

## 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 (off of the Gathering Area) and the North Site Nursery (across from the restrooms) are open for family use during all worship services. Please ask an usher if you need assistance. At the North Site, the child-friendly space just inside the Sanctuary doors is supervised by staff and available to children during worship services.

### Hearing Assistance

If you are in need of a personal receiver, ask a Downtown Site usher, or a North Site sound-board 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 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](mailto: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](http://www.felc.com), or check the bulletin boards and kiosks in the Gathering Area.

# The Week of Dec. 8, 2019 At-A-Glance

## Sunday, Dec. 8

8:50 a.m.  
9:15 a.m.  
9:15/9:25 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.

### Monday

9 a.m.  
5:15 p.m.  
8 p.m.

### Tuesday

6:30 a.m.  
6 p.m.  
6 p.m.  
6:30 p.m.  
7 p.m.  
8 p.m.

### Wednesday

Noon  
Noon  
Noon  
1 p.m.  
4:15 p.m.  
4:45 p.m.  
5:45 p.m.  
6:15 p.m.  
7 p.m.  
7:15 p.m.

### Thursday

6 a.m.

### Friday

6:30 a.m.

## Sunday, Dec. 15

8:50 a.m.  
9:15 a.m.  
9:15/10:30 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.

DS = Downtown Site      NS = North Site

## Second Sunday in Advent

### Alternative Gift Fair Display, NS; Scrip, Coffee & Honey Sales

Christmas Program Singers Rehearsal, DS Fellowship Hall  
Adult Learning, DS Lounge  
Sunday School Learning Time, DS/NS  
Women's Study Group, NS Library

Quilting, DS Fellowship Hall  
Stephen Ministry, DS Lounge  
Pick Up Basketball League, NS Activity Center

Men's Ministry, NS Library  
Arts for All Choir Concert, DS Sanctuary  
Finance Committee, DS 010  
Worship & Music Ministry Team, DS Library  
Men's Ministry, DS 221  
ATC Basketball, NS Activity Center

Noon Hour Philosophers, DS Fellowship Hall  
Sarah Circle, DS 114  
Stewardship Committee, DS Lounge  
Miriam Circle, DS Library  
Mental Health Ministries, DS 221  
Chicken Dinner & Activities, DS Fellowship Hall  
Handbell Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room  
Advent Vespers, DS Sanctuary  
refuel (grades 10-12), DS Youth Room  
Parish Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room

Early Risers Women's Study, DS Lounge

## Men's Ministry, NS Library

### Third Sunday in Advent

### Alternative Gift Fair Cashier, NS; Honey Sale

Christmas Program Singers Rehearsal, DS Fellowship Hall  
Adult Learning, DS Lounge  
Congregational Christmas Program, DS/NS  
Women's Study Group, NS Library

## Advent Invitation from Linwood Place, A Ministry of Fox Valley Lutheran Homes

You are invited to Advent worship services at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 11 and 18, followed by a luncheon in Linwood Commons, 425 N. Linwood Ave., Appleton. Join us in worship and fellowship as we prepare for Christ's coming.



## 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.

### North Site

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

# Love Jesus. Live your call.

*First English is committed to being a welcoming, inclusive congregation.*

## Sunday at FELC

### Altar Flowers

The Downtown Site altar flowers are provided by the Gebert family in memory of their parents and grandparents.

### Advent Devotionals

The First English Advent Devotional Booklet is back by popular demand and available in the Gathering Area and at [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com). (Note: During Advent, this devotional will replace the Engage Pages.)

### A Look at Advent

### Through the Old Testament

A Study by Matt Woodley, with Kyle L. White  
Downtown Site Sunday Adult Learning Time  
9:15 a.m. in the Downtown Site Lounge

Drawing on the prophetic voices of the Old Testament, this study is meant to prepare our hearts for Christmas. Remaining topics include *The Refining Love of God* (today), *God's Protection and Delight* on Dec. 15 and *The Peace Jesus Brings* on Dec. 22. Each week is a stand-alone study, and no preparation is necessary. This makes it easy to attend whenever you are able and be blessed by conversation and learning.

