



FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3001 Whitis Avenue, Austin, Texas, 78705 • www.felcaustin.org

The mission of First English Lutheran Church is to proclaim the Word of God and the love of Jesus Christ to all people through our ministry of preaching, teaching and caring.

ECHOES Newsletter

Volume 47, Issue 8

August 2011

FROM THE PASTOR

Passing on the Light



Pastor Mike Coffey

Our 75th anniversary year began on July 19. We had a beautiful day of prayer, ending with the Evening Prayer liturgy. I want to share with you what I said that night:

Evening prayer gets its solemn beauty from the candle light that glows in the dark of night. The liturgy tells us that this is a prime visual metaphor for the love of God in Christ, the light that glows in our hearts and minds, even in darkness, a light we need to guide us through the sometimes murky way of this life.

It is a light we do not neglect or take for granted, but a light we keep kindling, because there is a sad shortage of love and grace among people, and God is so abundantly full of love and grace for humanity that no one need starve for it. And yet, there are many starving.

Seventy-five years ago some faithful and adventurous Lutheran church folks formed a new mission and ministry called First English Evangelical Lutheran Church. As we sometimes have to explain, they named it First English because it was the first all-English-speaking Lutheran church in town. There are about 50 First English Lutheran Churches in the US, all born of the recognized need for the love of God in Christ to shine among people here and now, people who didn't come from the homeland, people who don't speak the mother tongue, people starving for love that was abundantly available but only need be spoken into their minds and hearts in their own language.

Moses was called by God to teach the people of God in the way of light, the way of life, the way of love and grace. No one among them was to go hungry for it, just as no one was to go hungry for food. To make sure everyone saw the light of God's love shining in their hearts and minds, Moses instructs the people to tell each other the way of God all the time all over the place. Tell the children, and the grandchildren. Keep the light passing on from generation to generation, so it never goes out, so no one ever lives without knowing God is abundant love and grace.

As we give thanks for the history of this congregation, in many ways we are giving thanks to God for all the faithful people who knew the light of God's love in Christ and passed it on to children and grandchildren, from generation to generation, from the old country to the new land, from yesterday into today and through to tomorrow. What motivated those good, adventurous, faithful people in 1936, to start something new in such difficult times? It was the middle of the Great Depression, when unemployment that year was twice what it is today, when the dust bowl was still dry and blowing, when retirement for most meant certain poverty, and there was only recent hope from the New Deal.

They knew in their hearts, I suppose, that if they were going to carry on the light of God's love in Christ from their generation to the next, they needed to begin something new, take a new step, risk something great. And only a few generations later, we are here to celebrate that light shining into our hearts and minds, and that this place and community is here to help keep the light kindled in us and to share it with all who seek it.

continued on Page 3

Summer Activities at First English

SUMMER LUNCH CLUB

This summer, you're invited to join other church members for lunch at a nearby restaurant after worship each Sunday. Those who wish to go will meet at 11:30 at a pre-selected restaurant listed in the bulletin. Each week will be a different place, decided on at the previous week's gathering. So come for worship each summer Sunday at 9:45, stay for hospitality time, and head to lunch with your church community!

Member News

MARRIAGE

Elliot Conrad and Lillian Joslin

DEATH

Dorothy Banner

SUMMER CONTEMPLATIVE EVENING PRAYER

Summer Contemplative Evening Prayer, Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M. through August 17

From the Faith Formation Coordinator



Henri Atkinson

“School Days, School Days, good old American School Days!” Can’t believe its almost here. Enjoy these final days of vacation and get ready for school to open and Sunday School to start.

LOOK OUT BROADWAY, J.P. Benson is on his way! J. P. loves to act having appeared in *The Chronicles of Narnia*, *The Hobbit*, *The Fellowship of the Rings*, and in late July appeared in *The Lightening Thief*. He has also acted in our Christmas Programs.

