

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 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 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 Mar. 24, 2019 At-A-Glance

Sunday, Mar. 24

8:50 a.m. Angelus Rehearsal, DS Choir Room
9:15/9:25 a.m. Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
9:15 a.m. Adult Learning Time, DS Lounge
9:30 a.m. Women's Study Group, NS Library
9:30 a.m. Ukulele Combo Rehearsal, NS Sanctuary
11:45 a.m. New & Review, Week Two, NS Library

Monday

9 a.m. Quilters, DS Fellowship Hall
5:15 p.m. Stephen Ministry, DS Lounge
8:15 p.m. Pick Up Basketball, NS Activity Center

Tuesday

6:30 a.m. Men's Ministry, NS Library
6:30 p.m. Congregation Council, DS 220
8 p.m. ATC Basketball, NS Activity Center

Wednesday

9:30 a.m. Lenten Worship Service, DS Sanctuary
10:15 a.m. Lenten Study with Pastor Mary, DS 110-112
Noon Noon Hour Philosophers, DS Fellowship Hall
4:45 p.m. Lenten Meal, DS Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. Lenten Worship Service, DS Sanctuary
7 p.m. Parish Choir Rehearsal, DS Choir Room & Sanctuary

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, Mar. 31

8:50 a.m. Cherub/Angelus Rehearsal, DS 220/Choir Room
9:15/9:25 a.m. Children's Learning Time, DS/NS
9:15 a.m. Adult Learning Time, DS Lounge
9:30 a.m. Women's Study Group, NS Library
11:45 a.m. New & Review, Week Three, Pastor Jeff's Home

DS = Downtown Site NS = North Site

Sole Burner 5k Team FELC

FELC walkers and runners unite as we participate in the 2019 American Cancer Society's Sole Burner 5k in City Park in Appleton. Pick up a registration in the Gathering Area or register for team FELC online at www.soleburner.org. This 5k is taking place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 11 with a cost of \$30 for adults and \$15 for kids over the age of 12. Checks should be made out to American Cancer Society. Please return registrations to the Church Office by Apr. 1. Questions? Contact Team Captain, Heidi Schreiner (hschreiner@felc.com).



First English Lutheran Church
www.felc.com felc@felc.com

Downtown Site

Sunday Worship: 8, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 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 Diane and Gerard Putzer in honor of their 35th wedding anniversary.

Video Ministry

Mar. 24 is sponsored by Al and Becky Krueger in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Looking Ahead

Next Sunday - Commitment Sunday

For the last weeks, we have heard about the *Rooted in Faith, Growing to Serve* campaign for the Crossways Camping Ministries. The FELC goal as set by the Congregation Council is \$120,000. We are tremendously grateful for the response of a small number of people who have committed close to \$60,000. One of these gifts is a \$30,000 intent for a three year gift, which is a huge step in fulfilling our goal.

Next Sunday, Mar. 31, each of us will be invited to share our own intent for giving. The intent form will be distributed during worship and received at the time of the offering. On the next Sunday, Apr. 7, the totals of the gifts will be announced. We ask you to prayerfully consider if you may be among those who find it possible to share in this great cause.

Thanks to each of you for considering this invitation.

Announcements
Week of Mar. 24, 2019

Lenten Meals and Worship Services

Through Apr. 10, Lenten Worship will be held each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. at the Downtown Site. A study will follow in Room 220 for those interested.

A meal will be offered each Wednesday at 4:45 p.m. through Apr. 10 with a worship service to follow at 6:15 p.m. The meals and services will be held at the Downtown Site Mar. 27, and at the North Site on Apr. 3 and 10. All are welcome!

This week: Hot sandwiches sponsored by the Parish Choir.

Sunday Adult Forum

Learn about Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) with Dr. Doug on Sunday, Mar. 31 at 9:15 a.m. at the Downtown Site. Given our long, cold, gray winter, SAD is a timely topic for a conversation led by FELC member Doug Moard, M.D. The forum is sponsored by our congregation's Mental Health Ministries, committed to awareness and hope for mental health.

First English Is Definitely Compassionate

Many thanks to those that contributed to this year's Compassion Pantry drive to help local high school students meet their basic needs. FELC members continue to give bold and big!

