

## *The Lantern - May 2025*

### *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**

**Parish Administrator: Debra Kluetz**

**Email: [Debra@firstenglishwausau.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:Debra@firstenglishwausau.onmicrosoft.com)**

**Pastor Mary Zupansic**

**Minister of Music: Dan 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

Jenny Blaschka

Angela Greenfield

Neil Juedes

Michael Klapperich

Nicholas Schumacher (Youth Rep)

Russ Michalski

Kalynn Pempek

Dina Santangelo

Lois Stasko

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

## **The Many Rays of Hope...**

The Easter season is a time of hope. There still is fear, there still is a painful awareness of sinfulness, but there also is light breaking through. Something new is happening, something that goes beyond the changing moods of our life. We can be joyful or sad, optimistic or pessimistic, tranquil or angry, but the solid stream of God's presence moves deeper than the small waves of our minds and hearts. Easter brings the awareness that God is present even when his presence is not directly noticed.

Easter brings the good news that, although things seem to get worse in the world, the Evil One has already been overcome.

Easter allows us to affirm that although God seems very distant and although we remain preoccupied with many little things, our Lord walks with us on the road and keeps explaining the Scriptures to us.

Thus there are many rays of hope casting their light on our way through life.

*"As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him." - Luke 24: 15, 16 (NIV)*

-- Henri Nouwen

## **Christ Is Risen!**

CHRIST  
IS RISEN  
INDEED *Alleluia*

*"Let everything that has breath  
praise the Lord."*

**Psalms 150:6**

## First English Mission Statement

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



...to these volunteers for taking good care of our building, inside and out!

## May Worship Schedule...

**May 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Worship at 9:00 a.m.  
Pastor Mary's first Sunday at First English

**May 11: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Worship at 9:00 a.m.  
Youth Service

**May 18: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Worship at 9:00 a.m.

**May 25: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
Worship at 9:00 a.m.

### Thursday Night Worship:

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
in the sanctuary – 6:00 p.m.

## A Special COMMITTEE Night



**Tuesday, May 13**

Please note the date change.

We will welcome Pastor Mary to First English Committee Night. We'll begin at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall as usual and have a treat along with a bit of fun.

Then we will adjourn to our individual meetings and Pastor Mary will visit each committee.

If you are a committee chairperson, be prepared to briefly share a bit about what your committee has done in the past and any new goals for the future. See you there!

### Snow Shoveling:

To Mike Vaningan, Neil Juedes, Brent Teske, Scott Kufahl and any others who picked up a shovel or spread salt to keep our church sidewalks and entrances clear and safe of snow. Thank you, Shawn and Jenny Blaschka, for the extra time and effort to keep that salt out of the church and off the carpet. You each make a difference! ☺

### New Garbage Disposal in the church kitchen:

Thank you to the Comfort Guild for covering the cost of our new garbage disposal. Thank you to Jenny Blaschka for product research and purchase assistance. Thank you to Mike Vaningan, Neil Juedes and Scott Kufahl for the installation. Thank you to Wayne Schalow for safely disposing of the old unit.

### Chandelier Cleaning:

The chandeliers in the church and Fireside Room are sparkling again thank to these glass cleaners and ladder climbers...

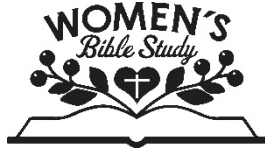
- Gary and Karen Czechowicz
- Neil & Sue Juedes
- Sherri Bagby
- Virgil Voigt
- Tom Daley
- Scott Kufahl

*Trust in the Lord with all your  
heart and lean not on your  
own understanding;*

**Proverbs 3:5**

### **Charity Circle**

will meet on Tuesday,  
May 13, at 9:00 a.m. in  
the Bethany Room.



### **Shalom Circle**

will meet on Thursday, May 15, at 6:45 p.m. in  
the Fireside Room.

All women who would enjoy a monthly  
opportunity for Bible study, fellowship and  
service opportunities are invited to join us!



The last day of Sunday  
School for the 2024-2025  
session is Sunday, May 18.  
A heartfelt thank you to all  
teachers, helpers, parents  
and students for your loving  
diligence each Sunday.

We will see you when classes  
resume in September. Have a wonderful summer!

**Members: everyone is invited to our Ice  
Cream Social in Fellowship Hall on May  
18<sup>th</sup>!**

### **Summer Church Office Hours...**

**Beginning Tuesday, May 27  
Monday – Friday**

**8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

(closed for lunch: Noon – 1:00 p.m.)



