

*First English Lutheran Church is  
a congregation of the*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

*“Sharing the Light of Christ”*

**STAFF AND CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Pastor: Reverend Mary E. Zupansic**

**[pastormaryzup@gmail.com](mailto:pastormaryzup@gmail.com)**

**Parish Administrator:**

**[parishadmin@firstenglishlutheranwausau.org](mailto:parishadmin@firstenglishlutheranwausau.org)**

Minister of Music: Daniel Larson

Pianist: Hal Osborn

Custodians: Shawn & Jenny Blaschka

Sunday School Superintendent: VerJean Detert

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**Church Council:**

**Officers:**

**President:** Cindy Hermel

**President-Elect:** Mike Vaningan

**Past President:** Sherry Larson

**Treasurer:** Marla Zumann

**Recording Secretary:** Karen Czechowicz

**Council Members:**

Carla Baumgardt

Russ Michalski

Jenny Blaschka

Kalynn Pempek

Angela Greenfield

Dina Santangelo

Neil Juedes

Lois Stasko

Michael Klapperich

Nicholas Schumacher (Youth Rep)

**Your comments, questions and concerns are  
important to us. Feel free to talk to any  
member of our staff or Church Council.**



**WITH A  
GRATEFUL  
HEART**

Dear Church,

As autumn leaves begin to fall and families prepare to gather around the table, Thanksgiving becomes a moment to pause, reflect, and celebrate all we have been given. While the holiday is famous for its feasts, football, and family traditions, its deeper meaning lies in the act of gratitude—a reminder to give thanks, especially to God, the source of every blessing.

Thanksgiving is an opportunity to recognize that the blessings we enjoy—our health, loved ones, daily bread, and peace—are gifts from a gracious Creator. The Bible is filled with calls to thankfulness. Psalm 100:4 encourages us, “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name”; The apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 to “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”; Whether in abundance or need, expressing gratitude to God draws us closer to God and helps us recognize God’s hand in our lives. Not every season feels bountiful. Some years, Thanksgiving arrives in the midst of loss, hardship, or uncertainty. Even then, gratitude is a powerful act of faith. Giving thanks to God acknowledges God’s presence in every circumstance and can bring comfort, hope, and renewed perspective when life feels overwhelming.

What are some ways that we can give thanks?

☐ Start each day with a prayer of gratitude.

☐ Share a meal with someone who may be alone this Thanksgiving.

☐ Write down three things you’re grateful for and reflect on them.

📌 Volunteer your time or resources to support local charities. Take time to thank God for both the big and small blessings in your life.

As we gather this Thanksgiving, let us remember that giving thanks to God is more than a tradition—it's a way of life. May gratitude fill our church, homes and hearts, shaping us into people who not only celebrate blessings, but also share them.

Happy Thanksgiving!  
Pastor Mary

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### Remembering the Saints Saints Who Have Gone Before Us

*Remember those who have entered eternal life since this time last year.*



Katherine Bittner + Jan. 30, 2025  
Natalie Streveler + May 23, 2025  
Joyce Pagel + June 11, 2025  
Carol Henke + June 16, 2025  
Beverly Magrecke + July 15, 2025  
Alan Sexter + Sept. 13, 2025  
William Wachholz + Sept. 19, 2025  
Arlan Erickson + Sept. 26, 2025  
Shirley Erickson + Sept. 26, 2025

### Saints Baptized into the Body of Christ

*Remember and pray for those who have been welcomed into the family of God since this time last year.*



Ace Lavalley Baneck + Feb. 9, 2025  
Emma Jo Gribowski + Feb. 16, 2025  
Cameron Oberbeck + Aug. 10, 2025

Let us Give thanks for such a great cloud of witnesses!

### First English Mission Statement

***Our mission is to grow in faith,  
serve our neighbors, and  
support one another.***



**8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
(closed for lunch: Noon – 1:00 p.m.)**

#### **Deadlines:**

Bulletin: Wednesday afternoon  
Lantern: 20<sup>th</sup> of each month

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### November Worship Schedule...

#### **November 2: *All Saints Sunday***

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

#### **November 9: *22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

#### **November 16: *23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost***

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

#### **November 23: *Christ the King Sunday***

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

#### **November 30: *First Sunday of Advent***

Worship at 9:00 a.m.

