



First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



The Parish News

Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl, Jr.
 Pastor

Kristin Kaldahl
Emily Bernau
 Organists

Julie Moran
 Office Manager

Tammi Harrison
 Preschool Director

Ruth Obermeier
 Preschool Secretary

Trevor Loehr &
Tony Kladstrup
 Custodians

Sunday
Worship Services
8:00 & 10:45 A.M.
Fellowship
9:00 A.M.
Nursery 9:15-Noon
Sunday School &
Bible Classes
9:30-10:20 A.M.

1311 E. 18th Street
Spencer, IA 51301
712-262-5598 Phone
712-262-8396 Fax

Website —
www.spencer-church.com

E-Mail —
felc5598@gmail.com

Preschool
712-262-3699
IGLLS
712-262-8237

Honoring Pastors and The Fourth Commandment: Martin Luther and the Augsburg Confession

Dear friends of Christ and members of FELC and CTK,

I continue Part 2 on my Newsletter article series regarding the office of the public ministry. We will soon be calling a pastor. What is our duty and responsibility to him? Luther teaches that the honor due to pastors includes: Respect, Obedience, Prayer, Support, and Defense against slander (lies). It is easy for God's people to talk poorly about their shepherd. That is why Luther argues that the devil attacks the pastoral office precisely because it delivers the Gospel.

The Augsburg Confession (1530) reinforces Luther's teaching by grounding the pastoral office in God's command and Christ's institution. The Augsburg Confession V states that God established and instated the office of public ministry: **"so that we may obtain this faith, the ministry of teaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments was instituted."** This means God is the One Who has divinely established the pastoral office. Pastors are God's instruments for creating and sustaining faith. To honor the office is to honor God's saving work.

The Augsburg Confession XIV states: **"No one should publicly teach or preach or administer the Sacraments without a rightly ordered call."** This protects the office by ensuring that pastors act with Christ's authority—not their own. Congregations receive the Gospel through those whom God has placed over them. The office is exercised in good order—not chaos.

Because the call is divine, the congregation owes honor to the one who holds it—even if they do not personally like the one who holds it. Again, the Lord calls children to obey their parents despite whether or not the children "personally like" his/her parents or not. Obedience is the command. Submission is the command. Respecting God's divinely established authority is the command, and what is true for children is true for members of the congregation, who are under the spiritual authority of their pastor.

Luther and the Confessions do not invent this teaching; they draw it directly from Scripture. Hebrews 13:17, **"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls."** 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13, **"Respect those who labor among you... esteem them very highly in love because of their work."** Luke 10:16, **"The one who hears you hears me."** 1 Timothy 5:17, **"Let the elders (pastors) who rule well be considered worthy of double honor."** These passages show that honoring pastors is not about personality or preference but about God's command and Christ's presence in the office.

The congregation is called to obey and submit to their shepherd (pastor) in all spiritual matters. Again, this is true because they watch over souls and will give an account. It is also God's command that the congregation support the office of the public ministry with material financial gifts. To dishonor a pastor is to dishonor God—because the Lord placed him in his office through the ministry of the church.

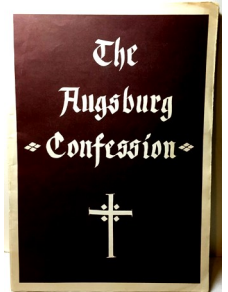
Luther warns that we not despise the Pastoral Office. In fact, Luther is quite blunt: **"Despising pastors is despising God's Word."** He writes that the devil's chief strategy to destroy God's Church is to stir up contempt for pastors; undermine their authority; and create division in the congregation. And make no mistake! Division, contention, malice, and slander is the devil's work! Of course, sometimes the pastor himself is also responsible for division in the congregation.

Martin Luther and the Augsburg Confession teach that honoring pastors is a direct application of the Fourth Commandment. Pastors are spiritual fathers who bring the Gospel, forgive sins, administer the Sacraments, and watch over souls. Because God Himself instituted the pastoral office, honoring pastors is honoring God's order and receiving Christ's gifts with gratitude.

To honor the pastoral office is to honor Christ. To despise the pastoral office is to despise Christ's Word.

