

FIRST ENGLISH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Redeemed by Christ to Witness and Serve

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Advent 2

Worship at 9:30am

THE WEEKLY BUZZ

WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

POST-IT PRAYERS: Please post your prayer requests on the board in the Narthex and we will include them in our prayers in worship.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS, crayons and coloring pages are available.

REMINDER - The nursery is available during worship with attendants on duty.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP Join us at 10:30am in Luther Hall (the gym).

ROLAN JOHNSON, 1976



Rolan Johnson, 1976, used with permission



FAITH FORMATION (Sunday School)

- **PreK & K / 1st - 4th / 5th - 8th / 9th - 12th** meet on the lower level for fellowship and snacks at 10:30am. We begin at 10:45am.
- **Parenting Small Group** meets once a month on the lower level in the Den at 10:45am.
Next meeting: December 14
- **Adults** meet on the upper level in the Council Room at 10:45am.

TODAY'S READINGS

Malachi 3:1-4

Matthew 3:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

December 14

Isaiah 61:1-4

Luke 1:39-55

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Today, December 7

- 9:30 am **WORSHIP**
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time
- 10:45 am Faith Formation
- 11:45 am Youth Shopping Spree
- 5:00 pm MS Dinner

Monday, December 8

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting
- 7:00 pm Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 9

- 10:00 am Quilting
- 12:00 pm Ruth Circle
- 7:00 pm Dartball

Wednesday, December 10

- 9:00 am Rebecca Circle
- 5:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 6:15 am Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 11

- 8:30 am Snack Packs
- 5:00 pm Children's Home Event

Friday, December 12

- 10:00 am Yarncraft & Needlework

Saturday, December 13

- 12:15 pm Littles & Middles Movie Day
Meet at AMC Grand Prairie 18

Next Sunday, December 14

- 9:30 am **WORSHIP**
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time
- 10:45 am Faith Formation
- 10:45 am Parenting Small Group
- 12:00 pm Youth Coffee House
- 2:30 pm Christmas Caroling

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

4th Sunday of Advent

December 21 - 9:30 am

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24 - 3 pm & 9 pm

Hospitalizations: If you, a loved one, or church member is hospitalized, please notify the church office.

Prayer Requests: Prayer requests may be submitted by filling out a prayer request card and placing it in the offering plate or e-mail prayer@felcpeoria.org.

Altar Flowers were donated by Jerry and Ronna James for Jerry's 70th birthday.

If you would like to donate altar flowers, you can sign up on the bulletin board outside the office.

Attendance:

Thursday, November 26 - 64

Sunday, November 30 - 68

HELP NEEDED - Ralph's move out of the parsonage is complete, but we still need to pack up some things he has generously decided to donate. If you are able to help pack, please let Sandra know if you can help on Sunday, 12/7 at 1pm, Monday, 12/8 at 1pm or Tuesday 12/9 at 10am.

sandra.c.beveridge@gmail.com or text 309-691-3586

ELCA GOOD GIFTS GLOBAL BARNYARD

Give a gift that keeps on giving: a duck, cow, chicks, goats, or what about an alpaca? All of your donations support long-term, sustainable solutions that ensure that these good gifts last for more than a couple of days or weeks. Help out a family in need with your donation. Donations can be made directly to ELCA Good Gifts. Pick up your gift tag in Luther Hall.



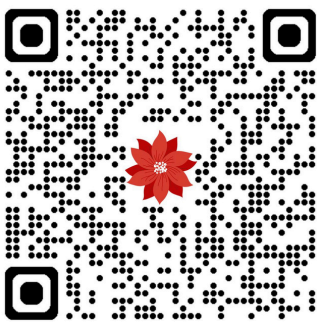
PRAYER PARTNER CHRISTMAS CARDS

Care Cards are notes to say hello, offer encouragement or just let the recipient know that they are being thought about. A Care Card table with all the supplies needed is located in Luther Hall. Please complete Care Cards November 30 – December 14 and leave in the basket on the table for distribution. Thank you for your care and participation in this ministry.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS

First English Lutheran has a tradition of adding poinsettia plants to beautify the sanctuary during our Christmas services. If you would like to order a poinsettia, please scan the QR Code or fill out an order form and return it to the church office, or place it in the offering plate on Sunday. The cost is \$16.00 per plant. Make checks payable to First English Lutheran Church. You may pick up your plant any time after December 28 Worship service or the following week.



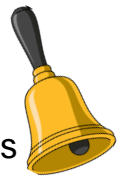
Place order

[HERE](#)

The deadline to order is December 14

HONORING AMY GLASS

After three decades in the FELC Bell Choir – over 25 years as its director – Amy Glass is retiring! We are so grateful for her faithful leadership and inspiration, and to acknowledge her remarkable service all are invited to attend a special reception following worship on Sunday, December 14, in the Fellowship Hall. “Enhanced” treats will be provided, and Amy will be presented with a special gift to commemorate her music ministry among us. Come and say thanks and congratulations to Amy!



CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee began its work with a surprising flurry of activity this past fall, as the synod staff indicated it had a candidate available for consideration even as our Ministry Site Profile was being completed. In fact, the candidate was half of a clergy couple seeking two pastor positions, to two separate churches. Unfortunately, FELC's prospects disappeared when the other congregation involved decided to pursue a different candidate altogether, and without the possibility of the second position for their spouse, our candidate had to withdraw from the process.