#### **Thursday Night Worship:**

November 6, 13, 20.  
in the sanctuary – 6:00 p.m.

**Note: there will be no worship on Thanksgiving Day, November 27.**

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## THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE



The Thanksgiving Eve worship service will be held at Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church on Wednesday, November 26, at 6:30 p.m.

The service will feature a combined bell choir anthem, as well as a combined choral anthem.

For those members of First English who wish to sing in the combined choir, you can attend rehearsals at Saint Andrews (Wednesday nights, 6:30-7:30 p.m. OR at Good Shepherd Lutheran (Wednesday nights, 7:00-8:00pm). Rehearsals will begin October 29 and run through November.

## COMMITTEE Night



To all members who serve on a committee: Mark your calendars as we begin a new season of ministry together.

Our next committee night will be Tuesday, November 4, 6:30 p.m. We'll gather in Fellowship Hall.



*Greenery Pick-Up*

## MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE FELC YOUTH

Wreath Pick up is just around the corner. Payments are due upon pickup. Friday November 14<sup>th</sup> – Call/Text Erin (715-297-7157) for pick up location between 4-5:30pm; Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> Before/After Church. As always thank you FELC Family for your support of our Youth and Mike and Joan Alters for the road trip up north to pick them all up!

## AFTER WORSHIP COFFEE HOURS

Check out the new sign-up sheet in the narthex if you would like to provide after-worship treats on Sundays. We extend our worship



experience by staying after worship to share some fellowship with each other, especially with a treat! You don't have to provide fancy treats are just fine, and there is always someone around to help with making coffee! Thanks!

## PARKING REMINDER

This is a reminder for parking on Cedar St. at the south end of our building.



Beginning November 1, there will be no parking on the north side of Cedar St. This is a City of Wausau ordinance. For our Tuesday morning activities, the parking lot door will be open from 8:00 a.m. – Noon. Thanks for your cooperation!

## Welcome to the TABLE!



A First Communion workshop is planned for Saturday, **November 1, 10 a.m. to 12noon.** Parents and their children/youth who

have not yet received preparation to receive Holy Communion are invited to a morning of learning. Pastor Mary will lead us through a series of activities and videos aimed at helping both parents and their children gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please call the church office to register. If you have questions, feel free to call or text Pastor Mary at 920-671-4338.

## THE MITTEN TREE

is up in the narthex to receive your gifts of scarves, mittens and hats for needy children and adults in the Wausau area. All sizes are needed: children's and adult



men/women. Simply bring them to the church and hang them on the tree. Donations will be distributed right after Thanksgiving. Thank you for your gifts!

## TREASURE SALE NEWS...

We have started collecting items for next year's Treasure Sale.

We are accepting clean clothes in good condition, housewares, collectibles, books, linens, DVDs, CDs, and more. If donating

linens, please mark them with what size they are. This is very helpful.

We will accept small appliances in working condition, and furniture.

Your donations can be brought downstairs in the hallway by the Sunday School rooms. There is a sign on the door.

Thank you so much for your donations!



## OUR CHRISTMAS SALE



will be **November 7 & 8, from 9am – 3pm, both days.** The sale will be held in Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to help, please contact Kathy Rohde or Cheri

Breneman.

## PARISH RECORDS...October 2025

**\* Funeral:** *"...in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God..."*

October 11: Arlan Erickson  
Shirley Erickson

## ADDRESS / PHONE NUMBER CHANGES



Here is a request...if you have an address change or a phone number change please let Deb know in the office so she can update our records. Thank you!

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

**on Sunday, November 2<sup>ND</sup>.**

Remember to set your clocks **BACK one hour** on Saturday night, Nov. 1. (otherwise you'll arrive for worship an hour early!)



## ELCA WOMEN

### Charity Circle...

will meet on **Tuesday, November 11, 9:00 a.m.** in the Bethany Room.



### Shalom Circle...

will meet on Thursday, **November 20, 6:45 p.m.** in the Fireside Room.

## The Season of Advent

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 30! Join us each week in worship as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ with hope, peace, joy and love.



## **LET US REMEMBER...**

those in our congregation who are confined to their homes or are in nursing home or assisted living facilities due to illness, rehab/therapy, or are just unable to attend worship or fellowship activities. They would love and appreciate hearing from their church family with a card, visit, note or phone call.

