

## FELC Friendship Pads

Please fill out the Friendship Pad when asked during worship. If the church office does not currently have your contact information or it has changed, please indicate that in the appropriate column.

### Nursery Care

The nurseries at both sites are open for family use during all services. The Downtown Site Nursery is located across from the Library in the Gathering Area. The North Site Nursery is off the main hallway, across from the restrooms. Please ask an usher for assistance.

### Hearing Assistance

If you are in need of a personal receiver, ask a Downtown Site usher, or a North Site soundboard technician.

### Large-print Resources

If you are in need of a large print Bible or bulletin, ask an usher at the Downtown Site, or a greeter at the North Site.

### AED Units on Site

Automated external defibrillators are outside the Downtown Site Usher's Room and next to the North Site sound booth.

### Video Recording

The 8 a.m. Downtown Site worship service is video-recorded to share with our homebound members upon request.

### In Need of Prayer?

For additions to the prayer chain call Lorraine Moore, 749-0058, or email [felc@felc.com](mailto:felc@felc.com) or Pastor Mary at [mbauer@felc.com](mailto:mbauer@felc.com).

### More Information

For detailed information on these and more FELC events, opportunities and ministries, pick up a newsletter in the Gathering Area, visit our website at [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com), or check the bulletin boards and kiosks in the Gathering Area.

## The Week of Nov. 27 At-A-Glance

### Sunday, Nov. 27

8:50 a.m. Cherub/Angelus Choir Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room  
9:15/9:25 a.m. Children's Combined Learning Time, DS Fellowship Hall/NS Lower Level  
9:15 a.m. Adult Learning Time, DS 221  
7 p.m. Pickleball, NS Activity Center

### Monday

9 a.m. Quilters, DS Fellowship Hall  
9:30 a.m. Intern Enrichment Ministry Team/Auction Planning Team, DS Lounge  
8:15 p.m. Pick Up Basketball League, NS Activity Center

### Tuesday

6:15 a.m. *Bad Girls of the Bible* HS Study, Apple City Restaurant  
6:30 a.m. Men's Ministry, NS Library

### Wednesday

10 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Mary, Northland Mall  
1 p.m. 50+ Planning Meeting, DS 114  
5 p.m. LIFT Meal, DS Fellowship Hall  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room  
6:15 p.m. Wednesday Worship, DS  
6:30 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room  
6:30 p.m. Seraphim Choir Rehearsal, DS Fellowship Hall  
6:45 p.m. reFUEL (Grades 10-12), Off Site at the PAC, Meet at DS  
7 p.m. Confirmation Small Groups - On & Off Site (Check with your leader)

### Thursday

6 a.m. Early Risers, DS Lounge  
9 a.m. Adult Bible Study, DS Lounge

### Friday

6:30 a.m. Men's Ministry, NS Library

### Sunday, Dec. 4

**Faith Family Sunday: Families Attend Worship Together Honey Fundraiser**  
8:50 a.m. Cherub/Angelus Choir Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room  
9:15 a.m. Adult Learning Time, DS 221  
9:25 a.m. Faith Family Sunday: Christmas Bake & Meditation Break, NS Kitchen & Activity Center  
10:45 a.m. Join the Conversation (Grades 9-12), Google Hangouts  
7 p.m. Pickleball, NS Activity Center

DS = Downtown Site    NS = North Site

### 2016 Advent Concert Featuring *Behind the Eyes*

Nov. 30, 7 p.m., Fox Cities P.A.C.

Tickets are \$15 general admission (18 and under are free) and available in person at the P.A.C. ticket office, at the Member Services Desk of any Fox Cities YMCA or in person at New Hope Church, Neenah. Proceeds benefit YMCA programs supporting the Fox Valley's working poor.



## First English Lutheran Church

[www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com)

[felc@felc.com](mailto:felc@felc.com)

### Downtown Site

Sunday Worship: 8, 9:15, & 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Worship: 6:15 p.m.  
Office Hours: M-Th: 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.  
F: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

# Love Jesus. Live your call.

## Sunday at FELC

### Altar Flowers

The Downtown Site altar flowers are provided by Diane Putzer in memory of her parents, Robert & Ellen Karloske who would have celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Nov.29.

