry  
Chairwoman

## Outreach & Social Ministry

### LWR layette project still seeking to reach goal

Thank you to everyone who knitted sweaters and contributed money and baby clothes and supplies for the Lutheran World Relief layette project.

However, the Outreach & Social Ministry Team has not reached its goal of 250 layettes. More money is needed to purchase layette items and to buy Gerber diapers online at a lower cost.

A financial contribution to First English Lutheran Church, noting "LWR Layettes" on the memo area of your check, will be greatly appreciated and used to purchase additional items to complete these kits.

Layette will be packed by Oct. 15. First English youth will load the completed layettes into boxcars in Oshkosh on Oct. 21.

"Be Involved" informational brochures on this and other LWR outreach projects are available in the Gathering Area at both sites.

### Therapy addresses disorder in children

The Lutheran Social Services Attachment Therapy Program provides hope and recovery for children struggling with Attachment Disorder.

Children with this disorder do not respond well to traditional parenting or therapy. This therapy approach provides a corrective emotional experience and creates a foundation for a healthier attachment between parent and child. For more information, call LSS at 920-734-9171.

## New purpose statement reflects goals of ECHOES

The Outreach & Social Ministry Team has developed the following purpose statement for ECHOES:



"ECHOES Gift & Thrift is an outreach ministry of First English Lutheran Church that gives back to the community by offering benevolence funding and quality, low-priced resale items to our customers in a Christian environment. We provide exceptional customer service and show sincere appreciation to our volunteers, who are the cornerstone of this lay-led ministry."

One of the team goals was to explain to members of the congregation and to our customers the purpose and goals of the store.

Volunteers always are appreciated in the day-to-day operation of the store. In addition, ECHOES is looking for some specific gifts, including a volunteer willing to paint the logo and purpose statement on the back wall at the store. We also are looking for a volunteer with marketing experience to work with store staff to help promote ECHOES and the purpose statement. Contact Kathy Hoffman at 920-882-8172 or e-mail her at hoffmankathryn@hotmail.com. if you are interested in any of these roles.

## Fair Trade coffee on sale at church on Oct. 1

Your purchase of Fair Trade products can have profound, far-reaching effects. The whole process — including the human rights it affirms along the way — begins with something as simple as buying a different brand of coffee, tea or chocolate.

First English has been outstanding in its support of Fair Trade. At the Downtown Site last month, coffee sales were \$271. Sales at the North Site were \$150. We thank you for your continued support of this very worthwhile project.

We have a wide variety of coffees, from Café Salvador (regular)

to Tanzania Jubilee (robust). In between is Café Nica, Breakfast Blend and Colombian. There also are flavored coffees, including Hazelnut Crème and French Vanilla.

All regular coffees are \$6 a package. We have Hazelnut Crème decaf, Colombian decaf and our regular Organic decaf. All decaf coffees are \$7 a package. Most coffees come in whole-bean and ground varieties.

We also have three flavors of tea at \$3 a box and hot cocoa and baking cocoa at \$5 a container. Other favorites are the milk chocolate and dark chocolate bars at \$1 each.

Our next Coffee Project Sunday is Oct. 1.

## Outreach & Social Ministry

### Turn in film canisters for Crossways' fundraiser

At our Women's Spring Event, the director of Crossways Bible Camp asked that each congregation be responsible for 30 film canisters to be filled with quarters (or whatever folks want to donate) as a fundraiser for our Bible Camps.

Each canister will hold about \$7 in quarters. If each church turned in 30, that will raise more than \$1000. So far, First English folks have turned in 21 canisters for a total of \$191.27.

For those of you who still want to contribute, please turn in your money to the church office by Oct. 1, so all the money can be sent to Crossways Ministries.

Thanks to all who participated.

— Sharon Anderson

### Join First English quilters every Monday morning

Quilters get together at 9 a.m. every Monday in the Fellowship Hall at the Downtown Site. New quilters are welcome — you don't even need to know how to sew.

Quilting needs include old sheets and pillow cases, bath towels, mattress pads, curtains, drapes, fabric and clean used clothing.