### **Cady Home**

**1805 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Wausau WI 54401**

- Michelle Detert Room 4

### **Crossroads Care Center**

**717 E. Alfred St., Weyauwega, WI 54983**

- Rick Petzke

### **Mountain Terrace Senior Living**

**3402 Terrace Ct. Wausau WI 54401**

- Diane Zuelke Room 133

### **Primrose Retirement Community**

**2100 Townline Rd. Wausau WI 54403**

- Kathie Peterson Room 228

### **Rennes Health and Rehab**

**4810 Barbican Ave. Weston WI 54476**

- Joyce Utecht Room 606-2

### **Sylvan Crossings on Evergreen**

**1605 Evergreen Rd., Wausau WI 54403**

- Dolores Hintz Room 13

### **Wood Aven Living Community**

**1821 N.4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Wausau 54401**

- Gary Klingbeil Room 110

## **AT HOME...**

- **Ila Bartelt** 4602 Barbican Ave. #206  
Weston 54476

### **- Geraldine Hopperdietzel**

2505 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Wausau 54401

### **- Delphine Saeger** 151700 Fern Ln.

Wausau 54401 715-298-3210

### **- Eleanor Thorpe** 2901 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St. Apt. W102

Wausau 54403 715-298-1865

## **WELCOMING OUR VISITORS**

You may have seen the neon green "Welcome Thank You for Visiting Cards" in the pews at First English. And you've probably heard Pastor Mary welcome visitors at the beginning of our worship services, asking that they fill out the neon green Visitor Card and give it to an usher or greeter. It's also printed in

the Welcome section of our bulletin each week.

But did you know that

when people fill out

this card, that's how we

know someone is visiting so that we can give

them a special gift to welcome them to First

English and share God's love.



These gifts in neon green gift bags are located on top of the white shelf in the narthex, and there are some in the closet in the room at the back of the narthex, too. Each gift contains a card made by our own member, Gary Pagel, which some of our youth have signed, along with a pocket cross and prayer, a brochure about First English, the most recent copy of The Lantern, and a few pieces of chocolate. We hope our visitors leave feeling God's love and our fellowship.

If you have any questions or feedback to share, please talk with Cindy Hermel, Pastor Mary Zupansic, Kalynn Pempek, Liz Oestreich, or Dina Santangelo. Thank you for your help to welcome our visitors with open arms.

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## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Worship Assistants - Ushers  
Communion Set-up / Assistants  
Communionware Washers**

**To all worship servants:** if you are unable to serve on the Sunday you are scheduled, please try to switch with someone or find a sub and give Deb a call in the office of the change.

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**

November 2: Pat Seivert  
November 9: Lynne Santangelo  
November 16: Nicholas Schumacher  
November 23: Connie Vaningan  
November 30: Pat Seivert

December 7: Lynne Santangelo  
December 14: Nicholas Schumacher  
December 21: Connie Vaningan  
December 24: Pat Seivert  
December 24: Lynne Santangelo  
December 25: Connie Vaningan  
December 28: Pat Seivert

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### **ALTAR GUILD:**

November: Deb Kluetz  
December: Sue Juedes

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### **ACOLYTES:**

November 2: Kynslei Koehler-Dahlquist  
November 9: Kaedyn Hadley  
November 16: Brooklynn Detert  
November 23: Annabelle Oestreich  
November 30: Kynslei Koehler-Dahlquist

December 7: Kaedyn Hadley  
December 14: Brooklynn Detert  
December 21: Annabelle Oestreich  
December 28: Kynslei Koehler-Dahlquist

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### **LECTORS:**

November 2: Bobbie Levine  
November 9: Russ Michalski  
November 16: Karen Otto  
November 23: Kalynn Pempek  
November 30: Ella Radke

### **Lectors:**

December 7: Lynne Santangelo  
December 14: Matt Schumitsch  
December 21: Pat Seivert  
December 24: Connie Vaningan  
December 24: Lette Becker  
December 25: Karen Briggs  
December 28: Sheri Fochs

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### **LECTORS: (Thursday Evening Worship)**

November 6: Cheri Breneman  
November 13: Bobbie Levine  
November 20: Barry Levine  
November 27: **No Evening Worship**

December 4: Bobbie  
December 11: Barry  
December 18: Maralee  
December 25: **No Evening Worship**

