

# The Herald

Newsletter of First English Lutheran Church      November 2022  
1013 Minnesota Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902 \* (920) 231-9890 \* [www.firstenglish.org](http://www.firstenglish.org)  
The Rev. Jonathan Radichel-Wills, Associate Pastor  
Worship Service Times: Saturday 5:00 PM, Sunday 8:00 AM, SPOH 10:30 AM.  
Sunday School 9:15 AM

## **Never Changing, Always Moving**

*Meditation by Pastor Jon Radichel-Wills*

We are facing the future right now. We are not only facing the future, but the future is barreling toward us at a dramatic pace. This has always been the case with the church. As the world ebbs and flows with growth and change it is often the church that has the hardest time keeping up. This is the rule, not the exception. I believe it is because of the generational nature of our institution. Church memory is long, and every generational encounter spans an entire lifetime of experiences. Growing up I would worship with grandparents who would recount the Great Depression and World War II as if it were yesterday, while I am someone who has never known hunger or deprivation. We worshipped the same God under the same firmament of sky, but our perspectives were different.

The mortar that held it all together was our tradition. These were the traditions that held together the newly baptized and their aging relatives. They were the values that united us in an ever-changing world. Therefore, the church continues to look backwards as it looks forwards. Our generational memory demands it. The needs of older members would become lost and forgotten, while lessons and experiences are never passed down. And yet, the future continues to speed toward us. Where is the balance?

I can only give you, my perspective. I need a church that is never changing, but always moving. My traditions are important to me. In fact, they are everything to me. In a world that is constantly and continually defined by chaos and change I need something that is unchanging. It is in the songs we sing and liturgy we use. It is in the dusty hymnals that I have memorized and the music of the organ. It is in the sanctity of Communion and the waters of Baptism. It is the Word of God proclaimed and preached. I need to know that when I return all those traditions will still be there.

At the same time, I need the church to keep moving. This means continuing to invite and embrace the stranger and the outsider. It means passing along our traditions in our Sunday School while fighting to stay relevant. It is outreach in the community. It is openness to trying new things, embarking on new endeavors, and not being afraid that those endeavors may fail. A church can adhere to its traditions and

values while remaining relevant in the modern world. In fact, that is the only way the church grows. It means staying in the continual tension between past and future.

I so very often have conversations about how the church can attract young people. The proposed solutions usually sound more like entertainment than worship: contemporary music, interactive technology, etc. I don't believe that is true. What young people long for is tradition. They long for a church that isn't going anywhere. A church that looks and feels like a church. A church that is steeped in tradition. In this chaotic world, our young need what all of us need. They need a church that is solid and unchanging with firm roots in the sacraments and scripture. Everything else doesn't matter.

Finally, they need to feel welcomed and feel like someone will miss them when they are gone. This is where the collision of tradition and momentum come together. The people of today will not look and act like those of yesterday. They will operate in a world that is rapidly changing. That is why they need a church that never changes and yet is constantly changing. That is a church that will hold fast to its values while always making me feel welcome and safe. It is in welcoming the stranger that a church grows. A church that cannot welcome the stranger should close its doors.

We find the balance in our love. In a changing and chaotic world where we long for stability and structure it is our love that brings everything together. Love invites all generational understanding because it is the one thing, we can all agree upon. It is in love where we face the future with bravery and boldness. This is the love of God and our love of one another. Love is the cosmic balance that makes all things new while never forgetting where we came from.

## **OFFICIAL ACTS –September 14, 2022 – October 11, 2022**

**New Members:** No new member requests to record this month.

**Baptisms:** No baptisms to record this month.

**Death:** Dolores Johnson September 26 and Clauden Ross October 4,  
Robert Duxstad October 11.

**Transfers:** Mark Mehlerg, Debbie Mehlberg, Betty Ahrens, Crystal Fuller transferred out.  
Robert & Ruth Hall transferred to Whitefish Bay  
Jeffrey & Lori Schettle, Ross & Brennan Kussman transferred out

10/2022 Baptized Members 1,118



FELCW are hosting a bake sale on **Election Day November 8<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to donate items to help them build their funds to help others, and we hope you do, please drop off your donations **by November 6<sup>th</sup>**. A decision was made to host the sale during the elections to encourage our neighbors to enjoy some great treats. We are anticipating a great voter turnout so that could mean a lot of sales!

