

Welcome! We are so glad you are here!

If you are new to worship at First English, please fill out a blue Visitor Card that you can find in the pew rack in front of you. **We would like members to fill out the black pew pad found on the end of your row.**

Children in Worship. We encourage children to learn to praise God at an early age. We welcome commotion, crying, and fussing, because they are unavoidable parts of the learning process, and because these remind us that Jesus was born an infant and grew as we do.

Yet, to help families at times when children do need a break from worship, busy bags and children's bulletins can be picked up at the entrance to the sanctuary. Also, during each worship service, our professional attendant is in the nursery located to your right as you exit the sanctuary. The nursery also has space for nursing mothers.

Large Print Bulletins for both services are available from an usher.

Gathering: Following the 8:30 am worship service, there are refreshments available in Luther Hall (the gym).

If you have any questions, please check with an usher or a pastor for more information.

FELC Christmas Program

"Celebrating Christ Mass Around The World"

**Today at 3:00 pm
Dinner following the program**

We welcome guests, grandparents, neighbors, and friends to this very special afternoon.

There will be a special offering for the ELCA Good Gifts-Global Barnyard which will be used to purchase ducks, cows, chicks, goats, etc., for a family in need. These donations support long term, sustainable solutions that ensure that these good gifts last for more than a couple of days or weeks.

FINAL REHEARSAL FOR THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be this morning from 9:45 to 10:45 am.

COOKIES AND OTHER BAKED GOODS by FELC women will be available for purchase this morning between services. Proceeds will support the First English youth, East Bluff Community Center, and the Snack Pack program.

ADVENT CALENDARS: There are still Advent calendars available from youth. Cost is \$3.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Today, December 17

Cookies available between services

- 8:30 am TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
- 9:30 am Coffee Hour / Fellowship
- 9:45 am Christmas Program Rehearsal, Adult Classes
- 11:00 am CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
- 3:00 pm FELC Christmas Program and dinner

Monday, December 18

- 9:45 am Staff Meeting
- 7:00 pm Trustees

Tuesday, December 19

- 9:00 am Quilting

Wednesday, December 20

NO MIDWEEK MEAL

- 5:45 pm Chancel Choir
- 6:00 pm Youth Choir Christmas party and rehearsal

Thursday, December 21

- 9:00 am Snack Packs

Friday, December 22

- 10:00 am Needlework Group

Next Sunday, December 24

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 10:00 am WORSHIP
- No coffee hour or Sunday School

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

- 3:00 pm WORSHIP & COMMUNION
- 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Dinner
- 7:00 pm WORSHIP & COMMUNION
- 11:00 pm CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION



2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in the narthex. Please pick yours up today!

Hospitalized This Week:

Proctor: Joann Wofford

If you or a loved one are hospitalized or hear of a member who is, please let the church office know.

Memorial: We extend sympathy on the passing of Beth Maki, wife of Lee, mother of Marcia and Brian Lough and grandmother of Evelyn and Bruce Lough, on her passing on December 10th. Please remember Beth's family in your prayers. Funeral services were held at First English on Friday, Dec. 15th.

Altar Flowers today are given by Donna and Jack Hartwig in honor of their families.

Prayer Requests: Requests for the prayer chain may be submitted by filling out a prayer request card and placing it in the offering plate or call/e-mail Martha Schmitt at mschmitt9911@yahoo.com.

Loose Coins: All loose coins in the offering today go to world hunger. The loose coin offering for last week was \$32.04.

Attendance Last Sunday (December 10):

8:30 am – 103, 11am – 64; Total – 167
Sunday School: 2 yrs-8th grade – 25; High School/Post High -4; Adults – 14; Staff – 19

POINSETTIA ORDERS: Today is the last day to order a poinsettia for the sanctuary for Christmas. Order forms are available in the newsletter you were mailed or on the ledge outside the church office. The order will be called in tomorrow morning.

SHUT-IN LIST: A list of our shut-ins and those who would appreciate receiving a Christmas card is available on the ledge outside the church office.

STAFF AND COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS are now due. Please submit your report to the church office electronically.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS for your personal or family devotions for the next quarter are available in the entryway and the rack in the tower entrance.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS: There will not be any Wednesday meals until **January 10th**.

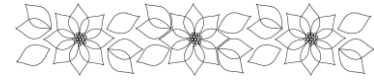
FROM THE QUILTERS: There are 2 Christmas table runners available for purchase in the gym. See Char Davis to purchase.

Bidding on the cat quilt will end today after the Christmas program.

**CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER
December 24th, 5 pm**

All are invited to join our First English family for Christmas Eve dinner. We will be serving stuffed pork loin, au gratin potatoes, green beans, rolls, salad and dessert.

Please sign up in the gym **TODAY** if you are planning to attend.



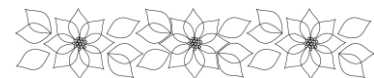
WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec. 24
4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT
ONLY ONE MORNING SERVICE
AT 10 am
No coffee fellowship or Sunday School

Sunday, Dec. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
Worship & Communion 3 pm & 7 pm
Candlelight Communion 11 pm

Monday, Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
Worship & Communion 10 am

Sunday, Dec. 31
Regular Worship Schedule,
8:30 & 11 am
No Sunday School



SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

	8:30 am	11:00 am
Asstg. Minister	Kathy Neptun	---
Comm. Assts.	Phil and Kathy Neptun	Perkinsons
Lay Readers	Kathy Neptun	Kelsey Brown
Ushers	Richard Franklin, Linda Dippon	Ronna and Jerry James, Nonnie Smith, Don Bruna
Acolytes	Jolyn Allison, Josh Ross	Isabella and Olivia Hauri
Altar Guild	Marcia Lough	
Altar Guild – Set up December 23: Laurie Judd		

SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, December 24

	10:00 am
Asstg. Minister	Beth Stalker
Comm. Assts.	Phil and Kathy Neptun
Lay Reader	Marilee Tilly
Acolytes	Lainey Campbell, Connor Thomson
Altar Guild	
Altar Guild – Set up Dec. 30: Kathy Yocum	

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am to 2pm	
Phone: 309-685-0337	
e-mail: office@felcpeoria.org	Web site: www.felcpeoria.org