### Advent Wreath Lighting

Sign up TODAY for advent wreath lighting. This is a great way to bring the family together during the holidays. Confirmation families that sign up to light the Advent wreath can write a couple of paragraphs about their experience and the symbolism of the wreath to turn in for a Family Assignment. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area at each site. Please take the time to sign up.



### Salvation Army Bell Ringing Red Kettle Campaign Last Day to Sign up at FELC

Today is the last day to sign up for FELC Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army. Please visit the table in the Gathering Area to sign up for this important ministry. FELC bell ringing will take place at various locations on:

- Saturday, Dec. 3, 8 a.m. - noon
- Monday, Dec. 5, 6-8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec. 14, 6-9 p.m.

If you find that you can ring bells later in the season, please visit the Salvation Army website to sign up.

## Announcements

### Week of Nov. 27, 2016

### North Site

Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.  
Office Hours: M-Th: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

## Looking Ahead

### Nominations for Elected Church Office

The FELC Nominating Committee is responsible for nominations for various elected church offices at the 2017 Annual Meeting. Recommendations are needed for candidates to the:

- 2017 Congregation Site Council
- 2017 Synod Assembly representatives
- 2018 Nominating Committee

Congregation members are being asked for suggested nominees for these. Please email your suggestions to [felc@felc.com](mailto:felc@felc.com) or contact one of the committee members: Keith Lena-burg, Mark Gebert, Matt Holtebeck, Sara Snyder, Dean Haas, or Tim Larsen.

### Advent Vespers

On Dec. 7 in the Downtown Site Fellowship Hall, join us for our annual Advent Vespers evening. Supper will begin at 4:45 p.m., activities at 5 p.m. and the Vespers presentation highlighting our FELC Choirs will begin at 6:15 p.m. This year we will be reading *If You're Missing Baby Jesus* by Jean Gietzen. Join us that night for Mary's Chicken Dinner (free will offering) and bring your family to enjoy cookie decorating, arts and crafts, and music. It's sure to be a fun and festive evening! We hope to see you there.

## Preparing for 500 Years of Reformation

As we honor the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation we offer a variety of studies that delve into Lutheran history and theology. Join us during Advent as we study *Martin Luther's Christmas Book*, a brief look at Luther as a pastor and his sermons and thoughts on the Christmas story. Classes begin Nov. 30 on Wednesday evenings at 4 and 7 p.m. Books are available in the Gathering Area.

### All Congregational Lunch

Sponsored by the 50+ Group

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 11:30 a.m.

(following worship)

Downtown Site Fellowship Hall

Join us for lunch following the Dec. 14 Advent worship service (worship is at 10 a.m.). All are welcome - bring a friend! Please sign up in the Gathering Area for planning purposes. You may also sign up online at [www.felc.com/forms](http://www.felc.com/forms).

There will also be a cookie exchange following lunch. You are not required to bring cookies but if you are so inclined, please bring two dozen to share. Hope to see you there!

## LWR Coffee and Chocolate Projects

What better time than at Christmas is there for us, empowered by God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ, to answer God's call to show mercy and compassion to our brothers and sisters in need. When we support LWR's fair trade projects, we are helping the small farmers who benefit from the fair prices, allowing them to educate their children, pay for healthcare and make improvements to their communities. Through these projects we can share our blessings with less fortunate people throughout the world. We will be selling LWR Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate and Chocolate bars on Sunday, Dec. 4.

## Wednesday Night LIFT Meal

Join us from 5-6:15 p.m. for food and fellowship every Wednesday! Please sign up for next week's LIFT meal by Monday at noon at [www.felc.com/forms](http://www.felc.com/forms). Wednesday's meal is Schweitzer's Potato Bar. Meals are \$5 per person for anyone over 5, kids 4 and under are free. \$20 max per family.

### News from Guatemala

If you are interested in hearing more about the mission trip to Guatemala, consider attending worship at the North Site on Dec. 4 or the Downtown Site on Dec. 11 as members of the team share how this trip of sharing water in Jesus name has impacted their faith.

## Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Thursday Morning Bible study begins the Advent Study, *Martin Luther's Christmas Book* on Dec. 1. Please pick up the book and study questions in the Downtown Site Gathering Area.

## Tutors Needed

If you are looking for a way to live out your call on a Sunday morning, consider being an *English as a Second Language* (ESL) tutor during the 9:15 a.m. service at the Downtown Site. Although not necessary, an ability to speak French would be helpful. Please connect with Pastor Mary at the church office for more details.

## Christmas on Main Street

The Fox Valley Chorus of Sweet Adelines International presents *Christmas on Main Street* on Dec. 6, 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 900 N. Mason St., Appleton. Travel through the sights and sounds of the Christmas festivities in Small Town, USA - from a glimpse of the Nutcracker Ballet, to the visit from Santa, to the tender Nativity Scene. Donations will be collected for the St. Joseph Food Program.

## Operation Christmas

First English has the opportunity to bring a Christmas wrapped in Christ's love to those less fortunate through *Operation Christmas*. Our focus this year is four local organizations that serve others: Lutheran Social Services which has three programs that serve men and women with mental health issues; Leaven, an organization that assists people in crisis to meet their basic needs; COTS, which provides temporary transitional shelter for homeless people; and Riverview Gardens, which focuses on providing job training to people in need.

Please select "ornaments" from the Operation Christmas tree of ornaments. Each ornament will identify gift items to help fulfill wishes and needs for these agencies and the people they serve in our community. Please place unwrapped gifts under the tree by Tuesday, Dec. 13. Gift cards should be brought to the church office, or be clearly marked and placed in the offering plate.

The needs in our community are varied and great. Please help FELC bring the compassion of Christ to those less fortunate.

## Longest Night Service -

*Winter Solstice*

Wednesday, Dec. 21

FELC - Downtown Site

6:15 p.m.: Sanctuary opens

6:45-7:15 p.m.: Contemplative service  
*Readings, piano, scripture, silence, lighting of candles, personal prayer, laying on of hands*

7:15 p.m. Sanctuary remains open

*Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. -Matthew 11:28*

## Prayer Connection

Prayer connects us to each other in this community of faith and to Christ. To be included in the list of prayers, submit names to the church office or the First English staff. Names are removed after one month, but can always be extended by request. Please remember these First English members, friends and families in prayer in the coming week:

## Prayers of Healing, Wholeness & Peace

- Nathan Meissner
- Angel Manos
- Todd Hollenberger
- Mary Lou Garnsworthy
- Brooklyn Ann Converse
- Jacob Schwab
- Laurie Niles
- Lynn Boenker
- Debra Boushley
- George Krempin
- David Heindel
- Doug Hansen
- Amy Ponomarev
- Moore Peregrine
- Harold Rohlfing
- Jacob Frerking
- Tom Roy
- Jim Roy
- Gloria Gillis
- Kathy Putzer
- Don Gillum
- Dana Gaffney
- Carol Hansen
- Tom Burmeister
- Melissa Heins

## Prayers of Comfort

- Families of:
- William Anton
  - Robert Karloske
  - Allen Wichman

## Prayers for Those Called to Serve in Other Countries

- The Leiseth Family (Pastor Tessa Moon, Jon, Isaac and Sophia)
- Spencer Wentland
- Guatemala Mission Trip Team

## Prayers for Those in the Military

- BM3 Kyle Kramer, USCG
- SP4 Dylan Kratz
- LCPL Robert Kopesky II
- 2LT Lucas Hash
- PVT Samuel Sinclair

## FELC DS - Engage Page: November 27

*This week's gospel: Matthew 24:36-44* But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Sun. - Tues., Nov. 27-30 (adapted from Lutheran Bible Ministries)

- ⇒ Advent-Christmas comes in the darkness of wintertime. Where do you find "light" in this season? What give you the most joy?
- ⇒ What relation do you see between external peace (outside oneself) and internal peace (within oneself)?
- ⇒ What did you find most compelling about the sermon?
- ⇒ Family Project: Although we serve God and neighbor through our everyday tasks, those everyday tasks can consume us and divert us from God. Find one way you can use an everyday task to grow in faith.