### **Deadlines:**

Bulletin: Wednesday afternoon

Lantern: 20<sup>th</sup> of each month

### **ACH Givers...**

"Special" envelope packets for May and June are  
in the narthex and church office. Included in the

packet are *Food Pantry, First English  
Anniversary, Building /Elevator Repair, and  
ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response.*

### **Personal Care Kits...**

It's that time of year again and I'm looking for  
donations of **Dark Colored Bath Towels** for my  
project of assembling Personal Care Kits for  
Lutheran World Relief. The best deal for the  
Mainstay Bath Towels from Walmart priced at  
\$2.94, and they are the required light/medium  
weight. (Towels must be at least 20"x40" and no  
larger than 52"x27" max). I will be collecting  
until mid-August.

Thank you for your help with this project!

-- Lori Heyne

### **Flower Chart for 2025...**

The Flower Chart is back! If you would like to  
place flowers on the altar for a special occasion  
or in memory of a loved  
one, you will find the chart  
on the bulletin board in the  
narthex coat room.



You may go to the florist of your choice and  
either bring them to the church or have them  
delivered on the Friday before the Sunday you  
are providing them. After worship you may take  
your flowers home.

### **After Worship Coffee Hours...**

Check out the new sign-up sheet in the narthex  
if you would like to provide treats and a  
beverage for worshippers  
after the service 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. Simple bars or cookies are  
just fine, and there is always someone around to  
help with making coffee! Thanks!



## Spring Highway Clean-up...

On Saturday, May 10 we will clean our portion of Highway K. We will meet at the Decator Drive and K intersection at 8:00 a.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for your name and phone number. For more information, contact Matt Schumitsch at 715-573-3485.



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## Treasure Sale News...

The 2025 Sale will be here before we know. It's coming up fast.

We are collecting donations downstairs. Use the elevator to the basement then to the Treasure Sale room

*(passed the kitchen and down the hallway, the first door on the right. There is a sign on the door.)*

If you are donating bed linens, please indicate what size they are.



If you have furniture or larger items to donate, you may bring them at any time. These items may be brought upstairs. If you need assistance with your items, let Deb know in advance. We'll have some help for you bring it in. **We are NOT accepting these items: sharp knives, electronics, highchairs, infant car seats, mattresses.**

**Dates for the 2025 Treasure Sale:  
June 12-14!! Mark your calendars!**

**The ABSOLUTE DEADLINE for bringing  
Treasure Sale donations is...**

**May 23, 2025!**

**No donations will be taken after that date.**

## East Central Synod of Wisconsin Synod Assembly...

will be held on **Saturday, June 7, 2025** at Calvary Lutheran Church in Green Bay from **8am-6pm.**

First English may send 2 delegates to the Assembly.

If you would like to represent First English, please let Deb know ASAP. Registration ends April 15.

Registration for the Assembly will be paid for you.

Those who have attended in the past say it is a wonderful experience! Call Deb in the office if you are interested. We have one person who would like to attend but needs a ride. Please give it some prayerful thought.

## Do you have a Green Thumb... and enjoy gardening?

Now that the warmer weather has returned, we will need volunteers to plant and tend to our outdoor flowers and landscape, also mowing our lawn and trimming our shrubs. We're looking at beginning in May. If you would be interested, there is a sign-up sheet on the narthex.



## Attention, 2025 Graduates...

We want to publish in the June issue of the Lantern the names of our 2025 graduates from area high schools, plus any college grads of our First English family.



Parents, if your son/daughter is one of these honored individuals, please let us know. Or adult members: if you are a graduate of higher learning, we would like to know that, too!

Contact Deb in the office by phone or email at

**[Debra@firstenglishwausau.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:Debra@firstenglishwausau.onmicrosoft.com)**

Give us your name, high school/college/technical school, your degree, and future plans. Thanks!

- Dolores Hintz Room 13

- Ila Barttelt 4602 Barbican Ave. #206  
Weston 54476

- Carol Henke 3001 Westhill Dr. #213  
Wausau 54403 715-845-9266

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

- Rick Petzke 118 S. 2<sup>nd</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



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### 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.



### Benedictine Living Community

1821 N.4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Wausau 54401  
- Gary Klingbeil Room 110

### Cady Home

1805 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Wausau WI 54401  
- Michelle Detert Room 4

### 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

### Worship Servants...

**Acolytes – Greeters – Lectors –  
Worship Assistants - Ushers  
Communion Set-up / Servers  
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. Thanks!

