

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 Downtown Site Nursery (located across from the Library in the Gathering Area) and the North Site Nursery (off the main hallway, across from the restrooms) are open for family use during all services. Please ask an usher if you need 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

At the Downtown Site, if you are in need of a large print Bible or bulletin, please ask an usher.

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 8:30 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, email or call the church office (felc@felc.com; 733-2303).

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, or check the bulletin boards and kiosks in the Gathering Area.

The Week of Sept. 16, 2018 At-A-Glance

Sunday, Sept. 16

8:50 a.m. Cherub/Angelus Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room
9:15/9:25 a.m. Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
9:30 a.m. Middle School Music Class, NS Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. NS Sunday School Parent Meeting, NS Lower Level
11:45 a.m. New & Review Week 1, DS 221

Monday

9 a.m. Quilters, DS Fellowship Hall
1 p.m. Intern Enrichment Ministry Team, DS Lounge
5:15 p.m. Congregational Life Ministry Team, NS Library
8:15 p.m. Pick Up Basketball, NS Activity Center

Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Men's Ministry, NS Library
1 p.m. 50+ Planning Team, DS 114
5:30 p.m. Executive Committee, DS Lounge
6:45 p.m. Finance Committee, DS 110
7 p.m. Worship & Music Ministry Team, NS Library
8 p.m. ATC Basketball, NS Activity Center

Wednesday

10:30 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Mary, DS 221
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir, DS Choir Room
6:15 p.m. Wednesday Worship, DS Sanctuary
6:30 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room & Sanctuary
7 p.m. Confirmation 7th Grade First Class/Worship Assistance Training, DS Assigned Rooms/Sanctuary
7 p.m. Confirmation General Session Grades 8 & 9, DS Assigned Rooms
7 p.m. refuel Grades 10-12, DS Youth Room

Thursday

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

Friday

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

Sunday, Sept. 23

8:50 a.m. Cherub/Angelus Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room
9:15/9:25 a.m. Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
9:30 a.m. Ukulele Combo Rehearsal, NS Sanctuary
11:45 a.m. New & Review Week 2, NS Lower Level

DS = Downtown Site NS = North Site

LWR Trailer Load

On Saturday, Oct. 13 at 8 a.m. at the North Site, help load the trailers with all the Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits that have been created this past year. These items will be distributed to people in need throughout the world. Students grade 11 and up, and adults are encouraged to help, along with students in grades 7-10 if accompanied by a parent. Please note: the busiest time where help is needed the most is 8-9:30 a.m. Added incentive: treats will be provided! Sign up at www.felc.com/forms.



First English Lutheran Church
www.felc.com 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.

North Site

Sunday Worship: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Announcements
Week of Sept. 16, 2018

Love Jesus. Live your call.

First English is committed to becoming a more welcoming, inclusive congregation.

Sunday at FELC

Altar Flowers

The Downtown Site altar flowers are provided in honor and celebration of Renee Edbrooke's birthday.

Sunday Fall Worship Times

Resume Today

Downtown Site: 8, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.

North Site: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Worship

Casual. Contemplative. Communion. Candles. These words describe the new feel of Wednesday's 40-minute worship service. If another C-word were to be added, it would be Confirmation. Wednesday worship is a great time for students and families right before the Confirmation hour. Worship is held from 6:15 - 6:55 p.m. in the Downtown Site Sanctuary.

Coffee Project Sunday

FELC is selling Fairly Traded Coffee, Tea, Hot Cocoa and Candy bars today in the Gathering Area. The simple pleasure of a cup of coffee can be a vital source of income for thousands of small farmers and their families in some of the poorest countries in the world. Please consider supporting this important cause!



Middle School Music Opportunity at the North Site

On the first and third Sundays of the month from 9:30-10 a.m., in the North Site Sanctuary, there is a music class for middle schoolers interested in joining the Worship Team some day. Bring your voice, your band, orchestra or other instrument. Our first class is today. See you there!

Fall New & Review Series Begins Today

Are you interested in becoming a member of First English? Perhaps you aren't sure about joining but would like to learn more about First English. Maybe you are already a member but would like a refresher on what it's all about. Then join us today in Downtown Site Room 221 at 11:45 a.m. for the first of our three week *New and Review* series. The full itinerary can be found in the September newsletter or at www.felc.com/newmember. Childcare will be provided in the Nursery.

Thank you to those that registered. There is still room for anyone else interested; **join us today in the Downtown Site Room 221.** Questions? Contact Kathy Larson at (920)731-4969.