This is why Luther and the Confessions speak so strongly: **"The pastoral office is not about human authority but about God's saving work for His people."**

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Paul Kaldahl



**Lutheran
Women
in Mission**

Topic for the June 4th Guild meeting will be p. 18 "Who Is My Neighbor And What Does This Mean?" Spring 2026 Quarterly.

Meetings Thursday, June 4th

Esther/Naomi Guilds—9:30 a.m. at FELC
Hostess-- Ellen Essick Topic— Bev Skinner

Sarah Guild — 6:30 p.m. at FELC
Co-Hostesses Marlena Langner, Deb Shriver
Topic--Ranae Kehoe

Lydia Guild—Sunday, June 14th — 9:30 a.m. at FELC
LWML Quarterly Bible Study—Led by Abbey Ruden
Pray for Men of FELC and all Fathers



**IDW LWML 42nd Biennial
Convention—June 11-13, 2026
Ingathering**

Items to be brought for the convention in June. Any size and brand infant/toddler disposable diapers, Baby wipes, Dish towels, Rugs of all sizes, "Gain" brand laundry soap, Bleach, and Paper towels.

Items should be put in the LWML tubs in the Opportunity Corner by Sunday, June 7th.

Thank you for your support.



Week	Attendance			Communion			Offering	Sunday School	
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late	Total	(Total)	Kids/Adults	Offering
May 3	108	149	257	109	150	259		2 /	\$ 0.00
May 10	169	77	246		—			/	\$ 0.00
May 17	132	72	204	108	60	168		5 / 51	\$ 1.00
May 24	143	93	236		—			/ 47	\$ 0.00

Youth News



June 2026

I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.
Philippians 4:13

Wednesday Nights at 7pm: High School Grades 9-12

- ★ Wed June 3 - Welcoming Night: see below
- ★ Wed June 10 - Led by Wendy Rees & Laura Hallgren
- ★ Wed June 17 - Led by Wendy Rees & games with Janet & Jody
- ★ Wed June 24 - Led by Wendy Rees & Laura Hallgren



CONFIRMANDS + HS LYF ARE INVITED TO ATTEND WELCOMING NIGHT

JUNE 3RD FROM 6:30-8PM

NACHO BAR, DEVOTION, GAMES

Looking for a volunteer opportunity??
VBS June 22-25
Contact Julie Chalstrom
Juliedriscoll714@gmail.com
or 712-240-2221

All Youth Activity - June 7th *free fishing weekend

- Bring your own life jacket and towel, bug spray
- fish from dock at Camp or boats
- meet to carpool from FELC at 2:15pm
- supper at Camp Okoboji provided
- RSVP through Band app

Youth Usher Dates/Times

→ none

LYF - June 12th RiseFest Concert

- purchase tickets before event at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/risefest-2026-june-12-13-2026-tickets-1400282184709>
- meet to carpool from FELC at 2:30pm
- Bring money for food, blankets, appropriate clothing for the weather
- RSVP through Band app

Stay informed with **BAND**:

- download the BAND app from your phone's app store
- join the FELC Youth group for future communications



June, 2026

JOIN THE FUN!!!!

Vacation Bible School Summer 2026



Monday—Thursday June 22-25

9:00 a.m.-Noon

First English Lutheran Church

1311 E. 18th St., Spencer

**Games, Crafts, Bible Time, Music,
Snacks & Fun!**

Mark your calendar now for
Emerald Crossing “An Irish Adventure
through Psalm 23.”

Open to students Pre-K (potty trained)
through 6th Grade.

Sign your student up today at
<https://firstenglishvbs.myanswers.com/emerald-crossing/register/>

or scan the QR code.



If you would like to join our team or have any
questions, please contact Julie Chalstrom or the
church office. 712-262-5598.



FELC Informational Meeting

The Elders invite former & current
members of Christ the King and any-
one else wanting more information
about First English to join them on
Sunday, June 7th at 7:00 p.m.

A representative from each of the
FELC Boards will be present to speak
to about their board’s duties and
answer any questions you may have.

Tours of the Church and
Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School
will be given to anyone interested.

We hope to see you then.

IGLLS Golf Outing 2026

Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School
will be hosting a 4 - Person Best Ball
Golf Tournament on
Saturday, June 20th.