### Fair Trade Sunday Sale

Through the Fair Trade Coffee Project, enjoy great coffee and give meaningful gifts while helping small farmers as they build a better future for themselves and their families. Today in the Gathering Area, a variety of products (coffee, tea, hot cocoa, olive oil and candy bars) will be available for purchase. Thank you for your continued support!

## Announcements

## Week of Dec. 8, 2019

## Looking Ahead

### Advent Vespers: Wednesday, Dec. 11 at the Downtown Site

Enjoy a supper of chicken from Mary's Restaurant starting at 4:45 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. No registration necessary! Crafts for the kids will begin at 5 p.m., and we'll move to the Sanctuary for the Christmas story, *The Crippled Lamb* by Max Lucado, at 6:15 p.m. This FELC Christmas tradition is family friendly and a fun night for all.

### Arts for All Choir Concert

The Arts for All Choir (formerly VSA Choir) Christmas concert will be held in the Downtown Site Sanctuary on Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 6:30 p.m. This is a great group of singers with and without disabilities. Several First English members participate in this choir and FELC is generous in providing the choir space to rehearse and perform. Please join us for awesome Christmas music.

### FELC Cancellations

Cancellations will be noted on the FELC website ([www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com)) under the Facebook section, lower right hand margin on the FELC homepage, WHBY, and on the church calendar.

## Seeking Neighbor Network Coordinator

Are you, or someone you know, looking for a meaningful part-time role that's not "a job?" Do you enjoy building relationships? Does the idea of deeper community within our congregation appeal to you? FELC is accepting applications for the role of Neighbor Network Coordinator, a new position to lead an exciting new ministry within FELC - matching people's joyful desire to help others with others' unmet needs. A half-time position, this role has the potential to grow. For more information, contact Pastor Jeff at [jtengesdal@felc.com](mailto:jtengesdal@felc.com) or Church Administrator Brenda Smongeski at [bsmongeski@felc.com](mailto:bsmongeski@felc.com).

## Summer Intern Applications are Open

This paid internship, beginning at the end of May and ending in mid-August, will challenge you to discover the ways God is calling you to serve in this world. Applications can be found online at [www.felc.com/summer](http://www.felc.com/summer) and are due in the Downtown Site Office or emailed to Heidi Schreiner, Youth and Summer Ministry Coordinator, at [hschreiner@felc.com](mailto:hschreiner@felc.com) by Dec. 31. Applicants must be at least one year out of high school. Any further questions, contact Heidi or reference the website: [www.felc.com/summer](http://www.felc.com/summer).

## New & Review, Winter 2020

Are you interested in joining the First English church family? Please plan on attending the upcoming *New and Review* series that will be offered in January 2020. The next session will be offered in Fall 2020. Topics will be: *FELC/the ELCA and YOU, What it means to be Lutheran and Love Jesus. Live your Call.* The sessions are held at both sites as it is valuable for new members to be able to visit both locations.

- **Jan. 12: *FELC/the ELCA and YOU***  
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.  
Downtown Site Room 114/115 with Pastor Jeff
  - **Jan. 19: *What it Means to be Lutheran***  
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.  
North Site Library with Pastor Mary
  - **Jan. 26: *Love Jesus. Live Your Call.***  
11:45 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Luncheon at Pastor Jeff's House
  - **Feb. 2: *New Member Sunday***  
Worship Service of your choice
- To register, sign up online at [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com) under the "forms" tab/*New & Review* Winter 2020. Questions? Contact Karen Kneisler at [kkneisler@felc.com](mailto:kkneisler@felc.com) or call the Church Office (920-733-2303) to register.

## Noon Hour Philosophers (NHP) 2019

The Noon Hour Philosophers will meet for an hour at noon this Wednesday in the Downtown Site Choir Room (second floor) before breaking for the holiday. Presentations will resume in January. If you have questions contact Mary Poulson at [mmaryjep@att.net](mailto:mmaryjep@att.net) or (920)734-8137.

### Dec. 11: Artificial Intelligence

Kurt Kresbach  
Professor of Computer Science  
Lawrence University

## Advent Morning Worship with Reception Hosted by 50+ Group

A morning Advent worship for all will be held at 10 a.m. on Dec. 18 in the Downtown Site Sanctuary. The 50+ Group is sponsoring a reception of refreshments and finger foods after the service in the Gathering Area. Please join us for a time of Advent fellowship. (No need to sign up).