Thank you to Becky Kallio

For nearly four years, Becky Kallio has acted as Fellowship Coordinator at FELC. Becky headed up the Wednesday evening LIFT meals, organized meals for Lent, new members, Confirmation, stewardship, and other miscellaneous groups. She helped to keep our kitchens stocked and our stomachs happy. Becky has decided to go into full time retirement and will be stepping away from her position at the end of April. You will still see her in the choir and at 50+ events. Please give her a warm thank you for all she has done at FELC. If you or someone you know would be interested in this paid, part-time position, contact Pastor Mary in the Church Office.

FELC Employment Opportunities

Facility Technician: This 20 hr/week role maintains the buildings, where their duties may include performing carpentry, painting, general upkeep, repair and maintenance, with other duties as needed. If this rewarding role is something you'd be interested in, please contact Rich Erickson at *lefseman@charter.net* or Brenda Smongeski at *bsmongeski@felc.com* or 733-2303. A job description can be found on *www.felc.com*.

Financial Accountant: FELC is offering the role of Financial Accountant. This 15 hr/week position reconciles all bank and investment accounts monthly, while preparing monthly reporting for the FELC Council and Finance Committee. A complete job description with suggested skills and requirements for the role can be found on *www.felc.com*. For questions, please contact Brenda Smongeski at 733-2303 or *bsmongeski@felc.com*.

Sunday School Coordinator, Downtown Site (beginning in September): This paid position works closely with the Faith Formation Coordinator to facilitate Learning Time activities (9:15-10:15 a.m.) on Sundays during the school year. Duties include being the communication person for teachers, helping with the opening assembly, re-setting Fellowship Hall after Sunday School, and assisting during the Christmas program or other special learning events. Questions? Contact Kirsten Owens, Faith Formation Coordinator, at *kowens@felc.com*.

Celebrate the Resurrection

Remember a loved one at Easter this year. A \$12 gift will purchase an Easter lily to beautify the Sanctuaries at one of our two sites. Please return this order form with your payment to the Church Office or drop it in the offering plate. Payment can also be made online at *www.felc.com*. All gifts will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletins.



Name: _____ Phone: _____

I would like to order _____ Easter lily(s) and will pick it (them) up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter service.

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

In Honor of or In Memory of (Circle one): _____

Total amount due: \$ _____

The deadline to order is Monday, Apr. 15. Thank you!

Noon Hour Philosophers 2019

The Noon Hour Philosophers meet for an hour at noon in the Downtown Site Fellowship Hall each Wednesday.

If you have questions, contact Mary Poulson at *mmaryjep@att.net* or (920)734-8137.

• Mar. 27: Equal Rights Amendment - The Urgent Need for Equality Under the Law at Last

Mary Ann Rossi, Retired College Teacher of Classics and Women's Studies, Former Legislative Coordinator, Wisconsin Governor's Commission on the Status of Women, Co-founder of the Fox Cities

Picnic Help Needed

In order to make our FELC Church Picnic happen, the Congregational Life Ministry Team needs your help! We are looking for three people willing to head up specific areas for the picnic for this summer: one would lead outdoor logistics and setup, one would manage sound needs for games and events, and one would be in charge of signs promoting the event and directing people on that day. If you can help out with one of these areas, please connect with Pastor Mary (*mbauer@felc.com* or 733-2303 during office hours).

Fox Valley Lutheran Homes News

• **Apartments for Rent:** 1 BR & 2 BR; Call Becky or Katie at 734-7225.

• **Mid-week Lenten Services:** Fox Valley Lutheran Homes at 11:30 a.m.: Apr. 3, 10, 18; meal to follow.

• **FVLH Annual Meeting:** Saturday, Apr. 27, Registration at 8:30 a.m.; Meeting at 9 a.m.

• **All Donations Matched!** Until May 31, all donations to elevator fund at FVLH will be matched up to \$50,000! Donate online, by mail, or in person!

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
- Laurie Niles
- Debra Boushley
- David Heindel
- Doug Hansen
- Amy Ponomarev
- Moore Peregrine
- Paul Henrikson
- Juanita Gauerke
- Robb Schaefer
- Carol Peterson
- Bev Hoff
- Cindy Schneider
- Alex VanMaren
- Debra Nuthals
- Mitzi Hansen
- Syllas Garcia
- Violet Havel

Prayers of Comfort

Family of:

- Caryl Bates
- Joan Nelson

Prayers for Those Called to Serve in Other Countries

- Sarah Bauer
- 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

- **Mercy Medical Center - Part of Ascension**
mmcvolun@affinityhealth.org; (920)223-0226

AA Corner

If you are or someone you know could use some confidential help with stopping drinking or if you are being affected by someone else's drinking, call Nancy A. at (920)734-9580.



