

# THE ENGLISH STEW

Monthly Newsletter of the  
FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## AUGUST 2024

## VOLUME 8D

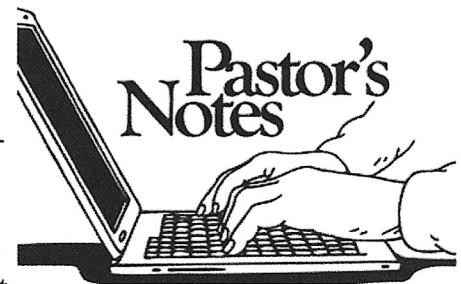
“He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” -Ephesians 4:11

I've always loved this verse from Ephesians, and in fact the entirety of chapter 4, as Saint Paul wrote about the unity we find through Christ and His Church. But in particular, this oft-quoted verse speaks volumes about the nature of the Church. Some are apostles. Some are prophets. Some are evangelists. Some are pastors. Some are teachers. I think two things are important

here. First, that “some” fill each of these roles. Some implies that there are multiple people for each role, as opposed to one person as “the prophet” or “the pastor.” And second, that the roles are distinct, and there is an implication that different folks will fill different roles. No one can do everything. In other words, some might be evangelists, but not prophets. Some might be teachers, but not pastors. Paul's words leave open the possibility of someone filling multiple roles, but most of us will find ourselves really good at one or two of these things, and need the rest of the community to pick up the other roles that we might not be cut out for. Together we can build up the body of Christ in a way that wouldn't be possible if we were on our own.

Using these two ideas, we could expand and adapt Paul's construct to include many of the roles that exist in our modern congregations. Some are singers, some are council members, some are acolytes, some are Sunday School teachers. Just as in Paul's letter, it takes “some” to do all of these things and none of us can do everything.

As I begin paternity leave, I am grateful that this is the Church that Jesus Christ set up. I can be at home attending to our daughter Lydia throughout the week knowing that the work of the Holy Spirit continues through you, the people of God. I am especially grateful for our Council Presidents, Jaime and Sharon, to the other staff members Marsha, Delores, and Kevin, and to Pastor Ken, each of whom will be picking up some tasks for me so that the good things that our (continued on page 3)



**NEWS FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT-** Hello First English Family,

I hope your summer is going well, it certainly seems to be going fast. Things have not been slowing down this summer in our church community as the Spirit is continually giving us opportunities to live out our faith.

As you will read later in the STEW we had another successful Rummage Sale. New this year, we offered an opportunity to the Riley High School wrestling teams to help with the setup and bringing out the donations we had collected to that point. The entire team showed up to help for which we were very grateful giving us another opportunity to support our local youth and ease our burden of setting up.



Your council has been very busy this summer as well, making prudent decisions while always seeking the Spirit's guidance with the opportunities we are presented. During our monthly meetings we are studying a publication that was shared with us during the E-Connect journey titled "We Will No Longer be a Welcoming Church". This is a very thought provoking, conversation starter article and at our July meeting we explored one section which involves the option of articulating exactly what we like about our church. Many of the council comments included words like "Community, Friendliness, Great worship space, Every person is involved" to name just a few. In the near future we are going to be having conversations with the congregation giving each of us the opportunity to "say it out loud", making our reasons for being part of the congregation known to as many as possible, so be looking for this in the near future.

Speaking of opportunities, our IK Synod has offered our church a 2nd opportunity to apply for another \$2500 grant to be used in reaching out to our community. The application will be sent in this week; depending on the decision this is an event that will take place sometime next summer. Such exciting times for us.

Yes, excitement is a very good word to describe our congregation which is demonstrated in a very dynamic way during Fellowship time each Sunday morning after worship. The conversations and care for each other is a great way to spend time together lifting each other up. Thank you each of you for what you bring to First English.

Blessings,

Sharon Engstrom, Council President.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR AUGUST -**



*Worship Assistants*

**Assisting Minister**

Lynn Hixenbaugh

**Lector**

4—Sharon Engstrom  
11—Celia Walls  
18—Eric Petersen  
25—Barbara Dietz

**Acolyte**

4—Judy Nickerson  
11—Eric Petersen  
18—Charlotte Walls  
25—Judy Nickerson

**Ushers**

John Harringer  
Leo Lambert

**Fellowship Hostess**

4—Audra Hershberger  
11—Celia Wals  
18—Barbara Dietz  
25—Kathy Coleman

**Counters**

4—Lynn Whittaker, Mark Kobold  
11—Eric Petersen, Sharon Engstrom  
18—Sharon Engstrom, Jean Whetstone  
25—Barb Finley, Jill Schultz

**Altar Duty**

4—Barbara Dietz  
11, 18, 25—Eric Petersen  
**Communion Bread**  
Jean Whetstone