Registration begins at 2:00 pm with
the shotgun start at 3:00 pm. We will
have appetizers, social hour and
awards to follow.

Winners will be announced during the
social hour. Register here to become
a team or a sponsor! [https://
docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSeF17
uMGJrPV7.../viewform](https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSeF17uMGJrPV7.../viewform)



June, 2026

**FIRST ENGLISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting – May 21, 2026, 7:00 p.m.**

Members present: Leonard Langner, Paul Salton, Dan Knaak, Janet Iedema, Pastor Kaldahl, and Karen Hargens.

Pastor Kaldahl opened with devotions.

L. Langner called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

J. Iedema made a motion to approve the agenda, P. Salton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Secretary's report – The minutes from April 2026 were reviewed. P. Salton made a motion to approve the secretary's report. D. Knaak seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report – submitted

J. Iedema made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, P. Salton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve bills – No bills.

IGLLS – Leonard Langner

- Enrollment for '26-'27 stands at 170 students.
- Lydia Wallace has taken a call and will not be teaching for IGLLS in '26-'27, so the school is looking for a 4th grade teacher.
- Annual meeting is set for the third Monday in June. There are three individuals up for reelection to the board. If anyone is interested in running, you can call the school office.

Board of Elders – Paul Salton

- The call committee is hoping to receive a list of pastors from President Eggers by June 1st.
- The sound system is still being investigated.
- The elders, with other boards and groups, will hold an informational meeting in the gym on June 7 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. for Christ the King members and anyone else interested. The meeting will give information on opportunities to serve at First English and give tours of the church and school building.

Board of Trustees – Jon Stricker submitted

- Custom Cut gutters added splash guard to east entrance area – no charge.
- Reviewed and approved invoices
- Larson Painting will be painting the exterior of the church, the metal doors and the south brick caulking.

Preschool Board – Corey Langner- submitted

- For next year we currently have 28 3-year-olds and a waiting list of 8 and 25 4-year-olds.
- We have hired a preschool secretary for next year. Her name is Shannon Halsrud.
- We are looking for a new bus driver for next year. We appreciate the years of service Kasen has given us!
- Preschool graduation for the 4-year-olds is May 19 & May 20.
- The last day for 3-year-olds is May 13/14.
- Staff luncheon is May 22. Tammi and Corey will also do staff reviews that day.
- All staff contracts have been signed and returned, so all staff will be back for next year.

New Horizons – no report

Board of Education – Amber Christianson - submitted

- The Board of Education is still working on finding a Worship Director for GIFT next year.
- Regular Sunday School ended last weekend. Summer Sunday School will begin on May 31st. Torie Abel and Julie Chalstrom will lead this.
- The Board is also working on rooms and space for Regular Sunday School. We are planning to clean out the 1st and 2nd Grade room sometime in July.
- Rally Day will be on August 30th and we are working on getting the Bibles ordered for the 3-year-olds and 3rd Graders. Invitations will be sent out in July for this.
- VBS is scheduled for June 22nd-25th and registration is open.

Board of Youth – Janet ledema

- Three youth attended Youth Lead in April w/ Lori Gamble. This was a very good experience. These youth will be leading/presenting what they learned at this event during LYF the month of August.
- 2026 Young Adult Servant Event is in Detroit this summer (July 23-26). Three youth have registered to go: Kaylee ledema, Isabelle Young & Ryonna Faulkender. Discussion of fundraiser event with proceeds going to the youth attending to help pay for transportation, etc.
- Wednesday, 6/3- New LYF Youth Welcoming with nacho bar and games. 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. Pastor leading devotion. RSVP through the BAND app.
- Sunday, 6/7- ALL Youth Event- Meet at 2:15 in the FELC parking lot to carpool to Camp Okoboji to fish. We have a few fishermen (Mike, Travis & Leonard) with boats to take kids out on the lake or they can fish from the dock or shore at Camp. Bring a life jacket (if you have one), towel, sunscreen, etc. Supper at Camp. RSVP through the BAND app.
- Friday, 6/12- RiseFest- Lynn Eby and Janet ledema will be going to Risefest in Sheldon Friday afternoon for the evening concerts. High School youth interested in going may purchase their own ticket online and carpool. We will meet at 2:30 Friday afternoon in the FELC parking lot to drive to Sheldon. Tickets are \$68 online if purchased before June 1. Bring blankets, appropriate clothing for the weather and money for food. RSVP to carpool through the BAND app.
- Regular LYF- Wednesdays, June 10, 17 and 24.
- Youth asked to help with VBS (June 22-25). Contact Julie Chalstrom to plug yourself in.
- LYF youth and parents are helping with concessions again this summer at the softball/baseball fields on Thursday evenings. This was a good way for youth to earn money for their youth accounts and gets our kids/group out in the public.