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

May 4:	Reese Aarthun
May 11:	Youth Service
May 18:	Lynne Santangelo
May 25:	Pat Seivert
June 1:	Connie Vaningan
June 8:	Reese Aarthun
June 15:	Pat Seivert
June 22:	Lynne Santangelo
June 29:	Bobbie Levine

### ACOLYTES:

May 4:	Kaedyn
May 11:	Mabel

May 18: Kynslei  
May 25: Volunteer

June 1: Kynslei  
June 8: Kaedyn  
June 15: Brooklyn  
June 22: Kynslei  
June 29: Kaedyn

#### LECTORS:

May 4: Reese Aarthun  
May 11: Lette Becker  
May 18: Sheri Fochs  
May 25: Karen Briggs

June 1: Addie Fochs  
June 8: Sharon Hunter  
June 15: Sue Juedes  
June 22: Dawn Kramer  
June 29: Barry Levine

#### LECTORS: (Thursday Evening Worship)

May 1: Barry Levine  
May 8: Bobbie Levine  
May 15: Maralee Moellendorf  
May 22: Cheri Breneman  
May 29: Barry Levine

June 5: Bobbie Levine  
June 12: Barry Levine  
June 19: Maralee Moellendorf  
June 26: Cheri Breneman

#### ALTAR GUILD:

May: VerJean Detert  
June: Marla Zumann

#### GREETERS:

May 4: Amy Abitz, Eli Akey, Steve Wendorf  
May 11: Youth Service  
May 18: Dilynn Koehler / Deb Kufahl  
May 25: Lowanne Brokaw / VerJean Detert

June 1: Mike & Connie Vaningan  
June 8: Ben & Mia Lodahl  
June 15: John & Karen Otto

June 22: Erin and Spencer Radke  
June 29: Lynne Santangelo / Lois Stasko

#### COMMUNION SET-UP:

May 4: Marla Zumann  
May 11: VerJean Detert  
May 18: Deb Kluetz  
May 25: Dawn Kramer

June 1: Marla Zumann  
June 8: VerJean Detert  
June 15: Deb Kluetz  
June 22: Dawn Kramer  
June 29: Marla Zuman

#### COMMUNION SERVERS:

May 4: Joan Heahlke / Dawn Kramer  
May 11: Youth Service  
May 18: Emma Schumitsch / Pat Seivert  
May 25: Sherri Bagby / Sharon Hunter  
June 1: Scott & Deb Kufahl  
June 8: Gene & Lynn Schulz  
June 15: Lynne Santangelo /  
Connie Vaningan  
June 22: Dawn Kramer / Joan Heahlke  
June 29: Lette Becker / Jenny Blaschka

#### COMMUNIONWARE WASHERS:

May 4: Neil & Sue Juedes  
May 11: LeAnn & Lonnie Lewis  
May 18: Deb Kluetz / Dawn Kramer  
May 25: Bob & Pat Seivert

June 1: Lynne Santangelo  
June 8: Neil & Sue Juedes  
June 15: Deb Kluetz / Dawn Kramer  
June 22: Bob & Pat Seivert  
June 29: Deb Kluetz

#### USHERS:

May 4: Gene & Lynn Schulz / Deb Kluetz  
Lowanne Brokaw  
May 11: Lori & Matt Heyne / Matt Schumitsch  
May 18: Mike & Connie Vaningan /

Sharon Hunter

May 25: Scott & Deb Kufahl /  
Steve Wendorf

June 1: Earl Zabel / Duane Chapman /  
Bob Lampe

June 8: Sue & Neil Juedes / Jenny Blaschka

June 15: Gene & Lynn Schulz / Deb Kluetz /  
Lowanne Brokaw

June 22: Lori & Matt Heyne /  
Matt Schumitsch

June 29: Mike & Connie Vaningan /  
Sharon Hunter

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

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## An Easter Message

**Mary anointed Jesus' feet with pure nard, this incredibly costly, precious substance. Then she dried his feet with her hair.**

In the Gospel story of the last Sunday in Lent, we hear about Jesus visiting with his dear friends, Martha, Mary and Lazarus. This happened just after Jesus has raised Lazarus from the dead. And Mary was anointing Jesus' feet with pure nard, this incredibly costly, precious substance. And then she dried his feet with her hair. Nard is a very powerful, pungent substance, and the Gospel says the room was filled with the fragrance.

Now I did a little research on nard, and some people would describe the smell as being pungent or earthy, or musty, or musky or like feet. So it was an interesting choice that people had in those days. And they did two things with nard. One, they would use nard to anoint the bodies of the dead in order to offset the stench of death, which Jesus had only encountered with his friend Lazarus a few days before. And it was also used for kings as a sign of royalty because of the luxury of this whole thing.

Well, Jesus was himself, like us, like the first Adam, an earth creature – pungent and full of life, dense in this sense. And this earth creature was obedient to death, reversing the work of the first Adam, who disobeyed and brought sin into the world, And we suffered the consequences. The chief consequence is death, separation from God.

