



First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

The Parish News

The Pastoral Office as Christ's Own Work Through Human Servants

Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl, Jr.
Pastor

Kristin Kaldahl
Emily Bernau
Organists

Julie Moran
Office Manager

Tammi Harrison
Preschool Director

Shannon Halsrud
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

Dear friends of Christ and members of FELC and CTK, I continue Part 4 on my News-letter article series regarding the office of the public ministry. We have called an associate pastor and are waiting on the Holy Spirit to answer. What is our duty and responsibility to him? Two months ago, we examined our confessions. Last month we looked at the Bible. This month I will use both to see how God uses pastors to accomplish His good will for His bride—The Church.

As I have said repeatedly, and as our own confessions say repeatedly—the pastoral office is not a human invention. God commands congregations to place an “overseer” (*a resident theologian/shepherd/servant*) in every church and then commands those congregations to “**love, honor, respect and obey**” (*Words from Martin Luther’s Small Catechism on the 4th Commandment*) their pastor (s). This is not an easy calling—for either the pastor or his people. Why? We sin much, and sin seeks to divide us. Our physical differences seek to divide us. Our different personalities seek to divide us. Our different opinions seek to divide us. Our prideful desire to run things our way seek to divide us. And the list goes on and on! Yes, Satan has much with which to work! Congregational life can be the wonderful playground for Satan and his attack on Christ and on Christ’s Church. It would behoove us to be aware.

It also behooves us to properly understand the scope and authority that God has given to the pastoral office. The pastoral office exists because Christ Himself wills that His Gospel be preached and His sacraments administered.

Ephesians 4:11–12, “*He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry.*” Matthew 28:19–20, “*Go therefore and make disciples... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.*” John 20:21–23, “*As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you... If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.*” These passages show that the pastoral office is Christ’s ongoing ministry through called men.

The Augsburg Confession, Article V states that the ministry was instituted “**so that we may obtain this faith**” and that God “**instituted the office of preaching, giving the Gospel and the sacraments.**” This means the office is God’s instrument, not the congregation’s invention. **Pastors are given for the sake of faith—not for administration or management.** The Gospel is delivered through external means—preaching and sacraments.

Of course, there is a congregational responsibility to this calling of pastors! Because Christ works through pastors, Scripture commands the Church to receive them with obedience and respect. We have covered these Bible verse before, but it behooves us to look at them again. 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.*” To reject the faithful ministry of a pastor is to reject Christ’s own Word.

The pastoral office is Christ’s gift to His Church. We teach that pastors exist to preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments so that faith may be created and sustained. Scripture commands the congregation to honor this office because Christ Himself works through it.

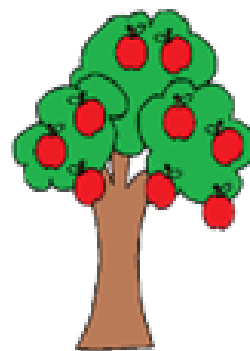
In Christ’s Service,

Pastor Paul Kaldahl

August, 2026

Apples For First English Preschool – We will have an apple tree set up in the Church Fellowship Hall with apples containing items needed for fall. We invite and encourage you to pick up an apple or two and purchase the items listed on it. (Please try and purchase the exact size mentioned if applicable.) Please put the item (s) in the crates under the tree.

Many thanks and may God continue to smile on our efforts to teach His little ones; we can't do it without your help.



We welcome to First English Christian Preschool, Shannon Halsrud, who is our new Preschool Secretary, taking over the duties from Ruth Obermeier, as she retires after 26 years.

Shannon is from the Boone area and moved to Spencer last spring with her husband, Matt. They purchased No Limits Outdoors and also own & operate a hunting/outdoor sporting goods store in Boone. If you get a chance, stop in the Preschool office and welcome Shannon to First English.



Week	Attendance			Communion			Offering (Regular & Electronic)	Sunday School	
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late	Total		Kids/Adults	SS Offering
July 5	52	61	113	56	63	119		/ 33	\$ 0.00
July 12	110	45	165		—			10 / 41	\$ 1.00
July 19	137	78	215	134	63	197		11 / 43	\$ 2.00
July 26	114	58	172		—		\$	8 / 43	\$ 1.00



LWML

Meetings, Thursday, August 6th

Topic— “Blessings in Disguise from the Least of These”
page 20 Summer Quarterly

Esther/Naomi Guilds—9:30 a.m. at FELC

Hostess - Shirley Roghair Topic – Julie Carstens

Sarah Guild — 6:30 p.m. at FELC

Hostess— Mary McCloud

Topic— Deb Shriver

Lydia Guild—Meet in Library

Sunday, August 9th

9:00 a.m.