Questions call Paula Rae-Rost at 920-2231-1339 or Sharon Larson at 920-379-1301

1. Initial meeting with Growth Design Group representatives Todd and Paul with Russ Potratz to obtain a second quote. This firm provided the open forum with FELC and, later, designed the new bathrooms.
2. The discussion covered services that Growth Design can provide to give FELC an evaluation of potential options for our building plant.
3. Growth Design Group will provide FELC with a proposal that will cover the cost of both building, mechanical, and potential remodeling of the current building. This proposal will review current HVAC, plumbing, electrical, and roofing to determine the costs to bring those systems up to date. They will also provide a quote to replace the parking lot. This will require some demolition as well as resurfacing as previous building foundations were not removed. The purpose here is to focus on analyzing our current physical plant. The fee to go forward with Growth Design Group to do this analysis will be completed before the November council meeting.
4. If we accept their bid, Growth Design will complete the analysis and provide a written report for the congregation's review and discussion at the annual meeting. This will include a breakdown by system the cost of what it will take to move forward over the next 20-30 years. It will also include the cost to do sanctuary updates.
5. Growth Design has nationwide experience working with churches in both remodeling and new construction. They have expanded their operation to open an office in Appleton and Todd works from that office. Paul works from their Milwaukee office. The Growth Design quote will be compared with that of RH Design.
6. Growth Design, with their extensive experience in new church construction, can also provide an estimate for a new church based on square footage and basic design requirements without a specific design being needed. This would give us the opportunity to look at building costs minus the expense of land.

Tom Brauer

tombrauer2022@gmail.com

920.427.4994



Notice Notice

We are hired Greg Johnson for a part time custodian.

Notice Notice

*Sadly, we had to say good bye to our office administrator Brenda Morgan. She chose to make a change and we support her 100% We ask that you keep her in your prayers that God will continue to assist her in her new endeavors. The executive committee has agreed to contact a temp to hire service to attempt to fill this position. We are looking outside our membership to fill this position.*



Our camps are open year-round, providing a beautiful location to get away and spend time building community and reflecting on

your faith. Come with a group of your own, or join in one of our programmed retreats. Registration is open for all retreats!



Unfortunately, we are still recovering from the impacts that Covid has on in-person events. Our attendance is up, but not back to where it was before Covid. Inflation, supply chain issues, and the labor market have caused all camp expenses to rise sharply. And we sadly had to cancel three camp sessions due to Covid exposures.

These joys and challenges reflect just what a paradox it has been to operate Crossways Camps this year. Though we had hoped the worst of Covid was behind us, it is clear that it is still disrupting our plans – and our budget. Without your help, we expect a \$150,000 deficit by the end of the year.

While this seems like a huge number, I am confident that this community of Camp People will come together to meet this need.

Leading the way in tackling this challenge is the leadership of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin. The Synod Council has just approved a **matching grant of \$50,000** to help navigate through the end of the year.

**All donations received starting October 1, 2022 will be doubled by this generous gift!**

This means that with your help and the support of the Synod, we can raise \$100,000 or more as the year draws to a close. The difference that will make in the lives of our campers is *beyond measure!* You have the power to unlock a \$50,000 grant for Crossways Camps! Starting October 1, the Synod Endowment Fund is matching all gifts, dollar-for-dollar, until they have matched \$50,000. We have already received over \$10,000 toward this goal! We are well on our way, but your gift could make a huge difference. Visit [www.crosswayscamps.org/donate](http://www.crosswayscamps.org/donate) for details on all the ways you can give. Every gift makes a difference!