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### **GREETERS:**

November 2: Lynne Santangelo / Lois Stasko  
November 9: Gene & Lynn Schulz  
November 16: Matt & Dawn Schumitsch  
November 23: Mike & Connie Vaningan  
November 30: Amy Abitz, Eli Akey, Steve Wendorf

December 7: Linda Kittel / Sharon Hunter  
December 14: Dilynn Koehler / Deb Kufahl  
December 21: VerJean Detert  
December 24: Lonnie & LeAnn Lewis  
December 24: Ben & Mia Lodahl  
December 25: John & Karen Otto  
December 28: Erin & Spencer Radke

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### **COMMUNION SET-UP:**

November 2: Deb Kluetz  
November 9: Dawn Kramer  
November 16: Marla Zumann  
November 23: VerJean Detert  
November 30: Deb Kluetz

December 7: Dawn Kramer  
December 14: Marla Zumann  
December 21: VerJean Detert  
December 24: Deb Kluetz  
December 24: Dawn Kramer  
December 25: Marla Zumann  
December 28: VerJean Detert

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#### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**

November 2: Lette Becker  
November 9: Sharon Hunter  
November 16: Joan Heahlke  
November 23: Dawn Kramer  
November 30: Deb Kufahl  
  
December 7: Scott Kufahl  
December 14: Sharon Hunter  
December 21: Lynn Schulz  
December 24: Emma Schumitsch  
December 24: Sherri Bagby  
December 25: Jenny Blaschka  
December 28: Lette Becker

#### **COMMUNIONWARE WASHERS:**

November 2: Deb Kluetz / Dawn Kramer  
November 9: Bob & Pat Seivert  
November 16: Lynne Santangelo  
November 23: Neil & Sue Juedes  
November 30: Lonnie & LeAnn Lewis  
  
December 7: Neil & Sue Juedes  
December 14: Lonnie & LeAnn Lewis  
December 21: Deb Kluetz / Dawn Kramer  
December 24: Bob & Pat Seivert  
December 24: Lynne Santangelo  
December 25: Neil & Sue Juedes  
December 28: Lonnie & LeAnn Lewis

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#### **USHERS:**

November 2: Mike & Connie Vaningan / Sharon Hunter  
November 9: Scott & Deb Kufahl / Steve Wendorf  
November 16: Earl Zabel / Bob Lampe / Duane chapman  
November 23: Neil & Sue Juedes / Jenny Blaschka  
November 30: Gene & Lynn Schulz / Deb Kluetz

December 7: M & L Heyne / Matt Schumitsch  
December 14: M & C Vaningan / Sharon Hunter  
December 21: S & D Kufahl / Steve Wendorf  
December 24: E Zabel / B Lampe / D Chapman  
December 24: N & S Juedes / Jenny Blaschka  
December 25: G & L Schulz / Deb Kluetz  
December 28: M & L Heyne / Matt Schumitsch

**Subs:** Shawn & Jenny Blaschka, Lorraine Brokaw, Matt & Lori Heyne, Sharon Hunter, Sue & Neil Juedes, Deb Kluetz, Deb Kufahl, Mike Vaningan, Earl Zabel

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### **FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, SEPT. 15, 2025, 6:00 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Jenny Blaschka, Karen Czechowicz, Angela Greenfield, Cindy Hermel, Neil Juedes, Michael Klapperich, Sherry Larson, Russ Michalski, Dina Santangelo, Mike Vaningan, Marla Zumann, Pastor Mary Zupansic, Scott Kufahl (guest)

**Members Absent:** Carla Baumgardt, Kalynn Pempek, Nicholas Schumacher, Lois Stasko

Cindy Hermel led the opening devotions.

#### **Reports:**

**August Meeting Minutes:** The August Council minutes were reviewed. Jenny Blaschka moved, and Neil Juedes seconded a motion to approve the August minutes. Motion passed.