Devotion— Always Learning

**Lydia — Teacher Appreciation Snack
Baskets & Donated Supplies for
“Back to School”**

Pray for all students & teachers.





August 2026

When I am afraid, I put my trust
in you. In God, whose word I
praise, in God I trust; I shall not
be afraid. What can flesh do to
me?

Psalm 56: 3-4

Wednesday Nights: High School Grades 9-12 (STARTS @ 7:00)

- ★ Wed August 5 - HS LYF led by Khloe, Jasmine, & Carter
- ★ Wed August 12 - HS LYF led by Khloe, Jasmine, & Carter
- ★ Wed August 19 - HS LYF led by Khloe, Jasmine, & Carter
- ★ Wed August 26 - HS fun night (pickleball/9 square, s'mores/fire pit)



Combined LYF/JLYF activity (6-12th)

- Sunday, 8/2 (had been originally scheduled for 7/26)
- Mini-Golf Outing to Priate's Cove in Arnold's Park
- meet at FELC at 6:30pm for carpooling
- \$11.25/person, family account funds can be used
- bring extra cash if you want a Bon Bon or Nutty Bar treat

Youth Usher Dates/Times

→ none this month

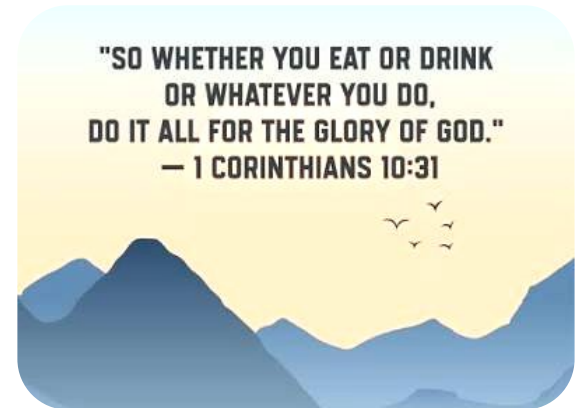
Stay informed with **BAND**:

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



Glorifying God

To the church in Corinth the Apostle Paul wrote, “*So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God*” (1 Corinthians 10:31). Everything we do is to be to God’s glory. Even ordinary daily tasks like eating or resting should be done to honor, reflect, and bring praise to God. God tells us through Paul that our primary purpose in life is to glorify God in and through whatever we do. We were born by God’s purpose and for His purpose. We are alive because God wanted to create us. In Colossians 1:16, we read, “*...all things were created...through Him and for Him.*” It is only in God that we find our identity and purpose. It is in God’s Word that we discover our purpose in life. God is glorified when we, through faith, seek to know and to live out His purposes for us. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to live lives that glorify God and point people to Christ.



In Scripture, God called people to fulfill different purposes. Adam was to tend the garden. Noah was to build the ark. Abraham was to become a great nation through whom all the nations of the world would be blessed. Joseph helped his people survive a great famine. Joshua led the conquest into the Promised Land. David was the greatest king of Israel. Solomon was to build the temple. Paul was to become a missionary. God called each of these people, and they responded faithfully and obediently. Through faith, we also can respond to God’s leading so we can fulfill the purpose that God has given each of us. God has a purpose for each of us. When we spend time reading and meditating on God’s Word, in prayer, and receiving His body and blood in worship, God will guide us into the work and purpose that He prepares for us.

Through faith, we understand that God is both our source of life and our purpose for living. Our purpose is to give God glory, honor, and service. In his book *Beyond Blessed*, Rev. Robert Morris wrote, “Deep genuine happiness and fulfillment stem from living our true purpose, not experiencing worldly, carnal pleasure. If you’re fulfilling the purpose for which God created you, you can have nothing and be deliriously happy and content. Conversely you have everything the world says you should desire, and if you’re not living out your God-given purpose, you’ll be utterly miserable.” When we carry out God’s purposes for our lives, we will find true joy and fulfillment.