## First English reaches out to the community

First English has launched a new outreach opportunity. "Second Saturdays of Service" will begin on Saturday, Oct. 14, with an Adopt-a-Highway cleanup.

First English has adopted County JJ from Ballard Road to Richmond Street. Meet at the North Site parking lot at 8:45 a.m. to help tidy up this road. We will finish at noon.

"Second Saturdays of Service" is an intentional, intergenerational, outreach effort offered monthly to the Appleton community by members of First English. Please sign up on the youth bulletin board for planning purposes. If you have questions, contact Andy "Mo" Moscinski, First English Confirmation Coordinator, at amo30@mac.com.

## 50+ Discovery will help anticipate future needs

Beginning Sunday, Oct. 1, First English will begin 50+Discovery, a Senior Inventories project. We will be distributing Senior Inventory reports that will help individuals identify services they may need in the future to live healthy, independent lifestyles. It also will help Ministry Teams anticipate the needs within our congregation.

Everyone age 50 and older is encouraged to pick up a survey, take it home and fill it out. Project hosts will be available between worship services at each site in October or in the church office during the week to answer questions you may have about the inventory. It has 174 questions that will give us a clearer picture of the individual needs within our congregation and the opportunities for our ministry teams. The Senior Inventory is a synodwide project promoted by Lutheran Social Services, Fox Valley Lutheran Homes and the Luther Institute.

There is a \$10 processing fee for each inventory, which will be collected from you when you pick it up. But if this presents a

hardship, please contact a pastor.

Everyone who takes the Senior Inventory will receive a confidential, personal report sent to their home. Based on your unique response, your personal report will highlight specific issues you should think about as you grow older.

First English will receive an anonymous summary of all inventories. This report will respect the confidentiality of all participants. The report will assist our Congregation Council and our ministry teams in our short- and long-range planning by identifying specific needs within our congregation and community. The resulting trends of our congregation will be shared in special learning sessions that will be held in 2007.

Church Resources manages all stages of data collection and report-generating. No third party, including our congregation, will have access to the inventory responses of individuals. After the inventories are electronically scanned and the reports are generated, the inventories are shredded and recycled.

## Support

### First English to debut logo, launch new Web site

The new logo of First English has been completed and is at a printing facility being reproduced on church stationery and envelopes.

Please visit the display that features a three-color and black and white version of the logo in the Gathering Area at both sites.

The logo, which was designed by Dayton Henderson, reflects our shift toward a discipleship model of ministry and emphasizes Christ, who is the center of our faith, and the saving grace of baptism.

It is being incorporated in the design of our new Web site, which will be launched in October.

### Simply Giving program makes it easy to contribute

Did you know there is an automated giving program to help contribute to the ministries of First English Lutheran Church in a safe, confidential and convenient way?

It's called Simply Giving and it is an electronic funds transfer program. Through the Simply Giving program your gifts are made through a preauthorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the amount and frequency of your gift – weekly, semi-monthly or monthly.

If the Simply Giving program would better meet your needs, please contact Brenda Smongeski at the church office for more information or go to [www.firstenglishlutheran.org](http://www.firstenglishlutheran.org) and print out an application.

## Ministry Team working on North Site projects

The Support Ministry Team has been actively working on many issues.

The North Site sign project is moving forward. The funding has been approved and Paul Kayser is coordinating the project with the contractors. A large sign will be placed along Ballard Road and a smaller sign will be erected near our driveway entrance with the service times displayed.



Through Walt Rugland, we have been working with bids for completing the downstairs at the North Site. At this time the bidding appears to be favorable and a decision on when to complete the project is forthcoming. We look to complete this project in 2007.

The Stewardship Subgroup has finalized plans for Consecration Sunday, which is set for Nov. 5. Pastors Steve McKinley and Gene Hermeier will be preaching on Consecration Sunday.

For the weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday, we will be making presentations at Sunday ser-

vices to prepare for the event. We believe this program will allow everyone to grow spiritually by discovering what we can give financially to support the Lord's work.