**Financial Reports:** July and August Financial Reports were e-mailed. Mike Vaningan moved and Jenny Blaschka seconded a motion to accept the financial reports. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Pastor's Report:** Pastor Mary Zupansic provided a written pastor's report. She led and preached for Rally Day Sunday and prepared backpack blessing tags. Met with Dan Larson to review plans for worship services through Reformation Sunday. Thank you to Pat Severt, Pastors Tryphine and Barry Schrubba for leading services while recovering from a broken arm and surgery. In the process of setting up a meeting with our sacramental visitors to review the ministry and consider how to expand/enhance it. Working on a Saturday morning workshop for children and parents in preparation for First Communion. Prepared the Stewardship letter, estimate of giving card, and weekly plan, which will be emphasized in October. Need some volunteers to help with a pet blessing.
- **Parish Ed** – Discussed blessings in a backpack. New Teachers for 3-year olds, 4-year olds, second grade & fourth grade will be Gracin Dittmar and Mia Lodahl. Five-year olds through fifth grade teachers are Jenny Blaschka and Dilynn Koehler. Confirmation will consist of three rotating teachers who will be Pastor Mary Zupansic, Amy Abitz, and Nina Dittmar. Will announce a Mission Sunday school supplies collection. Signs will be made and posted on Sunday school classroom doors. The Christmas program will be December 14, 2025 and will include a puppet production. Rally Sunday will use toolbox for faith.org.
- **Worship & Music** – Working on four themed services that will include an activity. Planning should be completed by the end of September and should incorporate time and talent collection.
- **Stewardship** – There will be changes to Stewardship forms for this year. Pastor Mary

will finalize the cover letter sent with stewardship materials.

- **Church & Society** – Topics Discussed: To discuss God's Work Our Hands homes project with other local ELCA churches on September 14, 2025. FELC will provide fruit trays, coleslaw and coolers. Jim Kraft requested and received a \$250.00 Thrivent grant for this project. The Labor Day parade route changed, which resulted in no outreach. Will continue to look for additional outreach opportunities. Habitat Women Build participants were Dina Santangelo and Lynne Santangelo. Information on Habitat for Humanity volunteer opportunities will be printed in the bulletin. Discussed fall forum Wired Word. Discussed the possibility for a kids' table at the Christmas Treasure Sale with small gifts i.e., stickers, coloring books etc. Will have a guest speaker in October. Jenny Blaschka asked if there's a way to find out if there's any interest in doing activities with other congregations' youth.
- **Property** – Fans in the church are not mechanically sound and need to be replaced. Mike Vaningan got a quote from Cunico Electric to replace all six fans for \$3,400. Also got a quote for replacing and adding more downspouts on the church from B&R Seamless Gutters for a little less than \$1,500. Window wells covers are needed and they need to be customized because of the size. Looking at replacing the two doors near the Fireside room and the front Cedar Street side door with automatic closers that automatically lock. In the process of getting a quote. Outside spigots need to be fixed or replaced. Will look into replacing all the phones so that we have the ability to transfer calls. The lighting at the altar needs to be replaced because the lighting is too yellow for recording. Will also have someone look at our recess lights and see how that can be improved along with several other small lighting update. Jenny Blaschka requested we purchase a wide-spread commercial vacuum cleaner. Jenny will get some quotes.

She also mentioned that we need to get the carpet cleaned. Expenditures will be calculated and approved at the next Council meeting.

- **Youth** – There's a possibility of a Youth gathering at the end of October. Sunday school is going well.
- **Wage & Policy** – Nothing to report.
- **Fair Stand** – On October 13, the committee will meet to finalize total profits and discuss how the money will be allocated. Bills are still being paid but when finalized, a report will be given to the Council.
- **Treasure Sale** – Mini-Christmas sale will take place in November.

#### **Old Business:**

- **First English T Shirts** – Tabled due to time constraints.
- **Retain Current & Attract New Members Goal Data Update** – The group finalized gift packages for guests. They wanted to make sure they communicated to users and greeter on how to recognize new visitors to give gifts to. The other goal is to retain current members by developing fellowship and commodity. In the next meeting, they will review the list the Council came up with to see if ideas can be incorporated.
- **Cancellation Notification Procedure** – Cindy Hermel has the contact information for Channel 7. We have a dial-in number and password for us to communicate cancellations through television scrolls. Channel 9 has not answered back. Other ideas were to create an e-mail blast that could be sent as a group e-mail about closures along with posting on Facebook. Would also like to add a text blast but more information is need on how that works incorporating our Realm system.
- **Realm Conference Update** – Sharon Hunter and Cindy Hermel are registered for the conference. The sessions are tailored for what FELC needs and should be very beneficial to our congregation.