Go to [www.crosswayscamps.org](http://www.crosswayscamps.org) or mail your donation to Crossways Camps, 912 N Oneida St, Appleton, WI 54911



As many of you already know Ms. Beth will be following a new path and not leading our Sunday School program any longer but will still be around from time to time. I wanted to take a minute to introduce myself for those who may not know me. I'm Alicia and I have been a member of FELC my whole life! So, a little about me, our family consists of my husband, Greg, our four children, Paisley, Paxton, Presley and Pierce and our pup Oakley. I love crafting and enjoy bringing some of that into my class. I am currently teaching Sunday School to our 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. I have been working with Ms. Beth to create lots of fun and exciting events for this Sunday School year. I am here to help in any way I can so let's take this journey together. I am excited to continue getting to know our Sunday School students of all ages. With that said....

We are being BOLD and putting on our full Armor of God in Sunday School these days! We are warriors in our faith! We hope your children are enjoying our new curriculum this year. If they haven't shared what they are learning each week please take a moment to ask about it over dinner.

As mentioned previously your children are earning gold coins this year. Some of you may recall tickets back in the day! ☺ Well, this our version of tickets! Each time they attend classes, say memory verses, participate, bring friends, bibles and so much more they are earning coins. Soon they will be able to trade in their coins for goodie bags with fun treats. As a reminder to our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade families to keep bringing your bibles to Sunday School each week.

Mrs. Julie has begun introducing our Christmas Program to our youth and BOY, do we have an exciting program for you! Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. We will be having a rehearsal the morning of the program. More details will follow so watch for that. Be sure to mark your calendars with these upcoming events we have happening at FELC!

**Upcoming Events:**

**Advent Event - December 4<sup>th</sup> (time to be determined)**

**Christmas Program - December 17<sup>th</sup> 5 pm (morning rehearsal)**

**Christmas Break - December 18<sup>th</sup> - January 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday School resumes on January 8<sup>th</sup>**

I just want to give a huge THANK YOU to all of our Sunday School teachers for taking time to share the word of God with our youth. Your time and efforts have not gone unnoticed. We appreciate all you do!

Don't forget we have a private Facebook group for our Sunday School families. Just another way for us to connect and communicate. If you haven't joined yet, please reach out for assistance. As always if we can help in any way, please let us know.

Alicia Valdez - 920-740-4244 (Acting Director, Teacher)

Jerri Schmidt - 920-420-6941 (Education Chair)



### **Mission Quilters**

Greetings from mission quoting! Our next gathering is November 15th, would love to see some great helpers that day, we start at 9 AM In the auditorium. As some of you have noticed, we are displaying our quilts each month, the Sunday after quilting day. This is because we tend to give throughout the year instead of just once like we have in the past. Contact Rachel with questions! 920-203-6564

### **Quilted Heart making day:**

Our next QHD is November 19th at 9am. (Will always be 4th Saturday of the month with the exception of November and December due to the holidays) Everyone is welcome, kids must have a parent/grown-up. Donations are still being accepted (purple box in Auditorium.) Look online for photos from previous QHDs. Packages of 3 will be available for purchase in the Gathering Grounds between services for a \$5 donation. This will help keep our quilting group in quilt filler!



**Family Movie Night is back!** Always the 2nd Friday of the month. November 11th we'll be showing "Little Giants" Movie starts promptly at 6pm. Food & drink are allowed, please clean up after yourself!

Advent Tea needs a coordinator.

This event will not happen unless someone steps forward.

All previous notes are available

Call Roni 920-426-0382 or

Ruth 920-203-6563



**FROM YOUR FOOD PANTRY:** Thank you for your support. We are so grateful for all the donations. We currently have an ample supply of toothbrushes but would respectfully ask for your continued donations of other toiletry items including personal hygiene items and paper products.

*Thank You!!*

The Salvation Army is looking for donations of manual can openers for the homeless.

Donations can be left in the office on the table behind Brenda's desk. Thank you.



**Attn Ushers:** The crew lists/schedules are available on the usher's table in the back of the church. Should you have any questions or concerns, please call the church office or Rob Abraham at 920-233-3401. Thank you!! Anyone wishing to join the ushering teams, feel free to call Rob or the church office and we will be happy to plug you into a team. Anyone, (any age) can join in. **NOVEMBER USHERING CREW IS #2**



- ❖ For your support and warm welcome to Missionary Kristin Engstrom. She has safely returned to Zambia to continue her ministry there.
- ❖ To Tuba Dan and his band for their music ministry at our polka worship service. A big thanks to all those who organized, shopped, and cooked for the fellowship meal following! If you were unable to attend, check it out on Oshkosh Community tv.
- ❖ To all who planned, organized and reached out to the Oshkosh community for Trunk or Treat. It was great to enjoy this neighborhood outreach again.
- ❖ For all the soda tabs that continue to be donated for the Ronald McDonald House. Over seven pounds were delivered in October.