God's work. Our hands. Thank You!

Thank you to ALL who participated in any way in *God's work. Our hands.* Sunday on Sept. 9. What a wonderful morning it was - SO MANY hands doing God's work! Be sure to check out the video on the homepage of the FELC website (www.felc.com) and on our Facebook page. Thanks to all who shared their photos from the day.

Welcome Sarah

Please welcome Sarah Bauer, our interim North Site Discipleship Coordinator. Sarah will be working on Sunday mornings at the North Site until Christmas, helping our visitors and members connect to the church and relaying information about service opportunities. We're glad to have her on staff!

Calling All Bakers -The Tradition Widens

We invite the North Site to join with the Downtown Site in the tradition of "Calling All Bakers," that is, sharing a gift of baking for Sunday morning coffee hour. Not only does this gift enhance the coffee hour but it goes a long way in helping to control congregation expenses. Please complete the signup sheet near the coffee table. Each baker should plan on bringing approximately four dozen goodies. Questions? Contact Kathy Larson at klarson@felc.com, 733-2303.

Looking Ahead

Pick Up Your Scrip Cards

If you submitted a SCRIP order last week, your gift cards will be available for pick up tomorrow, Monday, Sept. 17 at the Downtown Site Office. Thank you for your support!

You Have a Story to Tell

We are about to begin a new religious education year and that means we need tall, small, young, and old storytellers to share the Bible story with our Sunday Schoolers. Give a few minutes on the Sunday morning(s) you choose to share the importance of God's word and connect with our super FELC students! Go to www.felc.com/forms to choose your date(s) and site. The information for your specific week will be sent to you via email after you have selected your date.

Nursery Care Needed

FELC is seeking individuals interested in assisting with childcare on Sunday mornings and occasional evenings. These paid positions are for both the Downtown and North Sites. The Church is also seeking to fill the paid role of Nursery Coordinator. This role is responsible for scheduling and ensuring Nursery staffing for both sites. If you are interested in these valuable roles, please contact Sara Laumer at 738-4738.

2019 High School Mission Trip

Every summer there is an annual youth trip that is offered to high school students currently in grades 9-12. This year, the youth will be going on a mission trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina July 20-27. A commitment form and informational video can be found at www.felc.com/highschool. Commitment forms and \$100 deposit are due Sept. 20 to the Downtown Site Office. Questions? Please contact Heidi Schreiner at hschreiner@fel.com.

Opening Reception and Conversation - Color-Brave Photo Project

ESTHER invites you to view the Color-Brave Photo Project: *Black and Brown Faces, a New Narrative*. This traveling exhibit will be on display at the Appleton Library's first floor from Thursday, Sept. 27 - Wednesday, Oct 3.

The exhibit will be introduced at a reception and community conversation hosted by ESTHER and facilitated by Fit Oshkosh at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 27. It seeks to shift common stereotypes about people of color, to explore the negative impact these false narratives have on the community, and to celebrate residents of color. More information at <https://tinyurl.com/yajjqc8v>.

GriefShare

GriefShare is a nation-wide ministry that helps people deal with the death of a loved one. This 12-week video curriculum includes discussion time allowing people to share their own experiences with grief. The fall session will begin on Monday, Oct. 1. To get more information or to purchase the workbook, please connect with Pastor Mary. Sessions are on Monday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. in Downtown Site Room 221. You are welcome to come at any time in the curriculum.

Is Prayer Your Steering Wheel or Your Spare Tire? - Corrie ten Boom

A pit crew is vital to the success of a race car finishing the race. On the highway of life, a prayer team is vital for lifting prayer requests to God so he can steer us in the right direction. Nothing is too small or too large that can't be sent to God in prayer. Please email any prayer requests or if you would like to be part of the crew, to Jeanne at jgronholm@felc.com or Pastor Mary at mbauer@felc.com. As part of the team, you will receive prayer requests via email and would then lift them in prayer at your earliest convenience.

Join FELC4NAMI at NAMIWalks Fox Valley

Saturday, Oct. 6, 8:15 a.m. (Check in: 7-8 a.m.)
Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Stadium
2400 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton

This 5K event raises funds and awareness for those needing resources and support who live with or care about someone living with mental illness. To join or support our team, sign up in the Gathering Area or visit www.namifoxvalley.org and select "NAMIWalks." Search for our team: FELC4NAMI, and select *Join Our Team*. Sign on, raise funds if you can, and join us Oct. 6!