And now Jesus, the new Adam, the new earth creature, he anointed, he says to Mary, for his burial and so that he will be using incredibly pungent substance. But instead of it being oil put on him to remove the stench of death, it became the anointing of a royal king. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the usual cycle of life and death has been disrupted forever. Jesus' death and resurrection promises new life and brings us new life.

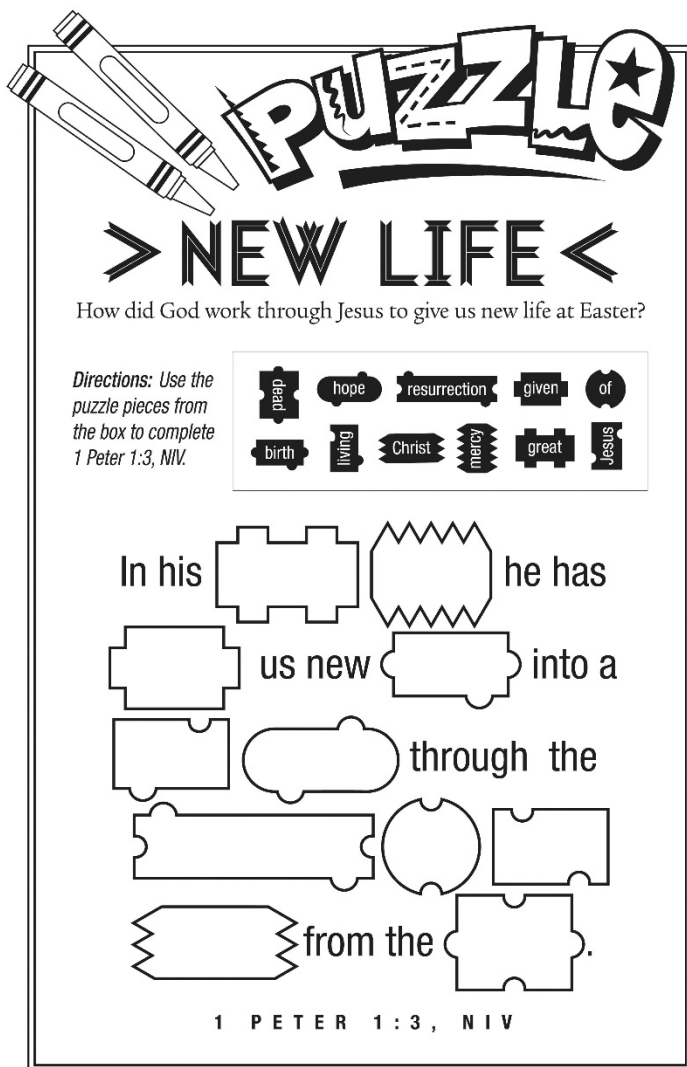
Happy Easter, dear church.

Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
**Christian Symbol...**

### Butterfly

The butterfly symbolizes resurrection, Easter and the new life we have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a chrysalis, so Jesus' dead body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ's resurrection — and ours.





Answer: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3, NIV

*"Veterans are a symbol of what makes our nation great, and we must never forget all they have done to ensure our freedom."*

-- Rodney Frelinghuysen

And to our First English veterans, and ALL veterans...thank you for your service! to our country!

## The Ascension...

Many Christian churches will celebrate Ascension Day on (or near) May 21, which is 40 days after Easter. Theologian Friedemann Hebart explained Christ's Ascension this way:

"When Jesus' work on Earth was done, he took leave of his disciples and went to be with his Father. A time for sad farewells, one might think. Yet the church celebrates the Ascension with special joy. What is the reason for joy when Jesus leaves his people?

"The Ascension is not the end of Jesus' work, but a new beginning! How could Jesus ever leave us alone? Because he has gone to be Lord of the universe, he can continue his work of life and love — among us, too. His work was not just a short episode in Galilee. In the person of the Holy Spirit, the same Lord is present among us, still revealing the Father's loving heart, so that we, too, can believe — and sing songs of joy."

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All gave some...  
Some gave all.  
Remember them this  
Memorial Day.

*"The willingness of America's veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our lasting gratitude."*

-- Jeff Miller



Happy  
Mother's  
Day

*"A mother is a person who seeing only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie."*

- Temera Jordan

*Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever.* — Unknown

Mom,



For all your *love* and *kindness*,  
For all your *tender care*,  
For all the *joy* that it has brought,  
Just knowing you were there,  
For all of this and so much more,  
A card for you should bring,  
A *wish* for every *happiness*,  
A *thanks* for *everything*!

Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers,  
grandmothers, and those special  
women in our lives!

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