### **Coats and Gloves for Kids**

Winter is coming and children in Oshkosh need warm coats. Drop any youth size coat in the church office in the designated box by November 25 and it will be shared in the community. We are also collecting warm winter gloves for our student neighbors at Jefferson Elementary in the same box. Athletic shoes in youth sizes 2, 3, 4, and 5, are also needed for gym classes.

### **WINTER CANCELLATION POLICY:**

If school is closed all day or releases early = no confirmation class.

If weather worsens after school, we'll decide by 4:00 PM.

Call a Pastor (Pastor Tim 312-1261 or Pastor Jon 231-4771)

check your e-mail. (If you want to be added to our e-mail addresses, please call the church office at 231-9890.) We have had uneven results attempting to post information through television stations. If

you are concerned about conditions, please use your own judgment. If a parent calls in it will be an excused absent.



## Thanksgiving Eve Service to be held at St Andrews...

Here is the latest info from Pastor Karen:

Thanksgiving Eve worship  
Nov. 23, 2022 at St. Andrew's on Murdoch St at 6 pm Worship  
Pie fellowship to follow the service

Mass choir will sing - Our choir members are encouraged to join. The choir will sing ELW 824 "This is My Father's World" Mass choir practice directed by Kris Selk, St. Andrew's choir director, at 5:15 pm, prior to worship on that night here at St. Andrew's.

### Volunteers Needed!

Jefferson Elementary needs classroom volunteers to mentor students, especially those in the kindergarten program. For more information, contact Kay Dobberke Brauer at 920.203.4464 or [kay.brauer@gmail.com](mailto:kay.brauer@gmail.com).

### Jefferson Christmas Bags

FELC will be making fifty Christmas bags for the kindergarten students at Jefferson Elementary. Your contributions of small toys, books, hygiene items and other age-appropriate items are welcomed by the first weekend in December. Place gifts in the labeled basket in the auditorium.



### Christmas at FELC 2022



FELC will again be remembering active members of the military this Christmas season. Please forward the name, email, phone, and address of those we should be including to the church office no later than December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Christmas bags are again being planned for the 50 Jefferson Elementary Kindergarten students. Additional books, small toys, school supplies, etc. are welcomed and may be placed in the designated basket in the auditorium by December 4<sup>th</sup>. Donations should be marked "Jefferson Christmas Bags". A special thanks to the FELC knitters for their generous donation of hats and mittens.



First English Lutheran's **Neighborhood Center**, 1013 Minnesota Street, encourages you to invite a friend and join us for a special "**Citywide Thanksgiving**" celebration on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. As an outreach of our fellowship, all are welcome for a Thanksgiving feast in the FELC fellowship hall following worship at 11:00. Reservations are not required but requested by November 18<sup>th</sup> and may be placed through the church office at 920.231.9890.



## November 2022 Neighborhood Center News

**Programs begin at 11:30 unless noted,  
with lunch at noon in the FELC auditorium  
Enter through the 10<sup>th</sup> Ave parking lot**

Bring a friend and join the fun! All are welcome. Still the best lunch deal in town for a \$7 donation.  
*Reminder that menus are subject to change.*

**November 2:** Thanksgiving Trivia *Sign-up for Thanksgiving meal begins*  
**Menu:** Brunch egg bake, French toast casserole, sausage, yogurt fruit parfaits  
**After lunch:** Sheepshead, cribbage, November book club begins

**November 9:** *Pastor Marty's Dancers beginning at 11:15*  
**Menu:** Baked spaghetti with veggies, Italian cucumber salad, garlic bread, lemon velvet cake  
**After lunch:** Sheepshead, cribbage, board games