High School Youth News

Grades 9-12

Mar. 24, 2019



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



L E N T

Fast. Give. Prepare. Pray

Thank you to all who contributed to this year's Compassion Pantry Drive!

3/27

NO refuel due to Spring Break. In the area and don't know what to do over Spring Break?

Check out ways to serve: www.volunteerfoxcities.org

4/3 and 4/10

Lenten Services are happening at the NS along with refuel at the bonfire pit, weather permitting. Please dress warm and feel free to bring blankets. If it's too windy/wet/cold, we will meet in the lower level NS youth room (017).

Scholarships Available for Graduating Seniors

Head to www.felc.com/forms for applications and to learn about the qualifications for four different scholarships available to FELC graduating seniors.

Scholarships range from \$250-\$1,000 and applications are due May 1. Please email Heidi with any questions (hschreiner@felc.com)



High School Mission Trip Blue Ridge Mountains, NC

Upcoming Fundraisers:

Apr. 7: Scrip Sale

Apr. 14: Palm Sunday Breakfast and Scrip Card Distribution

Sign ups found online at www.felc.com/highschool

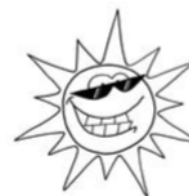
Next Payment Due:

Apr. 17 (Month from today)
\$100/Student

Mar. 24, 2019



Information for FELC Youth and Families
Grades K-12



Had It With Winter? Then Start Planning For Warmer Days... Registration For FELC Summer Activities Is Open!

If you're done with the snow and cold temperatures then warm up your calendar by adding FELC Summer events. There is the free FELC Pool Party for All on Wednesday, June 19, from 8:15-10:15 p.m. at Mead Pool. Plus, as is the tradition at First English, a TON of super intern-led activities and events are offered like Day Camp, Playing Games at Fox Valley Lutheran Homes, Christmas in July Camp, VBS, and MORE!

Go to www.felc.com/summer for more details and registration.
It's time to start letting the sunshine in!

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



Plan B for Palm Sunday

If your first idea doesn't fly, try something different!

The Palm Sunday storytelling crew sign-up resulted in little interest so we are re-grouping and jumping to plan B. We will still have the Holy Week lesson during the Palm Sunday Breakfast but it will be in video form. All ages are welcome to watch this story along with our Sunday School students during Learning Time in either Downtown Site Fellowship Hall or in the

North Site Activity Center during breakfast. This is especially great for families to watch together as a jumping off point for discussions about the days of Holy Week as we approach Easter.

Questions for the week will be available to spark daily conversations.

Let's thoughtfully start Holy Week together!



Holy Week



Confirmation and Middle School Scoop



Thank You! Thank You!
Thank You! Thank You!
Thank You! Thank You!

The Compassion Pantry Drive to help local high school students with their basic needs remains such an overwhelming success because YOU respond to this call for help. Thanks for another spectacular year!

Important Dates For 9th Graders

- **Apr. 3:** Faith Interviews by reservation.
- **Apr. 12:** Affirmation of Baptism Prep, Pizza & Prayer from 6-9 p.m. at the North Site.
- **Apr. 24:** Rehearsal meal, worship, & photos from 5:15-8:30 p.m. at the Downtown Site.
- **Apr. 28:** Confirmation Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. worship at both sites.



Thank You, Kid's Life Crew!!!

A big thank you to all the families that pitched in to make Kid's Life a success this year! This has been our best year yet as we have come together as a faith community to support one another, both kids and adults!

Storytellers Needed

Downtown Site:

May 19

North Site:

May 5

May 12

May 19

Choir Corner

NO Cherub

Choir

TODAY!

Cherub

sings

Apr. 7

and

Angelus Choir sings Apr. 28, both at the 9:15 a.m. worship.



Go to www.felc.com/forms to help us fill these dates.



Start A refuel Summer With a Splash!

Did you know that middle school students are invited to refuel nights on Wednesdays in the summer following worship? It's a great way to spend some time with your friends playing games, having bonfires, sharing great discussions and more! Keep your refuel summer habit going with the free FELC Pool Party for All on Wednesday, June 19, from 8:15-10:15 p.m. at Mead Pool. The facility is open just for our group and it will be an awesome night to share with family and friends! Then meet after worship the rest of the Wednesday nights this summer. We can hardly wait to swim into those Wednesday dates!