May God help us all glorify Him in all that we say and do.



Members present: Leonard Langner, Paul Salton, Corey Langner, Dan Knaak, Doug Kading, Pastor Kaldahl, and Karen Hargens.

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

Pastor Kaldahl opened with devotion.

P. Salton made a motion to approve the agenda; C. Langner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Treasurer's report – submitted

P. Salton made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. D. Knaak seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve bills – No bills.

IGLLS – Leonard Langner

- The school is fully staffed for 2026-2027, enrollment stands at 174.
- One of the new teachers is looking for housing.
- There is a possible need for a part-time aide -- to be decided.
- The board toured the Christ the King property for the purpose of assessing future plans.
- Volunteers will meet and work on the landscaping in the near future.

New Horizons – Doug Kading

- Just a reminder that the Future Generations Endowment funds are restricted or dedicated.
- The board received six requests for Camp Okoboji tuition assistance and two youth that are going to Camp Restore. The board contributed \$300 for each request.
- There is still one vacancy on this board.
- Next meeting is October 12.

Board of Elders – Paul Salton

- Kelly Hartmann is looking for alternatives to the sound system replacement/repair.
- There is a box at church for cards for Pastor Ewoldt's 40th ordination anniversary.

Board of Trustees – submitted

- Painting, by Larson Painting, is expected to start in July.
- Caulk for brick has been purchased and will be installed by Larson when he has the lift at church.
- Clayton dug down under stained glass windows and found that the foundation was never sealed. Trustees will pull the mulch back, dig down, power wash and seal block. The wall above ground under windows will also be power washed and sealed as well as under the north windows of the preschool. Carroll Supply is donating the sealer.
- We will be talking with Denison Drywall about cracking on the east wall of the gym.
- Also plan to get up and check the fascia on the bell tower.

Preschool Board – Corey Langner

- For next year we currently have 28 3-year-olds and a waiting list of 6 and 24 4-year-olds.
- Tammi and Sara are going to switch rooms next year so we can get the 6 3-year-olds that are on the waiting list into our preschool. Then Sara can have 18 in her room instead of 14. Tammi currently only has 10 in her class.
- Mike Skonhovd is willing to drive the bus for next year, but he mows for the DNR in the fall, so we will need a substitute driver Monday thru Wed in the morning through the mowing season.
- We are planning to stay with HyVee for lunches for the Preschool all day class again this year. It worked well with them last year.
- We are still looking to add a couple tires to the playground for the kids to play on. We will also need to fluff the rocks before preschool starts in August.
- We continue to look for a shade structure. Tammi is going to check to see how big the shade structure needs to be to be in compliance.
- IDW Early Childhood Conference will be August 7th, and all staff, including our new Preschool secretary Shannon Halsrud, and Pastor will be able to attend.

Board of Education –

- Sunday School Bibles are ready to go.
- GIFT is still in need of a worship director.

Board of Youth – no report

Board of Christian Life/Outreach – no report – meeting in August.

Pastoral items:

- Vacation was good.
- Christ the King will be providing a list of members to FELC, which we will accept as a transfer list. Pastor will try to visit every home on the list.
- There is some question as to where to archive CTK documents going forward.

Old Business:

1. Videotaping of the church contents is complete. Dan Knaak and Matt Ruden did the videotaping. A flash drive will be put in the church's safety deposit box. The school video is yet to be completed.

New Business:

1. Reviewed results from the special voters meeting. Pastor Thackery has been called. Call documents were prepared and sent, also a phone call to him.
2. There is a LERT tree trimming event at CTK on Saturday, July 18, 2026, at 8:00 a.m.
3. Christ the King's closing service will be August 2, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Hargens

THOSE WHO SERVE—August, 2026

SERVING LIKE

JESUS!