J. P. takes karate lessons as well as steel drum and other type drum lessons. He is 11 and will be in the 6th grade at Brykerwoods Elementary. He is an avid gamer and lover of fantasy and comics. J. P. is an acolyte (he thinks its ok) and likes being able to commune with us on Sundays. This summer he is enjoying helping with our church play. The biggest thing J.P. has going for him is his wonderful family. He is the son of Eric and Leigh, the grandson of Bonnie and Norvell Northcutt. Plus his cousin Theo and aunts Nikki and Alison attend church here



too. The family is close and every summer finds them in Port Aransas where J. P. can enjoy water sports, tennis with his grandparents, fun times with his cousins and family bonding. “J. P. has a brain injury from an incident when he was born. He has Asbergers Autism and is very interested in the movie about Temple Grandin right now. We like the phrase from the movie ‘Different not less’.” Nothing keeps him down. He has been attending boot camp with his grandfather this summer and playing his favorite sport, golf. J. P. has moments of patience that I envy. I have seen him remain calm when he could have retaliated. To me he is a role model who has learned understanding far beyond his age!

God’s peace be with you!
Henri Atkinson

Do you have a special memory of First English that you would like to share as we commemorate our 75th anniversary as a community of faith? The 75th Anniversary Planning Committee would love to gather the special memories of our members and share and preserve them.

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
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| Lois Holck | loisholck@sbcglobal.net | 327-8501 |
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SUMMER NURSERY ATTENDANT

KRYSTAL NORMAN

CUSTODIANS

TERESA/JESUS DEL AGUILA
SONIA ESPINOZA

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Bonnie Northcutt

VICE-PRESIDENT

Sage Weber

SECRETARY

Joe Cain

MEMBERS

Henri Atkinson
Alison Derick-Northcutt
Angelo Ferrazzano
Shelly Kronbergs
Kristin Mondy
Nancy Neuse
Terry Porter
Barbara Schutz
Teresa Tice-Boggs

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FELC OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Friday 9:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.



August 2011

Visit First English Lutheran on the Web at www.felcaustin.org for more information and the current activity schedule on our Google calendar.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

<p>LOCATION LEGEND</p> <p>FH = FELLOWSHIP HALL LB = LIBRARY PL = PARLOR SY = SANCTUARY TC = TRANSEPT CHAPEL</p>	<p>AUGUST 1 9:00 A.M. Monday Ministry (SY)</p>	<p>AUGUST 2 8:00 A.M. Lutheran pastors text study (LB) NOON Prayer Circle (LB) 6:00 P.M. CDC Board (Parlor)</p>	<p>AUGUST 3 6:00 P.M. NUNA Developme 7:00 P.M. Contemplative Pra 7:00 P.M. Learning Ministry 7</p>
<p>AUGUST 7 9:45 A.M. Worship (SY) Children's Sunday School (FH) 11:30 A.M. Summer Lunch Club (Various Venues)</p>	<p>AUGUST 8 9:00 A.M. Monday Ministry (SY)</p>	<p>AUGUST 9 8:00 A.M. Lutheran pastors text study (LB) NOON Prayer Circle (LB)</p>	<p>AUGUST 10 5:30 P.M. NUNA Membershi 7:00 P.M. Contemplative Pra</p>
<p>AUGUST 14 9:45 A.M. Worship (SY) Children's Sunday School (FH) 11:30 A.M. Summer Lunch Club (Various Venues)</p>	<p>AUGUST 15 SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ECHOES 9:00 A.M. Monday Ministry (SY) 7:00 P.M. Congregation Council (Parlor)</p>	<p>AUGUST 16 8:00 A.M. Lutheran pastors text study (LB) NOON Prayer Circle (LB)</p>	<p>AUGUST 17 7:00 P.M. Contemplative Pra</p>
<p>AUGUST 21 9:45 A.M. Worship (SY) Children's Sunday School Performance and Potluck Lunch (FH) 11:30 A.M. Summer Lunch Club (Various Venues)</p>	<p>AUGUST 22 9:00 A.M. Monday Ministry (SY)</p>	<p>AUGUST 23 8:00 A.M. Lutheran pastors text study (PL) NOON Prayer Circle (LB)</p>	<p>AUGUST 24</p>
<p>AUGUST 28 9:45 A.M. Worship (SY) 11:30 A.M. Summer Lunch Club (Various Venues)</p>	<p>AUGUST 29 9:00 A.M. Monday Ministry (SY)</p>	<p>AUGUST 30 8:00 A.M. Lutheran pastors text study (LB) NOON Prayer Circle (LB)</p>	<p>AUGUST 31</p>

Key Sundays in August

AUGUST 21, PERFORMANCE AND POTLUCK LUNCH

Please join the children and youth in the Fellowship Hall after worship, for the performance of the play they've been working on this summer. Following the performance we'll celebrate with a potluck lunch.