Merry Christmas from all of us on the 50+ Planning Committee.

## Thrivent Choice: Your Support. Your Choice.

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you are likely aware of this easy, convenient way to support what matters most to you. If you haven't already done so, be sure to direct your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars to First English. If you are uncertain about your eligibility, please connect with your local Thrivent Financial representative. Funds distributed through this program are used by FELC to help further and support our mission, *Love Jesus. Live your call.*



## 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 Garnsworthy
- Nathan Meissner
- Angel Manos
- Jacob Schwab
- Justin Schwab
- Debra Boushley
- David Heindel
- Amy Ponomarev
- Moore Peregrine
- Robb Schaefer
- Carol Peterson
- Bev Hoff
- Alex VanMaren
- Debra Nuthals
- Mitzi Hansen
- Syllas Garcia
- Rev. Kathryn Kuhn
- Shirley Larson
- Luke Wilson
- Jake Wilson

### Prayers of Comfort

- Families of:
- Pat Bogan
  - Marilyn Droster
  - Don Kayser
  - Charles Rundquist, Sr.
  - Jerry Thiel

### Prayers for Those Called to Serve in Other Countries

- Sarah Bauer-Myanmar
- Jack Kent-Slovakia
- Spencer Wentland-Japan

### Prayers for Those in the Military

- Erika Brehmer
- Christian Cramer
- Cpl. Alex Grebe
- BM3 Kyle Kramer, USCG
- LCPL Robert Kopesky II
- Sgt. Samuel Sinclair

### Prayers For Community Care

- Appleton YMCA  
[lkreger@ymcafoxcities.org](mailto:lkreger@ymcafoxcities.org); (920)954-7658

## Christmas Greenery and Poinsettias



Help decorate the church by providing greenery and/or poinsettias in memory or in honor of a loved one. Return this order form with your payment of \$12 for each plant or greenery item ordered to the offering plate or the Church Office. Payments may be made by check or online at [www.felc.com](http://www.felc.com) and each will be acknowledged in the Christmas bulletin. **The deadline to order is Monday, Dec. 16, 2019.**

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR/MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_  
(Circle one)

\$12 x \_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias      \$12 x \_\_\_\_\_ Greenery Items      Amount due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Feel free to take your poinsettias home following the Christmas Day service.*



# High School Youth News

Grades 9-12

Dec. 8, 2019



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

**12/11:** Advent Vespers  
4:45-6 p.m. Helping with kids Advent crafts and eating Dinner  
6:15-7:15 p.m. Advent Vespers Service  
7:15-8 p.m. **refuel**

**12/18:** **refuel** Christmas Party  
Ugly Christmas sweater attire! Please bring \$1 white elephant/dollar store gift. Food will be provided!

**12/25:** No **refuel**  
*"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world."  
-C.S. Lewis*

**Mission Trip 2020  
NASHVILLE, TN  
June 14-19**

**Next Fundraiser:**  
**TODAY:** Scrip Sale and Honey Sale  
**Dec. 15:** Scrip Card Distribution and Honey Sale

Sign-ups for fundraisers can be found on **2020 Mission Trip Calendar** at [www.felc.com/highschool](http://www.felc.com/highschool)  
Questions, contact Heidi ([hschreiner@felc.com](mailto:hschreiner@felc.com))



## Social Media

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



Dec. 8, 2019



Information for FELC Youth and Families  
Grades K-12

## Coming Together In Community During Advent

**Dec. 11:** Coming together in Christian community  
**Advent Vespers Night** - Chicken dinner, crafts, and special worship. Dinner begins at 4:45 p.m., worship from 6:15-7:15 p.m.



**Dec. 15:** Coming together in faithful community  
**Congregational Christmas Programs.** We're ALL in it!  
9:15 a.m. worship Downtown Site, 10:30 a.m. worship North Site.

**Dec. 18:** Community in our classes  
Confirmation Christmas parties.



Don't forget to buy honey and Scrip today!  
They make great Christmas gifts that give twice!