8:00 A.M. Services

	<u>Aug. 2</u>	<u>Aug. 9</u>	<u>Aug. 16</u>	<u>Aug. 23</u>	<u>Aug. 30</u>
Elder	Gaylin Fey Jeff Chalstrom	Ken Schroeder	Mark Rees Ken Schroeder	Tom Roti	Mark Rees
Acolyte	Reegan Hornby	Hudson Frankenstein	Laura Harman	Karson Koenecke	Hana Loehr
Organist	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl
Altar Guild	Mark & Melinda Herda		Linda Tewes & Sherri White		
Ushers	# 3 Tom Roti	# 5 Tom Miller	# 5 Tom Miller	# 7 Mike Morfitt	# 7 Mike Morfitt
Service Builder	Kelly Hartmann	Amber Christianson	Ranae Kehoe	Corey Langner	Kelly Hartmann
Presenter	Bob Cody	Lori Gamble	Ranae Kehoe	Dan Knaak	Bob Cody
Sound Board	Kelly Hartmann	Bruce Gamble	Kelly Hartmann	Abey Ruden	Kelly Hartmann
Live-Stream	Matt Ruden	Alex Halverson	Matt Ruden	Matt Ruden	Alex Halverson

10:45 A.M. Services

	<u>Aug. 2</u>	<u>Aug. 9</u>	<u>Aug. 16</u>	<u>Aug. 23</u>	<u>Aug. 30</u>
Elder	Jerry Enderton Cole Brenden	Paul Salton	Paul Salton Travis Harman	Jerry Enderton	Cole Brenden
Acolyte	Hana Loehr	Cannon Caven	Mia Fuhrman	Grant Langner	Cannon Caven
Ushers	# 2 Paul Salton	# 2 Paul Salton	# 4 Jerry Enderton	# 4 Jerry Enderton	# 6 John Hargens
Organist	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl
Presenter	Charlie Peterson	Jerry Enderton	Michael Schauer	Steve Hallgren	Charlie Peterson



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Every Wednesday all Preschool classes dismiss at 11:15 a.m.			1
2 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Camp Restore Mission Presentation & Breakfast—Youth 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion 2:00 CTK Closing Service	3 6:00 Preschool Board	4 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	5 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:30 Finance BD 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 7:00-8:30 LYF	6 7:00 am Spirit Lifters 9:30 Esther /Naomi Guild at FELC 6:30 Sarah Guild at FELC	7 Pastor's Day Off Preschool Staff IDW Early Childhood Conference	8
9 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:15 Lydia Guild—Library 9:30 Sunday School / Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship	10 9:00 Preschool & IGLLS Staff Gathering in the Gym Preschool Teachers Workdays	11 9:30 Library Board 7:00 Board of Trustees 7:00 Board of Education 8:00 Worship Service SMU	12 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:30 Finance BD 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 7:00-8:30 LYF IGLLS Parent Meetings F. Hall 6:30-8:00pm	13 7:00 Spirit Lifters 6:30 pm Preschool Parent Night Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm Elders	14 Pastor's Day Off	15
16 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion	17 9:00-Noon CPR Training-F. Hall Preschool & IGLLS	18 6:00 IGLLS Picnic—Gym, Fellowship Hall, Kitchen 6:30 Board of Youth 8:00 Worship Service on SMU (Julie Off-Shane to ISU)	19 M-W Visit Day 3-yr.-olds 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:30 Finance BD 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 7:00-8:30 LYF	20 7:00 Spirit Lifters T-Th Visit Day 3-yr.-olds 5:15 Bd. of CL/CO 7:00 Church Council IGLLS Parent Meetings F. Hall 6:30-8:00pm	21 Pastor's Day Off PARISH NEWS DUE	22
23 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship 1:30-5:30 Elder/Confirmand Meetings	24 PS M-W 3's 1st Day of School 11-6 IGLLS Picture Day & Conferences Normal Office Hours Resume Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m.—Noon	25 PS Tu-Th 3's 1st Day 8:00-Noon Classroom Visits for 4-yr.-olds IGLLS 1st Day of School 9:00 IGLLS Opening Chapel 8:00 Worship Service on	26 6:30 Men's Bible Study 4's 1st Day of Preschool 11:15 dismissal 8:30 Finance BD 11:30 Preschool Staff Devotions 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 7:00-8:30 LYF – Back to School Event, Games, S'Mores, Bonfire	27 7:00 am Spirit Lifters	28 Pastor's Day Off	29
30 Rally Day Install SS & GIFT Staff Rededication IGLLS & Preschool Staff 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School / Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship 1:30-5:30 Elder/Confirmand Meetings	31					