AUGUST 28, INSTALLATION OF FELC VICAR #45

Plan now to attend worship on August 28 to welcome Peder Hinderlie, FELC Vicar #45.

SUMMER WORSHIP

Usher Schedule for August

- 8/7 Stan Kornfuehrer, Joe Cain
- 8/14 Terry Porter, Derek Bridges
- 8/21 Sasha and Eli Kopp, Jackie Chuter
- 8/28 Jackie Chuter, Penny Baker

First English

— Contribu

We're kicking off kickball night at Saturday of each

Starting on August Park Ball Field (S potluck and/or a

Players & specta Bring your tenni if your time penn Absolutely no sk & water provide at 419-7152 or gr Hope to see you



Prayer Circle TUESDAYS AT NOON

Take a break in your day for meaningful group prayer time, most Tuesdays at Noon in the church library. For information and special prayer requests, please call Barbara Schutz (328-0587) or Lois Holck (327-8501).



	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
nt Committee (FH) yer Service (TC) Team (Parlor)	AUGUST 4	AUGUST 5	AUGUST 6 9:00 A.M. Austin Central SDA (SY, PL, LB: 12:30 P.M. FH)
p Meeting (FH) yer Service (TC)	AUGUST 11	AUGUST 12	AUGUST 13 9:00 A.M. Austin Central SDA (SY, PL, LB: 12:30 P.M. FH)
yer Service (TC)	AUGUST 18 NOON CDC Staff (Parlor)	AUGUST 19 9:15 A.M. Church Women United Board (Parlor) 6:30 P.M. 3 rd Friday Game & Fellowship Night (LB)	AUGUST 20 9:00 A.M. Austin Central SDA (SY, PL, LB: 12:30 P.M. FH)
	AUGUST 25	AUGUST 26	AUGUST 27 9:00 A.M. Austin Central SDA (SY, PL, LB: 12:30 P.M. FH) 3:00 P.M. Learning Ministry Team Work Day 6:15 P.M. First English Kickball Night (Brentwood Park)
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; background-color: #f0f0f0;"> <p>Workday: Saturday, August 27 3:00 to 6:00 P.M.</p> <p>PARLOR AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS</p> <p>It'll be new year and we need to organize and fall-clean our spaces for both adult and children's Sunday School. All are welcome! If you have questions, please contact Renee Carlson, 477-3489, or Henri Atkinson, 255-7685.</p> </div>			

What Is A Prayer Shawl Ministry?

— Contributed by BARBARA SCHUTZ



In every congregation there are those who experience times of illness, or sorrow, of loss, or grief. In such a situation, it always helps to know that someone cares. A Prayer Shawl Ministry is a unique way of showing care. Those who like to knit or crochet, or would like to learn, commit to creating shawls or lap blankets that may be given as a source of comfort to members of the church or others in need. What makes these shawls or blankets extra-special and meaningful is that they are prayed over as they are created, and are delivered with prayers for the recipient.

In September there will be an organizational meeting for all those interested in exploring the possibilities of this ministry at First English. Participants may choose to gather for "prayer and knitting parties", or to work on their own with guidelines from the group. All experience levels can work successfully within the suggested materials and patterns. Knitting and crocheting can bring gifts to the creator as well as to the recipient—they are wonderful methods of stress relief and meditation!

Watch the Echoes and Sunday bulletins for an announcement of the organizational meeting for this new undertaking!

h Kickball Night

ted by GRETCHEN OLSON KOPP

f some old-fashioned fun—
Brentwood Park on the fourth
n month.

ust 27, meet at the Brentwood
(Santa Clara & Yates) for a 6:15
7 P.M. kickball game.

ators of all ages are welcome.
s shoes or your pom-poms and,
mits, your picnic food of choice.
kill or speed required. Ball, bases
d. Questions? Contact Gretchen
etchenrolson@yahoo.com.
at the game!

75TH Anniversary Luncheon

Please Make Plans to Join Us

The 75th Anniversary Committee is pleased to invite you to a special luncheon and program following a single morning worship service on Sunday, October 2, 2011.

