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Give thanks

PSALM 107:1

to the Lord for He is good,
His love endures forever.

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Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever.
Psalm 107:1

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A couple of years ago, around this time of year, I heard a newscaster declare, “Our meteorologist predicts the days will start to become shorter.” Now I thought, wow, your meteorologist, as opposed to all those other ignorant meteorologists out there, predicts what everyone already knows and has known, very impressive. Although, maybe I misunderstood and the meteorologist was predicting that the earth would begin to rotate more quickly and days would literally become shorter.

As we move through November we all know that we will have less hours of daylight, that the trees now so colorfully adorned will soon be bare, it is time to start taking out heavier coats, sweaters, and maybe the hot chocolate mix. Although we may not be thankful for colder temperatures and early evenings, in November we are reminded to give thanks to God for the blessings of the body of Christ and for all that He has provided for us.

We begin the month remembering the saints who have gone before us. We celebrate All Saints Day giving thanks to God for those who witnessed to the faith they had received through their words, their actions through the life they lived. We thank God for those saints who spoke directly to us, who shared in our life’s journey and for those throughout the centuries who in every season shined the light of Christ and illuminated the paths we continue to tread today. As you read these words, I invite you to pause for a moment and give thanks to God for the saints in your life. Those who continue to walk with you today and those whom have already entered the forever kingdom.

As we approach the end of the November we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. Truly, we are to give thanks each day for what God has provided, however, this day ideally reminds all throughout our nation that what we have is not our own, that we have has been provided for us by the God of creation, by the God of salvation, by the God who is with us each day and sustains us in His grace. Although, it is a few weeks away, pause once more and give thanks to your loving Creator for all that He has graciously given to you.

God bless you and fill your heart with gratitude now and always.

Yours In Christ‹›‹
Pastor Sean

It's the holiday season again!

Upcoming at First English

Ministry & Events

FROM: First English Church
800 Vernier Rd, GPW

TO: any and all! Please join us in celebrating the holidays this season.

Join us on Sundays at
9:30am & 11am for Advent Worship

November

21st - Thanksgiving Food Drive items due

22nd - Christmas Crafternoon at 12:15pm

26th - Thanksgiving Eve Worship at 7pm

Happy Thanksgiving

December

6th - Carol-a-Long:
6:15 Carols & Children's Pageant
7:00 Cookies with Santa

8th - Women's Advent Service at 7pm

10th - Luther League Christmas Party

13th - Music Sunday at 10am, Congregational Meeting, & Cookie Walk

24th - Christmas Eve Services:
4:00pm, 7:00pm & 10:00pm





BRING IN THE HARVEST FOR

Thanksgiving





Thanksgiving is around the corner, and we want to make sure it's as warm and wonderful for our Giving Tree families as your holiday feast. Please consider picking up a can of soup or jar of peanut butter or box of pasta (or 2 or 3) when you are out shopping for your next meal. We all know how much food prices have increased, so every little bit helps!

Stop by our display in the hallway and pick up a grocery list (in the pocket) of suggested items. Or, if you'd rather donate funds, take an envelope off our display and turn in checks (marked pantry) to the office. We are happy to shop for you and scout out the best deals!

PLEASE BRING IN ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS BY WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH. OUR BOARD WILL BE FILLING 30 LARGE TUBS WITH FOOD ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST.

THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS TO ALL GIVERS AND RECEIVERS!

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

chicken or tuna, pasta & rice, healthy cereal, fruit in juice and tomato sauce

-Board of Social Action

New Member Classes

November 7th at 11am &
November 8th at 12:15pm

Anyone who is interested in becoming a member or learning more about First English is welcome to attend.

Reception of new members will be on November 15th.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

NOVEMBER 25 | AT 7:00PM

First English Church



2026 Calendars for Sale

All profits go to Faith Circle.

Purchases can be made in the main office by cash or check for $12.



MAKE IT HAPPEN





GROUP WORKCAMPS
HOME REPAIR

Students in 8th–12th grade, do something amazing this summer and join us for Workcamp, July 11–17! Scan or visit feelc.org to learn more and sign up!

SERVE OTHERS IN JESUS' NAME

Rake & Pray

NOON–3PM | NOVEMBER 15

Meet at church for pizza
For 5th - 12th graders
Adult drivers needed
Dress for the weather
Bring a rake

WINTER RETREAT

FOR 6TH - 12TH GRADERS
JANUARY 22-24
AT MICHINDOH

Spend a weekend with Pastor Sean and Renata as we explore God's word, play games, enjoy hot meals, and deepen friendships!