#### **New Business:**

- **Thanksgiving Service** – Musical directors usually worked out partnering of services.
- **I-pads for visually impaired** - A couple of people have given a gift for purchase of a new iPad.
- **Smart TV: Confirmation Curriculum** – A smart TV has been added in the youth room for on-line lessons.
- **Bulletin Prayer Lists** – Pastor Zupansic has been approached about the prayer list. The consideration is to just print prayer lists in the Lantern and not the bulletins to condense the size. Need to limit the time individual are on the prayer list and extended only on request. Suggested just have new prayer concerns for the week when a call comes into the office.
- **Endowment Disbursement:** Endowment distribution recommendations were reported for the 2nd Quarter of 2025. The Endowment Committee recommended the second quarter distribution of \$9,409.75 to be distributed as follows: 10% reinvested (\$940.98) and 30% education option (\$2,168.77). The Benevolence Disbursements of \$6,300.00 as follows: ELCA Synod (\$1,000.00); ELCA World Hunger (\$500.00); Lutheran Social Services (\$400.00); Crossway Camp (\$400.00); ELCA Missionary (\$800.00); Lutheran Disaster Response (\$300.00); Greater Wausau Christian Services (\$250.00); Homme Home Foundation (\$250.00); and NAOMI (\$200.00); Miscellaneous (\$2,200.00). Mike Vaningan moved and Jenny Blaschka seconded a motion to accept the endowment distribution as presented. Motion passed.
- Immanuel Lutheran Church sent FELC a check for \$5,000 upon the closing of their congregation on September 10, 2025. A very nice letter accompanied the check crediting the generosity of giving from their member. Immanuel also offered a lot of choir music that Dan Larson will look into. The money will be held for future use.

- Amy Abitz asked if she could borrow the long tables and a couple Nesco roasters for an event for her son on Oct. 1. Council approved.

**Next Meeting Date:** Monday, October 20, 2025

A motion to adjourn was made by Sherry Larson and seconded by Jenny Blaschka. Meeting adjourned.

Closing devotions by Russ Michalski

Karen Czechowicz, Recording Secretary

## Why Advent?

Waiting can be hard, and not just for children. But I do love Advent: this four-week time when the Christian church prepares for Christmas. Maybe I like Advent so much because it involves active waiting, not thumb-twiddling. It is a gift the church offers the world, to be active (which isn't the same as busy) in ways that open our hearts — and the hearts we touch — to the true meaning of Christmas.



Mother Teresa said, “At this Christmas when Christ comes, will he find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God’s own love and concern.” When I take time during Advent to remember in prayer and with gifts of money and time those who have less food than I do, those who are lonely, those without a home; when I pause to share love with a child or an elder, or gratitude for a healthcare worker, pastor or teacher; when I wait for justice to replace oppression but, while I wait, find ways to work for that result ... the Spirit’s warmth fills my waiting heart. I am ready to welcome Jesus. —Heidi Mann

**The First Sunday of Advent is  
November 30, 2025.**

## Advent Devotional Books

will be available in the church office and in the storage container on the north end of the building. Look for them a couple of weeks before Advent begins.

# Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle.  
Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks  
below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.

### WORDS:

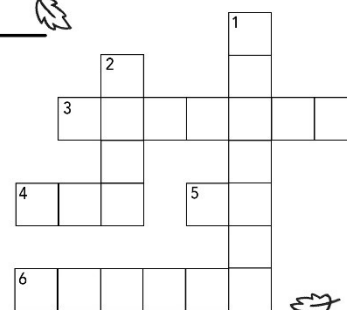
GOD, BLESSES, HARVEST,  
YIELDS, US, LAND

### ACROSS

3. Rhymes with farthest.
4. Rhymes with nod.
5. Rhymes with thus.
6. Rhymes with fields.

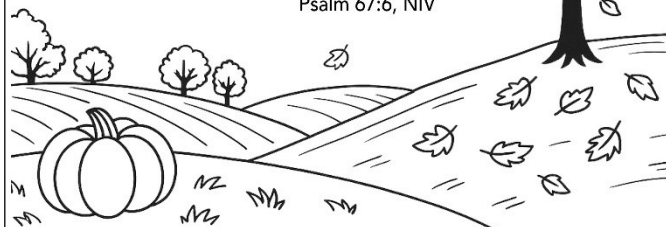
### DOWN

1. Rhymes with messes.
2. Rhymes with hand.



The \_\_\_\_\_  
its \_\_\_\_\_;  
our God, \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalm 67:6, NIV



Answer: The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. Psalm 67:6, NIV