
CLEF



As far as the east is
from the west,

PSALM 103:12

so far has he removed our
transgressions from us.

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May the light of Christ illuminate the darkest places of this world and the darkest corners of our hearts, that his light, his truth, his life, might transform every part of our lives and the world.

Lent is considered a time for repentance, however, any time is a time of repentance when we find we have substituted the worldly for the godly and accepted the compromise of comfort for the burning fire of the Spirit. Lent, therefore isn't really the time we repent of our sins, uproot the idols we have planted in our hearts and minds, and return to the Lord God. It is a reminder that repentance, turning, restoration, renewal, are the rhythms of our daily life in Christ.

It is doubtful that a day goes by for any of us that we do not hear the siren song of this world's idols, of wants or desires, of compromise enticing us subtly to follow a path that slopes ever so gently away from the leading of our Lord. It is doubtful that a day goes by where we don't test the footing of this wayward path, we don't choose but a "little" sin of convenience, we simply don't focus our eyes on the God of our Salvation.

Which of course means, it is doubtful a day goes by when we are not called to repent. To turn from the sin that leads us deeper into the wilderness and more importantly, to turn to the one who has already spoken forgiveness and life. However, it is without a doubt that we have been forgiven of our sins and we are embraced in His grace. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12).

During our Lenten journey we emphasize our need for repentance, our need to turn away from sin and turn toward God, and we are reminded that repenting, refocusing on Christ, and knowing the forgiveness that has come through Jesus is a daily discipline that God has lovingly given to us that in every moment of every day, we would know that life and salvation that we have received.

God bless you throughout this Lenten season and always and may you awaken each day knowing the glorious presence and abundant grace, mercy, and love of our Lord.

Yours In Christ<><

Pastor Sean



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
PARENTS
BIBLE STUDY

Meet in the Youth Room (basement)

Sundays

after worship

MARCH
8 & 22

10:45-
NOON



CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

After attending 9:30 worship, grab some snacks and coffee in the lounge, leave your kiddos with our childcare team, then head down to the Youth Room! This is a new group that will be evolving over time; we hope you'll join us in getting it started!

Connect

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First English Evangelical
Lutheran Church



FEELC-GPW

More Bible Studies this month..



Thursday Bible Study

9:30am in the Lounge
Continuing to study Isaiah



Men's Bible Study

Saturday Mornings
8:30am in the Lounge
snacks & coffee provided

GET RAMPED UP FOR WORKCAMP!



\$17,500
raised
so far

These little people are hard at work building a ramp for their resident.

Our Workcamp Team is also hard at work evaluating the homes of applicants. They have gone out in teams of two to visit these neighbors that Christ has called us to serve. Some are disabled, others have recently lost jobs, are single mothers, veterans, elderly, or isolated.

We have committed to raising \$30,000 to provide necessary repairs for people who cannot complete them without our help. Their porches are crumbling, walls need patching and painting, and their hearts need reassurance that God has answered their prayers.

God is good and we are over half way to our fundraising goal.

God is good and we anticipate double the amount of campers as in 2024.

God is good and we can serve double the people we did in 2024.

Please be part of what God is doing and donate today!

Contributions accepted through April 12. [Click here to donate!](#)





Share Jesus
through sharing,
Jesus Is Here.

HOLY COMMUNION CLASS

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
NOON – 2:00 PM
PIZZA PROVIDED

Class is designed for grades 2-4,
but anyone wishing to receive
instruction on the sacrament of
Holy Communion is welcome!

RSVP to Pastor or Renata



LENT

Together in Christ and Through Christ

Please join us each Wednesday

Supper - 5:45 PM

Worship - 6:30 PM



SUNDAY, MARCH 29

EASTER EGG HUNT

after 9:30 AM worship
children of all ages welcome

on the church lawn
(or in the basement, if it's raining)



2026



Lilly & Tulip Order Form

Time to decorate our sanctuary for Easter services! Lilies and tulips may be placed in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please leave your form and payment in the "Flower Box" in the office by Wednesday, April 1st. \$13.50 per lily plant and \$11 per tulip plant. Please make checks payable to: FELC-Altar Guild

Name:

Phone #:

of Lilies:

of Tulips:

List the names of your loved ones and whether your lilies/tulips are "in memory" or "in honor" of them:

Taking or Leaving?