BIBLE STUDY | CAMPFIRE | GAMES
HIGH ROPES COURSE | SLEDDING | SNACKS

$150 DUE BY NOV 15 **SCAN OR VISIT FEELC.ORG TODAY!**



November

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 William Campbell	2	3	4 Christina Swanson	5	6	7
8 Monte Kohler Robyn Stojsih	9 Cheryl Quinlin	10	11 Pam Balle	12 Kay Berkesch Madeleine Gram Jack Nelson Joanna Russell	13 Ellen Nelson	14 Nathan Ford
15	16 Sheldon Johnson	17 Wayne Ford	18 Jack Bidigare Lola Fett Charles Heaphy	19	20 Christi Nyquist	21
22 Jamie Bezel	23 Claire Plumridge	24	25	26	27	28 Elizabeth Butler
29	30 Timothy MacMichael					

HAPPIEST BIRTHDAY!

Council Meeting Minutes Setember 2026

Attended by: Ken Kohler, John Nyquist, Rose Bush, Claudette Momenee, Jim Lieder, Sue Ulmer, Amy McIntyre, Patty Foster, Melissa Zwicker, Pastor Sean Motley, Patrick Quinlan, Shawn Vinson, Diann Ohman

President Ken Kohler called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

Pastor Sean opened the meeting with a devotional from Jonah and a prayer.

SECRETARY REPORT - Amy McIntyre moved to approve the June meeting minutes, 2nd by John Nyquist and the motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT - John Nyquist shared the May, June and July 2026 financial statements and moved to approve them, 2nd by Diann Ohman and the motion carried.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT - Shawn Vinson shared that she will be starting to keep track of how many offerings are made online vs. envelopes to help determine the efficiency of ordering and printing offering envelopes for congregants who still want to use them.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE - Claudette Momenee shared that she is still awaiting budget allocation requests or statements to keep current allocations from each of the Boards to finalize the budget. Claudette further shared that offering envelopes have been printed and will be here in November for congregants who continue to use them.

CHURCH PROPERTIES - No report.

EVANGELISM - Sue Ulmer reported that she has given names of people who indicated interest on opportunity to serve surveys to the boards who schedule coffee hours, greeters and communion ministers, and is starting to work on those who are interested in ushering. Patrick Quinlan shared that he and Sue Ulmer continue to meet with Grow 300 leaders Stefanie Norlin, Chris Judson, John Nyquist and Pastor Sean regarding steps forward on this initiative and still need to come to an agreement on the best way to engage more leaders. Patrick further reported that ideas from the Church Council are also being sought.

SOCIAL ACTION - Diann Ohman reported that for Sock it to me September, the church will have collection bins for winter ready men' s crew socks for homeless men in the Detroit area from September 20-October 18.

FELLOWSHIP - Rose Bush reported that Fall Fest will be held at the church on October 18.

Council Meeting Minutes continued

PARISH ED & YOUTH MINISTRY - Claire Verman reported 22 youth and parents attended parents' night on September 16, and that confirmation class and youth group will be starting this week. The bell choir will practice from 6-6:25 PM on Wednesdays. The parents' Bible study will resume between services and has been renamed Adult Bible study to welcome all adults who are interested.

WORSHIP & MUSIC - Patty Foster reported that the organ work is nearly completed and it is projected to be ready for Reformation Sunday, with brass musicians planned to accompany it. The Board is also looking for new choir members.

ENDOWMENT - No report.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH - No report.

PASTOR'S REPORT - Pastor Sean Motley reported that Thursday morning Bible study has resumed, studying Martin Luther and Lutheran theology. A Men's Bible study will be starting, with participants committing to a 6 week session. Pastor Sean further shared that there have been 15 baptisms at First English this year. He also reported that the gym kitchen is projected to be finished by the end of October.

Old business - None presented.

New business - Sue Ulmer moved to change the next council meeting date to October 25 to avoid having a meeting during Fall Fest on October 18, 2nd by Melissa Zwicker and the motion carried.

John Nyquist moved to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Melissa Zwicker, and the meeting adjourned at 2:04 PM.

Meeting ended with all saying the Lord's Prayer.

Mark your calendars-Next council meeting is scheduled for October 25 at 12:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy McIntyre, Recording Secretary