Board of Christian Life/Outreach – no report

Pastoral items:

End-of-school wrap-up. Planning vacation for the summer and getting substitute pastors lined up.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Hargens

THOSE WHO SERVE — June, 2026

8:00 A.M. Services

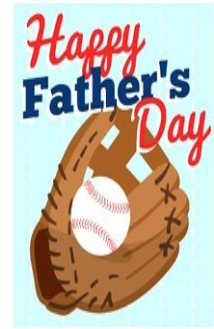
	<u>June 7</u>	<u>June 14</u>	<u>June 21</u>	<u>June 28</u>
Elder	Gaylin Fey Jeff Chalstrom	Mark Rees	Ken Schroeder Jeff Chalstrom	Tom Roti
Acolyte	Skye Glackin	Julia Kaiser	Hudson Frankenstein	Laura Harman
Organist	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Emily Bernau
Usher Team	# 5 Tom Miller	# 7 Mike Morfitt	# 7 Mike Morfitt	# 9 Ken Chalstrom
Altar Guild	Heath Staedtler & Brenda Borsheim ----->		Carol Gilbertson & Karen Wee ----->	
Builder	Kelly Hartmann	Amber Christianson	Corey Langner	Ranae Kehoe
Presenter	Bob Cody	Lori Gamble	Dan Knaak	Ranae Kehoe
Sound Board	Brenda Moranville	Brenda Moranville	Kelly Hartmann	Kelly Hartmann
Live-Stream	Alex Halverson	Matt Ruden	Matt Ruden	Alex Halverson



10:45 A.M. Services

	<u>June 7</u>	<u>June 14</u>	<u>June 21</u>	<u>June 28</u>
Elder	Jerry Enderton Travis Harman	Cole Brenden	Paul Salton Travis Harman	Jerry Enderton
Acolyte	Cannon Caven	Hana Loehr	Karson Koenecke	Mia Fuhrman
Organist	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Emily Bernau
Ushers	# 2 Paul Salton	# 2 Paul Salton	# 4 Jerry Enderton	# 3 Jerry Enderton
Presenter	Charlie Peterson	Jerry Enderton	Michael Schauer	Steve Hallgren