### Find us on Social Media Outlets

Instagram: felc.youth Facebook: FELC YOUTH

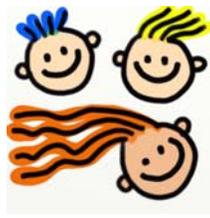
### Connect with FELC Youth Staff

Kirsten Owens, Faith Formation Coordinator: [kowens@felc.com](mailto:kowens@felc.com)  
Heidi Schreiner, Youth & Summer Ministry Coordinator: [hschreiner@felc.com](mailto:hschreiner@felc.com)

***Love Jesus. Live your call.***



## Elementary & Sunday School News



### Finish Up Those Costumes and Get Ready To Rejoice

During this year's Christmas program we will all be reading the Christmas story together from our seats. The Christmas programs will be on Dec. 15 (9:15 a.m. at the Downtown Site and 10:30 a.m. at the North Site) Decide whether you would like to read the responses of Mary, Joseph, an angel, child, shepherd, or city dweller/animal. Spend time as a family making simple costumes to reflect the roles you've chosen (adults included). If you don't have time or the creativity to make one, we've got you covered as headpieces and/or props for each will be available as you walk into the Sanctuary. Oh, and don't forget to bring your joy!



We are celebrating the birth of our Savior!

### Practice for Downtown Site Christmas Program Choir TODAY & Dec. 15



All children that would like to sing as part of the Sunday School Christmas Program Choir should meet in Fellowship Hall at 8:50 a.m. today and next

Sunday, Dec. 15 to practice their two songs prior to the program on Dec. 15 at the 9:15 a.m. service (North Site students are briefly running through their songs at the beginning of Learning Time due to the worship schedule). We'd love to have tons of kids singing their hearts out at the program! Hope to see (and hear) you this morning and next!

Winter Camp Registrations for Grades 3-6 due Dec. 15! Contact Kirsten if you didn't receive the registration email.



### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Families - Save the Date

6<sup>th</sup> grade students and families that intend to participate in Confirmation in the fall are warmly asked to attend the Welcome to Confirmation Meeting on Jan. 15 from 7-8 p.m. in the Downtown Site Fellowship Hall. We'll be discussing the Confirmation calendar, special meetings, Confirmation camp and more. Get in the info loop earlier!



## Confirmation and Middle School Scoop



### Advent Vespers Is Confirmation Class This Week



This week our Confirmation curriculum focuses on coming together as an FELC faith community as students & families are given the assignment of attending the Advent Vespers worship together this Wednesday. This is a Family Attendance Night and expected to be given the same priority as any other Confirmation class. Worship is from 6:15-7:15 p.m. but we joyfully encourage families to attend the freewill

offering chicken dinner and holiday craft areas in Fellowship Hall beginning at 4:45 p.m. prior to worship. An important part of Lutheran theology centers around the role of community in developing and maintaining a faith practice. We look forward to enjoying this First English holiday tradition together!

### The Joy In Humble Service

What a super Service Night last week! St. Joe's Food Pantry, Pillars, The Salvation Army, the FELC Casserole Ministry, Project Linus, and Harbor House benefitted from this service but so did WE as there is true joy in humble service. Today some may be the able to give, tomorrow some may need to receive, and the givers and receivers may trade places many times but ALL are loved and valued by God exactly the same!



### Last Call For Confirmation Cans!

We keep collecting food for St. Joe's Food Pantry until Dec. 11. Drop your donations in the bins in the Gathering Area by then. THANKS!

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Party Adopt-A-Family Reminder

Don't forget to sign up if you're able to help with the 7<sup>th</sup> grade adopt-a-family project for their Christmas party! The email was sent last week.



*Have questions or want to volunteer?*

*Contact Kirsten Owens at [kowens@felc.com](mailto:kowens@felc.com) or 733-2303.*

# Sharing the Love of Jesus

Ours is a faith community that finds meaning and joy in reaching out to others. We are grateful for the ways you do that each and every day. Here are some opportunities to make Jesus' love real in this holiday season.