*From next week's gospel: Matt. 3:1-12* In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins...I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Wednesday, November 30: Isaiah 11:1-10

For the most part, I do not appreciate the tenacity of old stumps that keep on sending up new shoots. It can be amazing how deep one has to dig to get rid of pesky plants that want to take over your garden. The prophet Isaiah likens the world that will be ushered in by the rule of the Lord to just such a persistent plant. Just, righteous, safe, and possessing the knowledge of the Lord. Where do you see signs of this kingdom?

Thursday, December 1: Romans 15:4-13

Paul describes how to live in harmony with one another, and tells how that unity glorifies God. Among Paul's contemporaries, there were deep divisions between Jews and Gentiles, and it would have been very difficult for Jewish Christians to believe that Jesus truly meant to welcome Gentiles into his kingdom. However, that welcome did glorify God and brought hope, joy, & peace. In spite of these fruits of being a welcoming people, it can be difficult to do so. How have you felt most welcome in a place where you don't fit in? What are ways we can welcome the stranger?

Friday, December 2: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

The Psalmist describes a ruler who defends the cause of poor people as one who is establishing a just kingdom. The rule of such a leader brings healing to the people and healing to the land—like rain that falls on mown grass or showers on the earth. This is a justice for all people as the psalmist cries out, "May his glory fill the whole earth." What are practical ways that we work for justice?

Sat., December 3: Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist is such a unique and controversial figure. If we are honest, I think all of us would run the other way if we saw someone who looked so off kilter and sounded so angry and judgmental. Why do you imagine the message of John the Baptist struck home? What is most compelling about his message?

For an online discussion of these and other questions concerning the texts, go to our Facebook FELC Engage Page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/FELCEngagePage>

## FELC NS - Engage Page: November 27

*From this week's gospel: **Matt.3:1-12** In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins...I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."*

Sun.—Tues., Nov. 27-30 (adapted from Lutheran Bible Ministries)

- ⇒ John says that Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. What does that mean to you?
- ⇒ In your own life, how has confessing your sins prepared you for the Lord's coming?
- ⇒ What did you find most compelling about the sermon?
- ⇒ Family Project: Our tendency is to listen more closely to those people who are good looking. Talk about how to value the voices of those who look unconventional.

*Next week's gospel: **Matthew 24:36-44** But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.*

Wednesday, Nov. 30: Isaiah 2:1-5 (from Lutheran Bible Ministries)  
Some think of Isaiah 2:4 as an ideal vision that God will bring about in some distant time. Others view it as a vision of a possibility God wants us to work toward in the present world. Yet another group looks at terrorism, reflects on Mark 13:7, and concludes that war and violence is our future and peace is impossible. What do you think? What does Isaiah's vision mean to you?

Thursday, Dec. 1: Romans 13:11-14 (from Lutheran Bible Ministries)  
Paul uses the image of "armor of light." "Armor" can be read defensively, as protection from the assaults of the world. Or, it can be read offensively, as protective equipment to enable us to go forth safely in battle with the worldly power. What does the armor image suggest to you?

Friday, Dec. 2: Psalm 122

The Psalmist writes, "Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers...For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good." It's good to remember that we are called as a people of God to seek the good for our brothers and sisters. This is especially those who are together in the house of the Lord and the witness we share with the world. What are some concrete ways that we can seek good for those who dwell with us in the house of the Lord?

Sat., Dec. 3 Matthew 24:36-44 (adapted from Lutheran Bible Ministries)

These verses have been long used to scare people into making a decision to become a Christian. The idea that "you'll be left behind" struck fear into many who felt guilt over some real or imagined fault. Consider that most of the followers of Christ when this was written were expecting him to come back at any moment. Twenty centuries have passed and Jesus has not yet returned. So, what does "watchfulness" mean to us in our time?

For an online discussion of these and other questions concerning the texts, go to our Facebook FELC Engage Page:  
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