Have questions or want to volunteer?

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

FELC Engage Page: March 24, 2019—Lent 3: Forgiveness

Luke 15:20-24 *So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe-- the best one-- and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.*

Sun, Mar. 24: Family Project: In a family setting, the behavior of the father in forgiving the son without any punishment sets a dangerous precedent. Talk as a family about times when you thought siblings “got away with something.” How does it make you feel when family members do something wrong and don’t get punished –in particular if you have followed the rules. It is second nature to be upset when this happens. Seeing someone get away with wrongdoing might tempt someone to disregard the rules. Talk about forgiveness. How do we forgive when it is difficult? Do you think the prodigal son felt sorry for what he had done? How important is it that we feel sorry for the bad we have done?

Mon, Mar. 25: Henri Nouwen asks us to look at the hands of the father in Rembrandt’s famous painting, “The Return of the Prodigal”. He says, *“Over the years I have come to know those hands. They have held me from the hour of my conception they welcomed me at my birth, held me close to my mother’s breast, fed me, and kept me in times of grief. They have waved me good-bye and always welcomed me back. Those hands are God’s hands. They are also the hands of my parents, teachers, friends, healers, and all those whom God has given me to remind me how safely I am held.”* (“The Return of the Prodigal,” p. 96)

Tues, Mar. 26: Henri Nouwen calls us to choose the joy of the father. *“The father of the prodigal son gives himself totally to the joy that his returning son brings him. I have to learn from that. I have to learn to “steal” all the real joy there is to steal and lift it up for others to see. Yes I know that not everybody has been converted yet, that there is not yet peace everywhere, that all pain has not yet been taken away, but still, I see people turning and returning home; I hear voices that pray; I notice moments of forgiveness, and I witness many signs of hope. I don’t have to wait until all is well, but I can celebrate every little hint of the Kingdom that is at hand.”*

Henri Nouwen, “The Return of the Prodigal, (New York: Doubleday, 1992) p. 115.

Wed., Mar. 27, | John 1:5-10 In this passage, John links walking in darkness with a need to confess our sins. We walk in darkness when we are blind to the ways that we let our cynicism & self-interest prevent us from humbly admitting our sins & shortcomings. The prodigal son teaches us that those shortcomings are sometimes overt—the younger son wastes his resources in “dissolute living.” But the elder brother’s sins are more covert –and as a result he potentially walks in darkness even longer than his brother. Jesus did not come simply to reconcile our wayward siblings to God or to save only “those who need it”. Rather he generously gives all of us a chance to walk in the light of grace and forgiveness.

Thurs, Mar. 28, Psalm 32 When teaching about communion, I emphasize the idea of forgiveness of sins. If communion washes us clean from sins, then we want to carry that “just washed” feeling away from the communion table. In order for that to happen, we must not hold on to resentments or ill will toward others. The psalmist says, *“Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.”* (v. 2) When we carry a spirit of non-forgiveness with us to communion, we are at war with ourselves. It is like washing off a dog’s paws only to set it back in the same mud. Make today a day of reconciliation so that when Sunday comes, you can celebrate with joy the feast of grace.

Fri., Mar. 29, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 As “ambassadors for Christ”, we are entrusted with the “message of reconciliation.” If you are acting as someone’s ambassador, it is your job to sing their praises and to be able to articulate their views in a clear and winning way. Like the older brother in the prodigal son, we are tempted to sit back and judge why others are not fit to return to the father. Instead, we are to join the father in keeping our eyes out for the lost son, in anticipating an opportunity to bring about reconciliation, and in encouraging others to join in heaven’s joy when even the most hardened of sinners experiences God’s grace. Ministers of reconciliation hold the message of God’s prodigal love above their own need to be right or to hold onto their rights.

Sat, Mar. 30, Luke 15:25-32 Henri Nouwen relates a story of a time when Christian obedience became a burden. *“A friend who had recently become a Christian criticized me for not being very prayerful. His criticism made me very angry. I said to myself, “How dare he teach me a lesson about prayer! For years he has lived a carefree and undisciplined life, while I since childhood have scrupulously lived the life of faith...” This inner resentment reveals to me my own “lostness.”...There are many elder sons and elder daughters who are lost while still at home. And it is this lostness –characterized by judgment and condemnation, anger and resentment, bitterness and jealousy –that is so pernicious and so damaging to the human heart.* (p. 70)

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