The Support Ministry Team has appointed a Strategic Property Task Force in response to a request from the council. Their missions are to review the property needs at the Downtown Site and North Site and to develop criteria for acquisition of surrounding property. Further, we will develop priorities and boundaries for property acquisitions relating to our current sites that further the mission of First English.

On Sunday, Sept. 17, our Stewardship Time & Talent Subgroup sponsored the Volunteer Fair. It was well received and provided an excellent forum for members to discover opportunities to serve the church with their time and talent. We thank Jean Monson and all the members of the Time & Talent Subgroup for a job well done!

— John Zweig

Support Ministry Chairman

## TASK FORCES: Work with Ministry Teams

(From Page 2)

### Alternative Gift Fair

**Goal:** Work with the Outreach & Social Ministry Team to help organize, coordinate and publicize the Alternative Gift Fair on Dec. 3 at the Downtown Site, with a follow-up on Dec. 10; and Dec. 10 at the North Site, with follow-up on Dec. 17.

**First meeting:** October 2006.

**Estimated time commitment:** 2-3 meetings.

**Contact:** Diane Putzer at 749-0228 or [dkputzer@yahoo.com](mailto:dkputzer@yahoo.com).

### Chili Cook off & Silent Auction

**Goal:** Work with the Youth Ministry Team to help organize, coordinate and publicize the 2007 Chili Cook Off & Silent Auction that will be held in February 2007.

**First meeting:** October 2006.

**Estimated time commitment:** 2-3 meetings.

## Worship

### Jazz Vespers offers music, meditation

Start your week with music and meditation by attending Jazz Vespers on Sunday evenings at the Downtown Site Sanctuary beginning at 7 p.m. on Oct. 15.

“Surprised by Grace” members John Harmon (piano), Mary Catterton (vocalist), John Gibson (bass), Matt Turner (cello) and Mike Hale (Flugelhorn and trumpet) offer a blend of jazz instrumental and Christian jazz vocal music. Jazz Vespers runs through Nov. 19.

### Musicians invited to join music ministry

Musicians are invited to participate in all aspects of the music ministry at First English. We currently have a great need for instrumentalists at the North Site.

Other opportunities for musical service include Parish Choir, singers for the North Site bands, hand bell ringers, instrumentalists (brass, woodwinds, strings, piano, organ) and the Bucket Band.

If you are interested in serving God with your musical gifts at either worship site, please call Phil Barnett, Director of Music, at 920-733-2303 or e-mail him at phil\_barnett@tds.net.

### Thanks to musicians who served on Wednesdays

Thanks to all the musicians who helped make Wednesday Worship a wonderful experience this summer. A special thank you to Jim Stellmacher, for the many years of musical leadership behind the piano.

## North Site to offer two styles of worship

### Ministry Team Spotlight

The North Site Worship Ministry Team subgroup has been working for the past five months with our pastors to create services which will capture the spirit of First English Lutheran Church at the North Site.



Expanding on the goal to meet the diverse needs of a large congregation and to encourage growth through a variety of worship styles, the 8:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. services will be modified from the moderately traditional, single-style of worship currently offered at the North Site to two different, less traditional worship

formats. The summer Wednesday Worship model will ultimately be used for the 8:30 a.m. service. The 9:45 a.m. service will use a simplified, contemporary model, substantially the same as the style of worship that was used last year at the North Site.

The target date to implement the changes to the 8:30 a.m. service with the Wednesday Worship model is January 2007. Changes to the 9:45 a.m. service will begin Oct. 8.

We hope you will continue to invite your family and friends to church. Together we can capture the spirit we look forward to each week at worship.

– Kristi Picken

Worship Ministry Team member

## First English Youth Board taking the reins

### Ministry Team Spotlight

When the First English Youth Board met for the first time on Sept. 10, it was an explosive, brainstorming extravaganza.