**Gratitude Corner**

4—Eric Petersen  
11—Sharon Engstrom  
18—Jill Schultz  
25—Mark Kobold

**AUGUST BIBLE READINGS:**

**August 4—Pentecost 11**

Exodus 16.2-4, 9-15  
Psalm 78.23-29  
Ephesians 4.1-16  
John 6.24-35

**August 11—Pentecost 12**

I Kings 19.4-8  
Psalm 34.1-8  
Ephesians 4.25-5.2  
John 6.35, 41-51

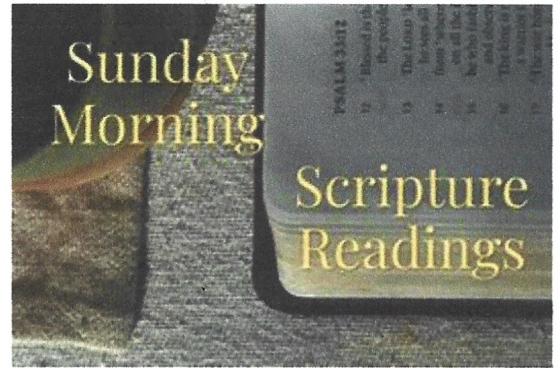
**August 18—Mary, Mother**

**Of Our Lord**

Isaiah 61.7-11  
Psalm 34.1-9  
Galatians 4.4-7  
Luke 1.46-55

**August 25—Pentecost 14**

Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18  
Psalm 34.15-22\  
Ephesians 6.10-20  
John 6.56-69



**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**



**Birthdays:**

- 1—Tony Hershberger
- 3—Carol Nauman
- 3—Mitch Walls, Sr.
- 11—Dakota Hartz
- 17—Mitchell Hixenbaugh
- 18—Jaxson Leeper
- 22—Pat Teverbaugh

**Anniversaries:**

- 8-5-1978— Rich & Jan Cosby
- 8-16-1975—Bill & Valerie Strycker
- 8-18-2018—Tony & Kaylee Hershberger

**FROM OUR PASTOR (cont. from page 1)**

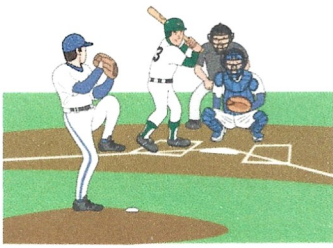
two congregations are doing don't miss a beat. Lastly, thanks to each of you, the saints among us, who use your varied gifts to serve God and neighbor in so many different ways. The Holy Spirit working in you is why our congregations continue to be places of hospitality and Good News, and I give thanks for that each and every day. I will hold each of you in prayer throughout the week and continue to see you for worship most Sunday mornings.

Peace,  
Pastor Patrick

**WE WILL RETURN TO A 10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE ON SEPTEMBER**

**1st!** - Please mark your calendars that First English will begin services at 10:30 a.m. on September 1st. We will keep this schedule through the end of December.





**TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL PARK!!** - The tickets have been purchased and those that are attending the ball game on August 8th can look forward to a fun-filled evening! Sharon has your tickets if you have not received them yet.

**GREEN ENVELOPE FOR AUGUST** - Our green envelope collection for August will continue to be to help with the cost of our lawn mowing. In July we collected \$171.00 to help with the cost of July's mowing expenses. Thank you!



**UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY**—Thank you to those who checked our old directory and gave us any updates to their addresses, phone numbers, or email addresses. We will be getting the new information out to everyone in a few weeks. Thanks Sharon for contacting members.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE**—Thank you to each of you for your continued support to our Capital Improvement Campaign, as Pr. announced a few weeks ago we have surpassed our goal and contributions continue. So far your generous living has allowed us to complete: new concrete approaches for the Narthex entrances and new overhangs with a beautiful cross to appreciate each time you leave. Be sure to “look up” as you walk out taking Christ with you into your daily life. We are still waiting for all the needed parts to come in for our new Narthex doors. We have been told by the Wertz company that the doors should be arriving soon and they hope to be getting them installed the first part of August. We have paid 10% down on the organ project which means that Mr. Randall Karstens is in the process of doing what he needs to proceed. A new sign is still in the works and being given thoughtful consideration.



**GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY**— On Sunday, September 8th, First English and Gloria Dei will work together to complete 76 Personal Care Kits. If you would like to donate any of the items needed, see the tables & chart in Trout Hall. Please sign your name to the chart and indicate how many of the items you can donate. All donations should be to First English by Sept. 1st. Gloria Dei will be joining us as we put these kits together at 11:30 a.m. on the 8th.