**November 16:** "Did you know???" with Public Information Officer John Holland of the Oshkosh Fire Department  
**Menu:** Baked potato bar with all the delicious toppings, "potluck salad" and November birthday cake  
**After lunch:** Sheepshead, cribbage, King's Corners



**November 23:** "Citywide Thanksgiving Celebration"  
**Celebrate by bringing a friend!** Thanksgiving worship service at 11:00  
**Menu:** Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, squash, cranberry salad and pumpkin dessert  
**After lunch:** Sheepshead, cribbage, other games



**November 30:** *A Day in Quebec City at 11:15* Advent devotion **at 11:45**  
**Menu:** Poutine, tourtiere (meat pie with veggies), maple baked beans, Nanaimo bars  
**After lunch:** Sheepshead, cribbage, board games

*\*\*If you would like to donate a cake for your birthday, please contact Kay  
at [kay.brauer@gmail.com](mailto:kay.brauer@gmail.com) or 920.203.4464*

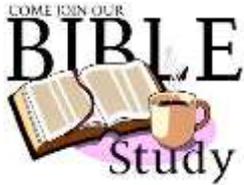
*\*\* Make special dietary requests/needs by Monday noon*

## FELC Hot Meal Ministry

Volunteers will resume the FELC Hot Meal Ministry for the Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Shelter, the Salvation Army, and Lutheran Campus Ministry. Meals of "FELC Barbecue" with pickles and chips will be cooked and delivered beginning in October for the first two organizations. The Hot Meal Ministry also provides hot meals for referrals, as needed, after surgeries, bereavement, etc. to be picked up and/or delivered.



Your donations to support these meals are welcomed. Please note "meal ministry" on the outside of your envelope to have it added to the designated fund for this outreach.



### MARY MARTHA BIBLE STUDY

We were very sad that no one signed up to come to our Bible study on the first Tuesday on the month at 9:00 am. We would like our group to grow. We know young people are working. The ones that are not working, we would like for them to join us and learn more about God. We meet every first Tuesday of the month.

September through May in the Mary Martha room.

(9:00 AM social time, 9:20 AM group meeting, 9:30 AM Bible Study)

**All ladies welcome!**



We are starting a new Men's Group. Our plan is to begin meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 6pm in the fellowship hall. Any interested men who would like to begin a conversation on what this men's group might look like here at FELC are welcome. Questions we are going to initially discuss include:

- What is a clear purpose for this group? It makes sense to understand your end goal and we'd like to hear what men feel they would like to pursue.
- Will things discussed in the group be held confidential? Yes. Our goal is to create an environment of trust and transparency to allow men to discuss those areas of life that can be difficult.
- What is required to be a member? This one's pretty easy. A commitment to be fully engaged when attending and to be willing to respect everyone.
- Will this be bible based? Absolutely, although there is no requirement for this to be a bible study themed group. That being said, it will be based on Christian values and morals.
- What day of the week and how regularly will we meet? That will be decided by those who decide to attend.

This is only a few of the discussion items that will be discussed in the inaugural meeting as we want to hear from all men. Once we answer the "what" for this group, we can begin to decide "how" we will meet the purpose. If you need more information before you decide, please email Tom @ [jefftaj@yahoo.com](mailto:jefftaj@yahoo.com) or Rus @ [russ.potrartz@stratacomm.com](mailto:russ.potrartz@stratacomm.com). God bless, Tom, Jim, Rob, and Russ

**First English Lutheran Church**  
**Council Minutes – October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Full council @ 7:00

**Members:** Dave Richards, Rob Abraham, Russ Potratz, Gary Konrad, Barb McClain, Dan Luft, Beth Sell, Karl Kessler, Sherry Ratchman    Via Zoom – Tom Jefferson

**Staff:** Pastor Jon Radichel-Wills, Steve Seidl

**Excused:** Karen Frederick, Kay Dobberke Brauer, Nate Hitz, Jerri Schmidt

**Devotion:** Barb McClain

Hebrews 13:5 – I will never leave you; I will never abandon you.

**Communications:** Thank you letter from ELCA Global Mission for \$4,163.00 and Bella Medical Clinic for \$1,000.00. We also received a card of thanks from the Connie Seidl family and from Pastor Kristin Engstrom with the missions in Zambia.