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

- Mary Lou Gamsworthy
- Nathan Meissner
- Brooklyn Ann Converse
- Angel Manos
- Todd Hollenberger
- Jacob Schwab
- Justin Schwab
- Laurie Niles
- Lynn Boenker
- Debra Boushley
- David Heindel
- Doug Hansen
- Amy Ponomarev
- Moore Peregrine
- Tom Roy
- Je'Ann Johnson
- Paul Henrikson
- Juanita Gauerke
- Robb Schaefer
- Kim Norland
- Taylor Vivian Thompson
- Carol Peterson
- Bev Hoff
- Dennis Paisar
- Cheryl Laabs
- Beth Nemecek
- Burt Blank
- Karen Foster
- Alex VanMaren

Prayers of Comfort Families of:

- Nancy Johnson
- Shirley Kavanaugh
- Cassie Laabs
- Lauren Laabs
- Senator John McCain

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Wedding of:

- Megan Kettner and Andy Booher

Prayers for Those Called to Serve in Other Countries

- Stephanie Olson

Prayers for Those in the Military

- Lt. Josh Anderson
- Christian Cramer
- BM3 Kyle Kramer, USCG
- LCPL Robert Kopesky II
- SPC Samuel Sinclair

This Week's Community Care Focus

• Easter Seals Disability Services

(920)832-0344; jgretzinger@eastersealswisconsin.com



High School Youth News

Grades 9-12

Sept. 16, 2018



For Grades 10-12
Wednesday nights
DS Youth Room
7-8 p.m.

9/19: DS Youth Room
Welcome back!

9/26: **5:30-6pm** *Special event refuel night*
Meet at Hofacker's Hillside Orchard (W3964 Wege Rd, Appleton)
6-7pm bonfire at NS for caramel apples with tons of toppings
If it rains we will hang out at NS Youth Room.

Social Media Corner

Follow us at FELC YOUTH on Facebook and felc.youth on Instagram!
#justdoit



High School Mission Trip
Blue Ridge Mountains, NC
July 20-27, 2019

Open to students currently in grades 9-12.

Commitment Form and informational video can be found at www.felc.com/highschool.

Registration and \$100 Deposit due Sept. 20 to DS Office

Questions? Contact Heidi hschreiner@felc.com

Upcoming fundraisers for 2019 Mission Trip:
License to Cruise/Octoberfest

Parking Lot fundraiser:

Sept. 28: 5:45-8pm

Sept. 29: 8:30am-4pm

Bake Sale:

Sept. 30: Between all services at both sites

Sign up for shifts at www.felc.com/highschool or email Heidi.

Sept. 16, 2018



Information for FELC Youth and Families
Grades K-12

ZOINKS! Storytellers...WE NEED YOU!

Our Sunday School year is off to a great start but we need more people willing to give 15 minutes on the Sunday morning(s) of their choice to tell our students the Bible story of the week. The need is especially great at the Downtown Site. Run, don't walk, to help with this flexible, fun way to serve on your schedule! Reserve your date



at www.felc.com/forms. Thanks a bunch!

Find us on Social Media Outlets

Instagram: felc.youth Facebook: FELC YOUTH

Connect with FELC Youth Staff

Kirsten Owens, Faith Formation Coordinator: kowens@felc.com
Heidi Schreiner, Youth & Summer Ministry Coordinator: hschreiner@felc.com

Love Jesus. Live your call.



**Elementary
Sunday School, Song,
And Special News**



Calling All Parents!

Let's Meet For A Great Start



High five! You signed your child(ren) up for Sunday School and are embarking on another year of building faith in your home. It's an important gift to that child, your family, our congregation and the world. In order for parents and caregivers to understand the mission of Sunday morning education, get tips on how to build faith in the home, and hear about changes in the Sunday School program, it seems we really should meet. Please make every effort to attend the Sunday School Meeting for Parents at the Site your child attends:

- ◆ **North Site: TODAY from 9:45-10:10 a.m. in the Lower Level. Come down with your student(s) for story and song before and head up to Pastor Chat after.**
- ◆ **Downtown Site: Sept. 30 from 10:20-10:50 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**

We've got a lot of work to do, so let's get off to a great start!



Using Your Bible

for 3rd Graders

Today our 3rd grade students receive their Bibles as a gift from

First English. On Sept. 30 we are offering the *Using Your Bible* Class for 3rd Graders from noon-1:15 p.m. at the Downtown Site in Room 110. We will discuss the anatomy of the Bible, the history, and how to navigate scripture. Important information for moving forward in religious education. Pizza will be served. RSVP at www.felc.com/forms.