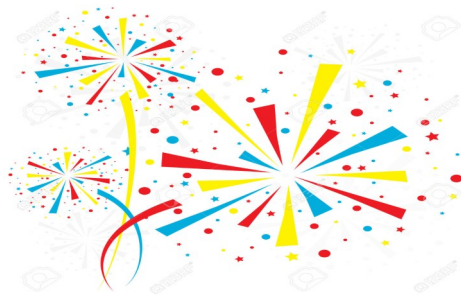
August, 2026



Aug. 1 Susie Norgaard
 Aug. 2 Rosamary Meyer
 Aug. 3 Louise Helmke
 Brandon Lowder
 Aug. 4 Kasen Meyer
 Matthew Salton
 Aug. 5 Alivia Avery
 Wyatt Moranville
 Aug. 6 Brexley Bern
 Monte Johnson
 Jinisa Lo
 Aug. 7 Sharon Buettner
 Mike Huffman
 Diane Kimball
 Aug. 8 Karlie Bern
 Aug. 9 Dan Aaronson
 Derek Kindwall
 Dan Knaak
 Aug. 10 Finley Abel
 Jacob Jensen
 Devon Rees



Aug. 11 Andrea Kabrick
 Aug. 12 Madison Stickrod
 Aug. 13 Colby Beachler
 Ken Schlichting
 Logan Treybal
 Aug. 14 Tom Herrig
 Carver Oviatt
 Aug. 15 Megan Wassom
 Aug. 16 Leonard Langner
 Sharon Rutter
 Aug. 17 Terry Chalstrom
 Beth Miller
 Darlene Miller
 Aug. 18 Ayslyn Glackin
 Aug. 20 Kaylee Lowder
 Aug. 21 Jack Schendel
 Darin Wempe
 Aug. 22 Nick Lewis



Aug. 23 Sheryl Aaland
 Courtland Caven
 Ken Schroeder
 Aug. 24 Brianna Dean
 Aug. 25 Ken Essick
 Donna Tillis
 Lorraine Treimer
 Aug. 26 Edith Becker
 Amanda Guerttman
 Aug. 27 Tim Hamrick
 Greg Hauswirth
 Heath Staedtler
 Aug. 28 Lincoln Jacobs
 Isabella Staedtler
 Aug. 29 Sharyl Potratz
 Aug. 30 Kinsley Dean
 Aug. 31 Jennifer Hackbarth
 Angelina Kabrick
 Stephanie Mesner
 Tina Parks



Aug. 1 Mac & Krista
 Hansen
 Aug. 1 Logan & Jake
 Treybal
 Aug. 2 Derek & Kelsey
 Kindwall
 Aug. 5 Travis & Jill
 Harmon
 Aug. 6 Ben & Rachel
 Wiest
 Aug. 6 Ron & Barb
 Muetzel
 Aug. 8 Mike & Gerri
 Kourakis
 Aug. 8 Matt & Sarah
 Rabel
 Aug. 9 Clayton & Dawn
 Fletcher
 Aug. 10 Dennis & Karen
 Rutledge



Aug. 10 Mark & Roxanne
 Warburton
 Aug. 13 Gregg & Noreen
 Bohl
 Aug. 13 John & Karen
 Hargens
 Aug. 15 Rev. Mike & Betty
 Sharp
 Aug. 18 Tyler & Ashley
 Herrig
 Aug. 18 Kevin & Vanessa
 Klein
 Aug. 18 Kellie & Cory
 Krieger



Aug. 19 Mark & Brenda
 Borsheim
 Aug. 22 Kurt & Marie
 Russenberger
 Aug. 23 Aaron & Vickie
 Laurent
 Aug. 23 Paul & Shelia
 Salton
 Aug. 25 Greg & Susan
 Hauswirth
 Aug. 26 Jeff & Roxanne
 Crew
 Aug. 26 Louise & Butch
 Helmke
 Aug. 26 Morgan & Cody
 Prantner
 Aug. 27 Wyatt & Emilee
 Moranville
 Aug. 28 Les & Karen
 Buchholz



THE AUGUST '26 PARISH NEWS
First English Lutheran Church
1311 East 18th Street
Spencer, IA 51301

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
Spencer, IA 51301
Permit No. 215

inside...

Office of Public Ministry—Part 4	Page 1
July Council Minutes	Page 5
August Birthdays & Anniversaries	Page 9