**Consent Agenda M/S/C**

1. Approve September 2022 Council Minutes
2. Committee reports Staff reports
3. New Member – No new member requests to record this month  
Baptism – No baptisms to record this month  
Death – (2)
  - Dolores Johnson, born April 15, 1934, deceased September 26, 2022. Funeral October 1, 2022.
  - Claudeen Ross, born November 28 1943, deceased October 4, 2022. Funeral October 8, 2022.\*\*\*Accidentally left off of death report in February 2022 – (2)
  - Nancy Suda, born August 22, 1937, deceased February 4, 2022. Funeral April 30. 2022.
  - Peter Almberg, born July 22, 1952, deceased February 8, 2022. Funeral February 16, 2022.
4. Transfer
  - a. Mark Mehlberg, Debbie Mehlberg, Betty Ahrens, Crystal Fuller – transferred out 09/21/2022.
  - b. Robert & Ruth Hall – transferred to ELCA Church in Whitefish Bay, WI – 09/22/2022.
  - c. Jeffery & Lori Schettle, Ross & Brennan Kussmann – transferred out – 09/29/2022.

As of 10/2022 Total Baptized Members at FELC = 1,118

**Treasurer's Report M/S/C**

- d. Report
- e. Invoices - Largest to Smallest
- f. Pay Bills
- g. Steve Seidl expressed that he has been receiving expenditures on the church credit cards without receipts being turned in to validate what the charges were and to which program the charges are to be applied.
- h. Advised that this procedure has to stop or that future access to the church credit cards will come to a halt. Stipulated that all future expenses MUST have a receipt turned in with the program in which it is associated with.

**Old Business:**

1. P&I Committee Rolling Agenda
  - a. Boiler/Heating: August Winter started boilers for the heating season
  - b. ON HOLD:
    - i. Sanctuary Ceiling: Waiting for Structural Engineer report
    - ii. Window Replacement: Education wing window/blinds. Waiting for Structural Engineer report.
    - iii. Canopy Entrances: North and East entrance roofing – on hold
    - iv. Kitchen Plumbing – Needed replacement of water line – on hold
2. Rental Property – Russ updated the Council with the progress of the rental property to date.
3. Structural/Building Task Force Report – Tom Brauer updated Council with the following:
  - a. Initial meeting with Growth Design Group representatives Todd and Paul with Russ Potratz to obtain a second quote. This firm provided the open forum with FELC and, later, designed the new bathrooms.
  - b. The discussion covered services that Growth Design can provide to give FELC an evaluation of potential options for our building plant.
  - c. Growth Design Group will provide FELC with a proposal that will cover the cost of both building, mechanical, and potential remodeling of the current building. This proposal will review current HVAC, plumbing, electrical, and roofing to determine the costs to bring those systems up to date. They will also provide a quote to replace the parking lot. This will require some demolition as well as resurfacing as previous building foundations were not removed. The purpose here is to focus on analyzing our current physical plant. *The fee to go forward with Growth Design Group to do this analysis will be completed before the November council meeting.*
  - d. If we accept their bid, Growth Design will complete the analysis and provide a written report for the congregation's review and discussion at the annual meeting. This will include a breakdown by system the cost of what it will take to move forward over the next 20-30 years. It will also include the cost to do sanctuary updates.
  - e. Growth Design has nationwide experience working with churches in both remodeling and new construction. They have expanded their operation to open an office in Appleton and Todd works from that office. Paul works from their Milwaukee office. The Growth Design quote will be compared with that of RH Design.
  - f. Growth Design, with their extensive experience in new church construction, can also provide an estimate for a new church based on square footage and basic design requirements without a specific design being needed. This would give us the opportunity to look at building costs minus the expense of land.
4. Call Committee Report – Art Loos advised that the committee has compiled the interview questions and are ready to proceed to the next step. They are currently waiting to interview Pastor Jon.
5. Sound Equipment Status – per Beth Sell: The last of the equipment shipped out today (10/11/2022) for both the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall. Anticipate that they will arrive by Thursday (10/13/2022) so as Greg Lambert (from Arrow Audio) will continue the installation of the Mics with Gary Konrad. Council agreed to offer a monetary gift of a \$100 check (from General Memorials), with a Thank You card for Greg's services, as he has donated his time to assist with this project.
6. New Copier for Office – Rob advised that he signed the contract to lease it for 6 years at \$189 per month.
7. Council Elections – The Candidate Questionnaire will be emailed out to Tom Brauer, Sherry Ratchman, Julie Gutche and Becky Meisner to complete and submit ASAP.