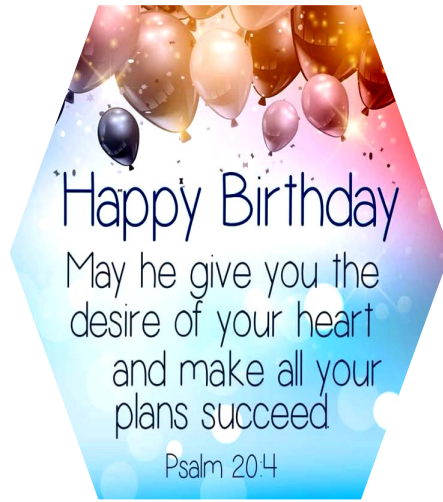
2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:00 Preschool Board	2 8:00 Worship Service SMU	3 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:30 Finance BD 10:00 Ladies B. Study-Conf Rm 2:00 Worship Service SMU 6:30 LYF Welcome Night 8th-12th Graders	4 7:00 Spirit Lifters 9:30 Esther /Naomi Guild 6:30 Sarah Guild	5 Pastor's Day Off	6
	7 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion 2:15 All Youth Event 6th-12th Graders Fishing at Camp Okoboji 7:00 FELC Information Meeting	8	9 9:00 Greg-Concordia Plan Services Meet 7:00 Board of Trustees 8:00 Worship Service SMU	10 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:30 Finance BD 10:00 Ladies B. Study-Conf Rm 2:00 Worship Service SMU 7:00 LYF	11 7:00 Spirit Lifters 7:00 Board of Elders	12 Pastor's Day Off 2:30 HS Youth to Risefest in Sheldon
Iowa District West LWML Convention at Camp Okoboji June 11-13						
14 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15 Lydia Guild 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship	15	16 10:30 Organ Tuning 1:00-2:30 BCLO Senior Fun & Fellowship w/ Games/Snacks 6:30 Board of Youth 8:00 Worship Service SMU	17 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:30 Finance BD 2:00 Worship Service SMU 7:00 LYF	18 7:00 Spirit Lifters 5:15 Boards of Christian Life / Outreach 7:00 Church Council	19 Pastor's Day Off	20 IGLLS Golf Outing 2:00 Registration 3:00 Start
Concordia Cub Week I at Camp Okoboji June 14-18 3rd-5th Graders						
21 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion 	22 PARISH NEWS DUE	23 8:00 Worship Service SMU	24 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:30 Finance BD 2:00 Worship Service SMU 7:00 LYF	25 7:00 Spirit Lifters	26 Pastor's Day Off	27 AM—Bridal Shower Addy Gilderhuis Fellowship Hall (Susan C.)
First English VBS June 22-25 9:00 a.m.—Noon						
28 Rev. Mike Sharp Preaching 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship	29 4:00 New Horizons Meeting	30 8:00 Worship Service SMU	Pastor Kaldahl Vacation June 26—July 17		<p>Monday—Thursday 8:00 a.m. To 3:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. to Noon</p>	

June, 2026

June 1 Mavis Albers
Maverick Warburton
June 2 Tom Wuggazer
June 3 Ashton Ruisenor
June 4 John Hargens
Janet Schutter
June 5 Lisa Harmon
Morgan Jensen
Mike Weber
June 6 Brenden Steinbeck
June 7 Melinda Herda
Emily Jacobs
June 8 Allan Breidinger
Doyle McKeever
Maggie Peterson
June 9 Quinton Crouch
Austin Johnson
Brooklyn Koenecke
Melissa Weber
June 10 Ava Johnson
June 11 Deb Clem
June 12 Kim Butler
June 14 Amber Christianson
June 15 Christian Kladstrup
Courtney Kramer
June 16 Callie Scott



June 17 Keith Echtenkamp
Louis Faulstich
Mitchell Salton
June 18 Craig Hinkeldey
Trevor Russenberger
June 19 Holly Avery
Charlie Clem
June 20 Carson Christianson
June 22 Lynn Eby
June 23 Nelda Wolthuis
June 24 Jane Echtenkamp
Ranae Kehoe
June 25 Mark Rees
Kevin Rossiter
June 26 Steve Steinbeck
June 27 Hattie Bland
Adler Kladstrup
June 28 Chris Elsenbast
June 29 Jeff Crew
Molly Lowder
June 30 Dale Geerdes
Travis Harmon
Austin Higgins
Jason Jacobs
Chloe Jones
Vern Mickelson—100
Allie Norgaard
Sarah Rabel



June 4 Tim & Susie
Norgaard
June 5 Colby & Kayla
Beachler
June 5 John & Rosann
Hodgin
June 6 Alan & Lori
Erichsen
June 12 Steve & Nancy
Tommeraasen
June 14 Rick & Kande
Petersen
June 14 Kell & Rosemary
Steffen
June 14 Jason & Amanda
Young

June 15 Lloyd & Joyce
Pearson
June 16 Kent & Joan
Kimball
June 16 Corey & Andrea
Langner
June 16 Dave & Patty
Laubenthal
June 17 Kylee & Tom
Glackin
June 18 Kelly & Heidi
Hartmann
June 18 Aaron & Sarah
Riessen

June 18 Michael & Angie
Schauer
June 20 Marty & Lynn
Eby
June 20 Dean & Joni
Stein
June 21 Ken & Terry
Chalstrom
June 21 Tom & Vickie
Miller
June 28 Charles & Tabatha
Peterson
June 29 Chris & Diane
Higgins
June 29 Lynn & Karen
Wee



THE June '26 PARISH NEWS
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