At this time, we're waiting for new candidates to become available, hopeful that pastors' willingness to consider a new call may loosen up after the holidays have passed. In the meantime, thank you for your prayers and patient support!

RETIREES LUNCHEON AT CHILI'S - Tuesday, December 30 @ 11:30am



This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to join you for lunch. Come join us for food, fun, and good fellowship!



WE'VE REFRESHED OUR WEBSITE, and it's now an even better tool for sharing the good ministry happening here at First English. To keep it welcoming and up to date, we'd love for our committees and ministry groups to send in upcoming events, photos, and stories of how God is at work among us.

Our website is often the first place visitors meet our congregation, and together we can make it a true doorway of hospitality and invitation. Thank you for helping us share our story with the community. felcpeoria.org

POTLUCK & GAME NIGHT

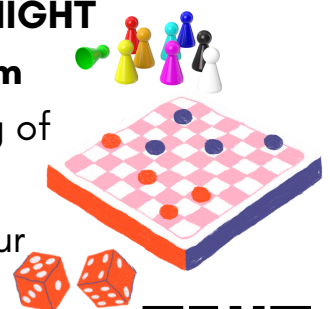
January 23 @ 5:30 pm

Join us for an evening of fun, food and games!

Feel free to bring your favorite game.

Meat entree will be provided
Please bring a dish to share.

Sign up by January 14



#that youth group

Faith Formation Youth will be singing the Anthem during Worship on Sunday, December 14. Please arrive by 9:15 am



Saturday, December 13

meet @ 12:15 pm

AMC Grand Prairie 18

ZOOTOPIA 2 is playing

Contact Mrs. Brown with any questions.

Sign up by December 7



YOUTH COFFEE HOUSE

Sunday, December 14,
Noon-2pm @ Starbucks
on Prospect. Youth and
parents are welcome to stop by for a
snack and say "Hi" or stay for awhile
and chat with #thatyouthgroup.



Sunday, December 7, 11:45a - 3:45p

Meet at FELC for lunch and then head out to shop for the LSSI Giving Tree!



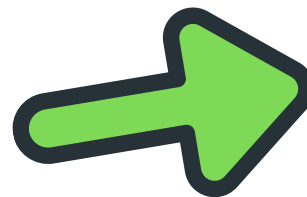
YOUTH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

January 10

1 pm - 3:30 pm



Sign up by December 21



ADVENT DECORATING



Questions? Please contact Mrs. Brown at raylee.brown@felcpeoria.org



The EBCC is in need of some items.

If you are able to help please place the items in the donation hall and we will deliver them. Thank you.

Most urgent needs this week:

- Toilet Paper
- Cereal
- Any other non perishable items will also be accepted

Forrest Hill United Methodist Church

Essential Pantry needs:

- men's & women's deodorant
- bar soap & shaving cream
- women's sanitary pads
- toothbrushes, toothpaste & dental floss
- toilet paper, paper towels
- disinfecting wipes
- plastic wide-mouth drink bottles (10-12 oz or less) * they use these bottles to break down the bulk items for more equitable distribution

Bulk items needed:

- dishwashing detergent
- moisturizing shampoos
- multi-purpose cleaners like Fabuloso

They do NOT need laundry detergent or fabric softener.



LSSI GIVING TREE:

- LSSI recommends that each child receives a clothing item and a "fun" game, toy, or miscellaneous item.
- The spending limit is \$40.00 per child (for the combined items)
- The gifts should be wrapped, and placed together in a gift bag. Tie or tape the bag shut so the gifts don't fall out and attach the name card to the bag.
- Gifts are due back at FELC by noon on Sunday, December 7th
- If anyone would like donate but cannot be at the church on the above dates, you can mail a donation to:
LSSI Giving Tree
C/O First English Lutheran Church
725 E Forrest Hill Ave
Peoria, IL 61603

Questions? Contact Shelley Atkinson or Marsha Kutter – Outreach Committee.



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor Richard Wehrs

Lois Neptun - Organist

Sunday, December 7, 2025	
Acolyte	
Assisting Minister	Kathy Neptun
Lector	Kathy Olesuk
Communion Assistant	Beth Stalker
Usher	Sandra Beveridge / Brian Lough
Sunday, December 14, 2025	
Acolyte	
Assisting Minister	Katlyn Reimer
Lector	Stained Glass Praise Band
Communion Assistant	David & Tiffany Knollenberg
Usher	Sandra Beveridge / Brian Lough



WORSHIP WITH US
THIS WEEK OF
CHRISTMAS

4th Sunday of Advent
December 21
9:30 am

Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24
3 pm & 9 pm



**Christmas
Office Hours**

Wednesday 24	CLOSED
Thursday 25	CLOSED
Friday 26	CLOSED
Monday 29	9AM - 2PM
Tuesday 30	9AM - 2PM
Wednesday 31	9AM - NOON
Thursday 1	CLOSED
Friday 2	CLOSED

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

725 E. Forrest Hill Ave., Peoria, IL 61603 / Phone: 309-685-0337

E-mail: office@felcpeoria.org / Web site: www.felcpeoria.org