The Youth Board is a subgroup of the Youth Ministry Team – and it’s made up entirely of youth. Ok, there are a few adult leaders, but they’re around mostly to silently absorb the great wisdom of these youthful gurus. The members have taken the lead in evaluating existing programs and dreaming up new ones. Ideas include arranging for a bus and transporting kids to activities (cleverly named “The Jebus”), to



## Youth

putting youth in charge of Temple Talks relating to service projects.

“If the congregation sees us involved in the planning of events like Adopt-a-Family and the CROP Hunger Walk, they might take our commitment to church more seriously,” one youth said.

The Youth Board will meet once a month and work in conjunction with the Youth Ministry Team.

If you’d like to be a part of this growing ministry and are in Grades 9-12, consider joining us. Call Meghan Cieslik at the church office to sign up.

– Meghan Cieslik,

Youth Ministry Associate

## First English seeks info on college students

First English wants to keep in touch with college students, so please contact Meghan Cieslik or Julie Doerfler at the church office with postal and e-mail addresses of college students.

The staff also would like to acknowledge high school and college students who are receiving awards and honors by listing them in the bulletin announcements and newsletters.

Call Jan Sommerfeld at the church office or e-mail her at jan\_sommerfeld@tds.net with the name of the student and the school they are attending; the student's grade level; and the honor or award the student achieved.

## Attend 'An Evening with Dr. Mary Manz Simon'

"An Evening with Dr. Mary Manz Simon" will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at Faith Lutheran Church, 601 E. Glendale Ave., Appleton. Simon will address "Trends that Impact Children, their Families and the Church Library," a PowerPoint presentation that explains how technology affects individuals.

## Anniversaries

The following couples are celebrating wedding anniversaries in October:

- Steve and Annette Ford celebrate 30 years together on Oct. 9.
- Robert and Juanita Gauerke celebrate 55 years on Oct. 13.
- James and Barbara Peichl celebrate 40 years on Oct. 15.
- Rich and Jan Erickson celebrate 40 years together on Oct. 22.

## Council Matters

### Council discusses call for third pastor position

At the Sept. 19 Congregation Council meeting, Call Committee Chairman Dick Gamble reported on committee deliberations regarding the call for the third pastor.

He reported that the committee continues to consider alternative approaches to the call with respect to the role of the third pastor during the week and the experience of the potential candidate. An experienced candidate would be called with a limited weekday role; a candidate with less experience would have a full-week function, albeit one of learning in place. Either approach carries comparable cost.

The Council had a lengthy, open-ended discussion that Dick will carry to the committee. In the end, the committee will recommend a call proposal to the Council and the Council will accept or reject the recommendation. If they accept the proposal, they will recommend it at a congregation meeting. The call will be extended at the congregation meeting.

Connected with this discussion is the report in 2005 of the Self-Study Task Force that recommended FELC move toward a discipleship model of congregation

structure from the historic membership model. The Council asked that more information and communication of this concept be prepared for the congregation.

### Other Council matters

— Financial report highlights indicated contributions at nearly 10 percent ahead of last year, but behind the budgeted level for this year. Projections of expected revenues will be made in September and any adjustments necessary for either giving reminders or expenses will be recommended in October.

— The Worship Ministry Team reported that three pews will be removed from the front of the Downtown Site Sanctuary to provide more room for music offerings and other related worship activity.

— The Learning Ministry Team reported that First English will host a Thrivent Financial Fitness Club.

— The Support Ministry Team reported that a task force has been established to formulate the strategic approach to property surrounding our sites. It also reported on plans for Consecration Sunday that will be held on Nov. 5.

## Official Acts

### Baptisms

- Talan Jay Uvaas, baptized on Sept. 10.
- Morgan Ashly Savage, baptized on Sept. 24.
- Tasha Ann Wagner, baptized on Sept. 24.

### Weddings

- Pastor David Lyle and Erika Estenson, married on Sept. 2.

- Ross Larson and Emilie Fraley, married on Sept. 23.
- Jesse Rentmeester and Cristina Lux, married on Sept. 23.
- Andrew Lecker and Lori Knutson, married on Sept. 30

### Funerals

- A memorial service was held for Marie Young on Sept. 12.
- A memorial service was held for Terry Jury on Sept. 25.