#### **New Business:**

1. Circulated next month's calendar for approval for *The Herald*.
2. 2023 Budget

- a. All committees need to have budgets submitted ASAP to Steve Seidl. Steve will reach out to the committee heads for those that still need to submit.
  - b. Salaries 2023 – Increase for staff by 8.7% - M/S/C
3. Janitor
- a. New Janitor will be Greg Johnson and will be starting 10/24/2022
4. Administrative Assistant
- a. Brenda had provided 16 years of service to FELC. A parting gift for Brenda was agreed for \$100 – M/S/C
  - b. Rob conducted an exit interview with Brenda where she had recommended that FELC attain a new phone system. Pastor Jon went over the job description/job duties with Brenda to determine what was all involved with her position.
  - c. Was suggested that we go through CADRE Temp Agency for a replacement in the administrative position.
5. Confirmation Fall 2022
- a. Pastor Jon advised that Confirmation will take place in the Sanctuary on Sunday, 10/30/2022 at 8:00 am. The following 6 students will make up the Confirmation Class of 2022:
    - i. Jozie Fuller – Psalm 23
    - ii. Macie Boyd – Romans 12:2
    - iii. Joshua Hatfield – Philippians 4:8
    - iv. Lydia Rentmeester – Matthew 7:12
    - v. Greysen Lloyd – Isaiah 60:1
    - vi. Elliot Reed – John 3:16
6. Holiday Services:
- a. Thanksgiving Eve worship will be a collaboration with our neighbor churches, which will be held at St Andrew’s Lutheran Church. The time is to yet be determined. First English will have a separate Thanksgiving Eve service in the Sanctuary prior to Neighborhood Center.
  - b. Christmas falls on a weekend this year. Was agreed to consolidate some of the services.
    - i. Christmas Eve – Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 2PM and 5PM
    - ii. Christmas Day – Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10AM.
7. Departure:
- a. Beth Sell announced that this would be her last council meeting (10/11/2022). She will be taking the next step in her ministry journey by accepting a position at St John’s Lutheran Church on Main Street in Oshkosh, along with continuing her at-home education with the seminary.

Close – Lord’s Prayer – Pastor Jon

**Next Meeting:** November 13, 2022 Executive Board @ 6:30pm Full Council @ 7:00pm  
 Devotions: Tom Jefferson

## **Christmas ~ A Time for Giving and Sharing**

The holiday season will soon be upon us and once again FELC will support the **Christmas Food Box Project**. This project has been a great success for many years because of the faithful donors who have given from the heart. Our hope is to provide a blessed Christian gift to many individuals/families that could use a little extra help this year.

### **Request a basket:**

- Call the church office 231-9891 from November 1 to December 9th.
- Provide number of persons in household, delivery address, telephone number.
- If children in household (15 years and younger), provide ages, gender, sizes.
- NOTE: If children in household, requests are needed by Dec. 2nd so our youth can purchase and wrap presents.

### **Donation options:**

- The **Gathering Tree** will be available for collecting food items and will be placed by the Minnesota Street entrance starting in November.
- Put your donation in a giving envelope, mark it as Christmas Food Box Project and put in collection plate.
- Church office will accept money donations.
- If you donate \$60.00, you will receive a beautiful hand painted ornament by Barbara McClain.
- Excess money received will go towards the food pantry that FELC supports.

### **Delivery:**

- Delivery of baskets will be on Saturday morning Dec.17th, starting at 9:00 a.m.
- Many volunteers are needed to deliver baskets.
- If you would like to help, please sign-up in the church office or contact Cheryl Curtin at 379-8633. Thank you in advance for your help.