**OUR FIRST FAMILY IN THE NEWS -**

***JEAN WHETSTONE's***— cousin, Teresa Mayers, died on June 25th after suffering a brain bleed.

***MIKE VINSON's***—sister, Billie Strom, died on July 18th. She was 94 years old.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them.*



## 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Rummage and Bake Sale Summary!

WELCA is excited to share the results of our July 2024 Rummage and Bake Sale with the congregation. Our net profit this year was just shy of 2023's net sales by 3%. (2023 was the highest net profit in the history of the sale.) The Rummage Sale and Bake Sale together netted \$5306.00. The Bake Sale averages about 12% of sales – so it is a very important part of the sale. An interesting fact – our credit card sales increased this year to 20% of total sales – another important tool in our organizational tool chest.

For those who like numbers – see the charts below.

Net Profit		
2023	2024	
\$5,461	\$5,306	-\$155 less than 2023

Total Hours Worked		
2023	2024	
314	396	+82 hours over 2023

Total Number Workers		
2023	2024	
25	26	One additional worker over 2023

2023	2024	
Percentage of Hours Worked by Top 4 Workers Out of Total Hours		
54%	47%	Important statistic – 4 (four) people worked almost 50% of the total hours worked in 2024

\*Wrestlers in 2024 counted as one worker

In 2024 it took 82 more hours to run the sale from beginning to end. This doesn't include the behind the scenes work of banking, arranging advertising, organizing, planning, sign printing, etc. We visually estimated we had about the same amount of items in both years; however, it took longer to sort through the bags and boxes this year, classify the donations (similar items together), and price them. Thanks to everyone for their donations and bringing in donations from friends and neighbors. We are not as speedy as we used to be – with worker age and energy being a key factor, along with a lot of small items. Several people increased their contributed hours significantly and that was very helpful. Also, a special thank you to two young workers, Jimmy and Johnny, grandsons of Lynn and Carol Whittaker – they worked both days of the sale, helping customers shop and carrying out bags to their cars willingly and with friendly, polite manners! The Bake Sale sold out by mid-morning on Saturday! Thanks to everyone who baked and to Sharon Engstrom who sure knows how to sell a brownie!

Our expenses were higher than normal this year due to hiring the Riley High School Wrestling Team to help us set up the tables, and racks and bring out half of the donations but this saved us much time and energy. We appreciated their work and donated to their team. We also provided lunch this year from Subway for our sale workers on Friday and Saturday – which they appreciated. These expenses took us above the \$250 Action Team funds supplied by Thrivent to support the administrative needs of the sale – otherwise, we would have matched last year's sales.

Our sale is growing in popularity, we estimate about 50-60 shoppers waiting for the doors to open on Friday! While we don't count the number of shoppers, we see many repeat faces from year to year and people tell us they look forward to our sale. The yard signs and sale banner alerted people driving on Ireland Road to the sale, along with Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace, the Coffee News (free advertising), and online with the South Bend Tribune we feel we are making ourselves known and our sales prove this.

While the entire sale is a community outreach project, Saturday is especially of benefit to shoppers because everything is half-price. This means clothing is \$1.00 and we see many shoppers able to purchase multiple clothing items for an exceedingly small expense. We donated selected leftover items to Miller's Vets, St. Margaret's House, Our Lady of the Road, B.A.B.E.S, Resale to the Rescue, and Pet Refuge; items their websites told us they needed. The remaining items were picked up by Goodwill.

Pet Refuge was our main charity this year and will receive \$1391.00 and the Indiana/Kentucky Women of the ELCA will receive \$200.

Thanks again for the help and for the purchases on Member Shopping Night! *The WELCA Board*

# August 2024

September 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Holy Comm.: 9:00 am Fellowship: 10:00 am	FELP Board mtg., 6:30 pm	The Chosen shown at Gloria Dei, 7:00 pm	Bible Study at Gloria Dei, 10:00 am Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm	Ball Game at Four Winds Field, 7:05 pm	Handmade Ministry, 1:00-3:00 pm	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Holy Comm.: 9:00 am Fellowship: 10:00 am	FELP Board mtg., 6:30 pm	The Chosen shown at Gloria Dei, 7:00 pm	Bible Study at Gloria Dei, 10:00 am Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm	FELP Staff mtg., 9:00-12 noon	Handmade Ministry, 1:00-3:00 pm	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Holy Comm.: 9:00 am Fellowship: 10:00 am		The Chosen shown at Gloria Dei, 7:00 pm	Bible Study at Gloria Dei, 10:00 am Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm		Handmade Ministry, 1:00-3:00 pm	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Holy Comm.: 9:00 am Fellowship: 10:00 am		Comm. Service at Hellenic, 3:30 pm The Chosen shown at Gloria Dei, 7:00 pm	Bible Study at Gloria Dei, 10:00 am Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm Council mtg., 6:00 pm		Handmade Ministry, 1:00-3:00 pm	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Holy Comm.: 9:00 am Fellowship: 10:00 am	Communications Team mtg., 6:00 pm	The Chosen shown at Gloria Dei, 7:00 pm	Bible Study at Gloria Dei, 10:00 am Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm		Handmade Ministry, 1:00-3:00 pm	Walls family to use Trout Hall