Choir Starts TODAY at the Downtown Site

If your child(ren) love to sing then we want to do it with them! Cherub Choir (K-grade 2) meets in Room 220 and Angelus Choir (grades 3-6) meets in the Choir Room.

Both rehearse from 8:50-9:10 a.m. weekly.

All are welcome as often as you can make it. Note: Cherub sings TODAY and Angelus sings Sept. 23, both at the 9:15 a.m. worship!



**Confirmation and
Middle School Scoop**



**We're Out Of The Gate
With Confirmation
Large Group!**

7th Grade: Family should read Chapter 1 for large group

8th grade: Family should read Chapter 1 for large group

9th grade: We will talk about Grace First, Works Second



**Ending On
a
Good Note
This year on
Confirmation**

large group nights we are spending our final 15 minutes of class in the Sanctuary with fun music and reflection. This change allows for both movement but also stillness in the Sanctuary as we take a break from our hectic pace to feel closer to God.

**This Wednesday
7th Grade**

**Worship Assistance
Training - Stretching Our Time**

We ask all Confirmation students to participate in worship assistance (ushering, acolyting, greeting, etc.). The 7th grade training for these roles will occur Sept. 19. That evening class ends at 8:30 p.m. to accommodate worship assistance instruction.



Have questions or want to volunteer?

Contact Kirsten Owens at kowens@felc.com or 733-2303.

FELC DS Engage Page: 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 8:27-38 *Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, I will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."*

Sun. Sep.16: Family Project: Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Talk about times that you have given up something (time, money, or talents) because you are a follower of Jesus. What are ways that you "take up your cross"? As a family talk about what it means to sacrifice for something you believe in. What are some of the beliefs or ideals that you would be willing to sacrifice for?

Mon. Sep.17: Caesarea Philippi had been a center of worship of the god, Baal. Outside of town was a cavern said to have been the birthplace of the Greek God, Pan. From those hills flowed a stream held to be the source of the River Jordan. Further up the hill was a temple built by the emperor Philip to honor Caesar, considered a god. Bible scholar, William Barclay, says, "Against the background of all religions and all history, Peter discovered that a wandering teacher from Nazareth... was the Son of God." (p. 196) Thankfully, the power of Jesus' teachings and example still reaches across all religions to bring healing and hope.

Tues. Sep.18: Have you ever followed the example of Peter? You might want to lighten the load of a friend by encouraging them to give up on a difficult commitment. Or you might want to keep a family member nearby, advising them not to follow a calling that would have them move. Don't be Peter! Pray that you have the insight to urge your friends to follow God, even when the path is difficult.

Wed., Sep. 19, Jeremiah 11:18-20 Hebrew scholar Abraham Heschel describes Jeremiah as a gentle man with a harsh prophetic call. Many accused him of betraying his country and deserting to the enemy, citing his tendency to prophesy the destruction of Israel as proof. Even those in his own home town were trying to kill him. So when Jeremiah says, "I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter," he was not exaggerating. Although we long to believe otherwise, perhaps this cruel behavior by those in power is not so unusual –these words could have also been spoken by Jesus. As humans, we must constantly be on guard against a tendency to make enemies out of those who give us bad news or point out shortcomings. May we always be open to be persuaded by the truth.

Thurs. Sep. 20, Psalm 54 Shakespeare asks, "What is in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." Although the truth in this statement is apparent, it is less applicable in situations where we are dealing with a person's reputation. If a person's name has been tarnished by their own thoughtless actions or words, or by lies told about them by others, it is difficult to repair that harm. May we take care of how we speak of the Lord, lifting up God's name in a way that gives others encouragement to call out to the Lord when they are in need.

Fri., Sep. 21, James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Theologian William Barclay points out four characteristics of incorrect teaching. "1. It is fanatical –held with unbalanced violence rather than reasoned conviction. 2. It is bitter –regarding opponents as enemies to be annihilated rather than friends to be persuaded. 3. It is selfishly ambitious –more eager to display itself than to display the truth. 4. It is arrogant –its attitude is pride in its own knowledge rather than humility in its own ignorance."* As teachers, we must exude passion about God's word, while avoiding the pitfall of arrogance about our own learning. May we display the humility that points to Jesus and not to self!