~Pastors Jeff & Mary

## You CAN Help Our Confirmation Students and St. Joe's



Confirmation small groups are collecting food for St. Joe's until this Wednesday, Dec. 11, the night of Advent Vespers. That evening, provided our giving bins are full, we will be asking all in our congregation to help load donated items on to the St. Joe's truck in our parking lot. As we come together to celebrate the gift of Jesus, it's the perfect time to share gifts with others. Drop off donations from now until Dec. 11 in the marked bins in the Gathering Area. What a beautiful way to close a night together as a faith family.

## Fill the Shoe Box!

Fill a wrapped shoe box with NEW gifts for someone in need. This year's recipient is Harbor House in Appleton. Harbor House is a 55 bed shelter facility and houses women and children (men seeking safety are provided alternative shelter locations based on need and level of danger). It's mission is to empower communities to be free from domestic abuse through safety, knowledge, and engagement.



A list of suggested gifts is on the Fill the Shoe Box table in the Gathering Area. *Please wrap top and bottom of gift separately and label the top with the appropriate age/gender.* Leave donated boxes on the table by Dec. 15. Questions? Contact Gloria at (920)734-1591. Thank you!

## Echoes Needs Your Help

*Echoes, A Christian Thrift Store*, (a ministry of First English) is looking for help this Christmas season. Assistance with pricing, sorting, stocking and register check-out are the primary areas where help is needed. If you have one hour or more, your assistance is appreciated. Training will be provided. Call Kathy, Echoes Store Manager, at (920)882-8172.



1320 W. Wisconsin Ave.  
Store Hours: Tuesday-Friday:  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sunday & Monday: Closed

*See reverse side for more opportunities.*

## Salvation Army Bell Ringing Red Kettle Campaign

Sign up for a one-hour time slot to ring bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, which runs through Dec. 24. You are invited to visit the user-friendly Red Kettle Campaign website at [www.registertoring.com](http://www.registertoring.com) to sign up for a time and location that works best for you. To reserve a shift, log in to your bell ringer account. If you don't have an account, create one by clicking *Create Individual Account*. The website will walk you through the process of selecting a location, a date and a time for which you would like to volunteer. Questions? Contact the Bell Ringing Coordinator at [foxcitiesbellringing@yahoo.com](mailto:foxcitiesbellringing@yahoo.com) or call (920)955-1225. Let's bless the campaign with a huge volunteer response from FELC!

## Operation Christmas 2019

First English can help bring a Christmas wrapped in Christ's love to Lutheran affiliated and other local non-profits through "Operation Christmas." Our focus again this year is five organizations that serve others: **Lutheran Social Services, LEAVEN, Crossways Camping Ministries, COTS, and Riverview Gardens.** (See the tree in the Gathering Area for more information on each organization.)



Select "ornaments" from the Operation Christmas Tree in the Gathering Area. Each ornament identifies gift items to help fulfill wishes and needs for these organizations and the people they serve. Gifts should be placed under the trees by Dec. 16. Gift cards should be brought to the Church Office, or clearly marked and placed in the offering plate. The needs among our Lutheran affiliates and in our community are varied and great. Please help First English bring the compassion of Christ to them.

## Alternative Gift Fair

**Today: Downtown Site Cashier, North Site Display,  
Dec. 15: North Site Cashier; Church Office Through End of Year**

FELC is holding its 16<sup>th</sup> annual Alternative Gift Fair. In addition to supporting projects FELC is directly involved with, we work with ELCA Good Gifts and Alternative Gifts International (AGI) to offer "Gifts Inspiring Change" to help people in crisis around the world. At this year's fair, alternative gifts will support over thirty domestic and international relief and environmental programs. 2019 gifts include: Support of 2020 Youth mission trip, chickens, bees, farming in Haiti, books for donkey mobile libraries in Ethiopia, and much more. Visit [www.felc.com/forms](http://www.felc.com/forms) for a 2019 Alternative Gifts shopping list. More project information can be found at [www.alternativegifts.org](http://www.alternativegifts.org) and [www.ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://www.ELCA.org/goodgifts). Questions? Contact Diane Putzer at (920)284-9228 (text or call) or [dkputzer@yahoo.com](mailto:dkputzer@yahoo.com).

*See reverse side for more opportunities.*