I will take my plant(s) home after the services

I will take my plant(s) home sometime the following week

I would like my plant(s) to be donated to a homebound member



March birthdays

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
2 Anna Nyquist	3	4	5	6	7	8 Gianna Fett
9	10 Benjamin Bloom Christine Kline	11 Stephanie Grabowski	12	13	14	15 Rick Gram Carlye Trowbridge
16	17 Carolyn Cassar	18	19 Mark Berkesch Ellis Edwards Mark Fett	20 Andrea Bloom Dagmar Tonn	21 Amy McIntyre	22 Patty Jackson
23	24 Jay Holsinger Sean Motley Matthew Reck	25	26 Aaron Motley	27	28 Eric Balle	29 Andrew Glynn
30 Jennifer Barger	31 Alexa Andary	1	2	3	4	5

COUNCIL MINUTES

JANUARY 18, 2026

Attended by: Claudette Momenee, Scott Norlin, John Nyquist, Ken Kohler, Amy McIntyre, Sue Ulmer, Claire Verman, Shawn Vinson, Diann Ohman, Patrick Quinlan, Pastor Sean Motley, Melissa Zwicker

President Ken Kohler called the meeting to order at 12:24 PM.

Pastor Sean opened with a devotional on Psalm 139 and a prayer.

SECRETARY REPORT - Sue Ulmer moved to approve the December congregational meeting minutes, 2nd by Diann Ohman and the motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT - A discussion took place regarding creating a part-time church accountant/bookkeeping paid position separate from the Treasurer on the Church Council. Scott Norlin moved to continue bookkeeping services with Cindy Jevons and have John Nyquist serve as Treasurer on the Church Council, 2nd by Shawn Vinson and the motion carried. John Nyquist shared the October and November financial statements. John Nyquist moved to accept the October and November financial statements, 2nd by Claudette Momenee and the motion carried.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT - Shawn Vinson reported that signers on the church bank accounts need to be updated and provided the forms for council members to complete who will be added as signers.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE - Claudette Momenee reported that the extra principal payment from surplus funds for stained glass was made. Claudette further reported 13 pledge cards for church donations have been received. There are 31 boxes of donation envelopes remaining in the building and Claudette suggested that volunteers who take communion to shut-ins deliver those envelope boxes as well. Claudette further suggested reestablishing an internal audit committee at First English, and provided information from the ELCA synod on areas for which audit procedures need to be developed. Claudette moved to start the initial steps to organizing an audit committee, 2nd by Diann Ohman and the motion carried.

CHURCH PROPERTIES - No report. The director and assistant director positions continue to be vacant. Scott Norlin brought up the idea of having a screen in the church nursery for parents who would like to see and hear the service while watching their children in the nursery.

EVANGELISM - Sue Ulmer shared that greeters are still needed for church services and discussed putting a QR code in the bulletin as an easy way for volunteers to sign up. Patrick Quinlan provided an update on the Grow 300 team initiative.

SOCIAL ACTION - Diann Ohman expressed a thank you to the Board and the congregation, as well as a special thanks to Shawn Vinson and Pat Milne, for providing Christmas presents for 86 children this year.

FELLOWSHIP - No report.

PARISH ED & YOUTH MINISTRY - Claire Verman reported that the Youth will be going on Winter Retreat next week. VBS dates have been determined to be August 3-7, 2026, and the curriculum is being reviewed. Dates for the initial meeting for VBS volunteers are being tentatively discussed for March. Claire further reported that ideas for a parents' Bible study are being considered.

WORSHIP & MUSIC - Melissa Zwicker reported that the next Board meeting will be February 8.

ENDOWMENT - No report.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH - No report.

PASTOR'S REPORT - Pastor Sean Motley reported that there will be an installation at a church service for new council members tentatively scheduled for February 15. He further reported that Lenten suppers along with midweek Lenten services will be starting next month. Ideas for a men's Bible study are being discussed, as well as ideas for a Discipleship corner where materials such as the 5 day devotional can be found. A 5 day devotional for families is also being considered. Donations received for Workcamp total \$13-14, 000 at this point. There is a meeting with the insurance company on January 28 regarding completing the work on the gym kitchen and closing out the claim.

Old business - None presented.

New business - Claudette Momenee suggested publishing a list of the council members in the CLEF as well as in the church bulletin for the installation so that the congregation is familiar with the council members.

Sue Ulmer moved to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Claire Verman, and the meeting adjourned at 1:52 PM.

Meeting ended with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Mark your calendars-Next council meeting is scheduled for **February 15 at 12:15 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy McIntyre, Recording Secretary