*The Letters of James and Peter, William Barclay (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, May 1960.) p. 108.

Sat. Sep. 22, Mark 9:30-37 Have you ever wondered why we don't have more stories about Jesus' childhood? While today we find childhood stories interesting and informative, in Jesus' day this was not the case. "The child in antiquity was a non-person."** Since people were often accepted as the emissary of the one who sent them, it was fine to receive Jesus as an emissary from God. But now the disciples are asked to receive someone as inconsequential as a child. There is a total forfeiture of status in an action so foreign to the time. Jesus reminds us over and over again that true life in the Spirit comes when we abandon trying to work our way into God's grace, and embrace living a life of humble service.

*The New Interpreter's Bible Commentary, vol. VIII, Pheme Perkins (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994) p. 637.

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

FELC NS Engage Page: Pentecost 18

Mark 9:30-37 *They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."*

Sun, Sep. 16: Family Project: According to her teacher, the first full sentences my daughter spoke at school was, "He's not the leader." Apparently, someone going out of turn and usurping the spot at the head of the line forced her to speak. Talk as a family about what it feels like to be in charge. How does it make you feel if someone else is being bossy? Have you had a chance to babysit a younger brother or sister? Or have you had an older sibling babysit you? How does that feel? Jesus says we have to be a servant in order to follow Him. Does that mean we can't lead? Talk+ about what it means to be a servant even when we're the boss.

Mon, Sep. 17: There was recently a well-deserved outcry on Twitter over the attempt to shame actor Geoffrey Owens through a picture taken while he was working at Trader Joe's. It was implied he should be ashamed of this job. Just as the disciples needed to guard against a desire to be seen as "the greatest", we must guard against any temptation to value people differently because of their occupation. Jesus makes it clear that he will not judge us on how many we lead, but on how well we serve.

Tues, Sep. 18: Prof. Elisabeth Johnson shares, "The radical grace of God that Jesus proclaims and lives completely obliterates the world's notions of greatness based on status, wealth, achievement, etc. Perhaps that is one reason we resist grace so much. It is much more appealing to be great on the world's terms than on Jesus' terms. Greatness on Jesus' terms means being humble, lowly, and vulnerable as a child." http://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?commentary_id=3785

Wed., Sep. 19, Isaiah 50:4-9a Have you ever thought about the different ways you listen? Sometimes I listen as one who is uninterested, sometimes preoccupied, and sometimes indulgent to the speaker. With children I might be thinking ahead to possible solutions or with my friends I might be trying to understand the feelings at play. Isaiah 50:4 calls us to listen in a different way. *"The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens— awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught."* We are to put ourselves in the shoes of those we teach, evaluating what we are going to say through the prism of the other's need. May God continue to waken our ears to listen for what will best help those who are weary.

Thurs, Sep. 20, Psalm 116:1-9 When I talk to someone who has had a battle with a life threatening illness, I am reminded of the unbelievable gift of life. Gratitude overflows as we are aware that no moment is guaranteed. When death threatens those we love, we are inclined to question God's goodness, railing against the injustice of bad things happening to good, loving people. This mindset betrays a sense of entitlement that can rob us of the wonder of each moment. Whether or not we receive physical healing, may we join the psalmist in rejoicing that, *"You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling."*

Fri., Sep. 21, James 3:1-12 Why is it that those we love the most are also most likely to receive our harshest words. *"John Bunyan tells us of Talkative: "He was a saint abroad and a devil at home." Many...speak with perfect courtesy to strangers and even preach love and gentleness, and yet snap with ungracious and impatient anger and irritability at his own family at home."* It is not enough that the world should think that we are calm and loving people, if our own family is afraid of what we will say next. Taming the tongue takes more patience than teaching a hyper-active dog not to chase squirrels. Be determined in pursuing words of kindness and love.

*The Letters of James and Peter, William Barclay (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, May 1960.) p. 105.

Sat, Sep. 22, Mark 8:27-38 I recently received a drawing from a child in my congregation entitled "paster". The woman pictured had seriously styling boots, a mini-skirt and a top that Wonder Woman could have worn. On her hip she carried books that were entitled Jesus and God and she looked fearless. When this girl hears the word "pastor", she envisions someone strong. However, I wonder what any of us picture when we hear the word "Messiah". Is it a term that brings comfort and hope, or does it just make us think of religion? In situations where you feel helpless, your Messiah comes to bring salvation. Allow yourself to feel the relief and wonder that comes from being rescued. Then picture that.

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