The committee has been working closely with the head chef at Red's Porch on South Lamar Boulevard to develop the perfect celebratory menu for the members and guests of First English. They will serve elegant, traditional autumn favorites, including a carving station and a vegetarian option, and will provide service staff for the duration of the luncheon. In order to plan effectively, we ask that you reserve your place at the luncheon on or before September 6, 2011. The cost per person is \$15.00 (free for children ten (10) and under.) You may pay with a check (include 75th Anniversary Luncheon in the memo line of your check) or you may pay online through this link: <http://www.tinyurl.com/firstenglish75>.

On July 19 we began a year of exploring the "Memory and Mission" of First English Lutheran Church. That day marked the actual day 75 years ago when our congregation was formed. And now, as we move forward through this year of commemoration, celebration and planning, we look forward to a weekend of music and worship.

The weekend will begin with a choral presentation on Saturday, October 1, thanks to our dedicated choir and Director of Music, Donald Meineke (time to be announced) and will continue on Sunday, October 2, with a special worship service at 10:00 A.M., with participation by former pastors, along with Pastor Coffey, and our guest preacher, former vicar Mary Seroczynski. The luncheon and special program described above will follow the single worship service. Please make plans to join your faith community for this special time. And don't forget to RSVP!

Were you married at First English?

If so, we'd like to include a photo of you in our photo essay of FELC brides to be displayed during our anniversary weekend in October. Knowing these photos are precious, Allen Jensen has offered to bring scanning equipment to church on Sunday, August 21, Sunday, August 28, and Sunday, September 4.

The photo will be scanned on the spot by one of Allen's assistants (Josh, Ashley, or Ben), returned to you immediately and the scan will be used for the photo essay. It will be fun to see the various brides throughout the years, so please bring your photos.

From the CDC



Teresa Kapelle
CDC Director

I love summer for the break from the mundane schedules that we carry throughout the year. But with children, I also yearn for the routines that comfort children and get a family through the day happily. Fall to me means embracing those new routines.

New routines for children often follow the stereo-typical "honeymoon" phase. Most children have sensitive adults around them that prepare them for the change that is about to come. We talk about change, tiptoe and take a peak with a child to see what change will look like, and as adults, we hold our breath the first day or two when the change has actually occurred. And then, when it goes swimmingly well, we pat ourselves on the back, take a deep sigh of relief and decide that the new transition went perfectly.

And then, the bubble bursts. Suddenly, a child is crying before school or having a hard time listening to a teacher's words or hitting friends to get what they want. And we think, "What happened? Everything was great! Why now?" That's a question for which few have the answers. What we do know is that often children have a delayed reaction to change. It's as if it was a big game of "what if's" until the reality and finality of the change sets in. It's then that we might see all the transitional behaviors for which we braced ourselves.



So what do well meaning parents and teachers do? We go right back to the mode of pre-transition. We talk to our children, preparing them for the day that is ahead. And we stick to it when the moment of goodbye comes. As teachers, we are patient as we teach our new kids the expectations of the new room, even when our friends forget them. "You know, Julie, when you take that toy out of Sara's hands, it frustrates her. If you want to use the toy, you need to use your words and let Julie know that you would like to use it after her." We set those boundaries and stand tight by them. We also empathize with how tough change is. We hug our children and sympathize with their emotions.

And then, we are all calm and patient. Change for a child can sometimes take months. And although it can inconvenience our adult concepts of change, we must remember that change takes time for a child, but once it has been accomplished, we all have remarkable and independent children of whom we can be proud.

First English Lutheran
Child Development Center
(512) 478-5424
tkapelle@firstenglishcdc.org

Women's Tree of Life Retreat "Bears Fruit"



— Contributed by BARBARA SCHUTZ

Twenty-five delightfully diverse women gathered at Cedarbrake Renewal Center June 24–26 for the “first in a very, very long time” FELC Women’s Retreat.

Spirits were high, and the Holy Spirit very present. The retreat included silly and revealing icebreakers, morning and evening devotions, topics for personal reflection and small group sharing, late night fellowship, a labyrinth walk, and an indoor/outdoor closing worship. Chef Scott Carlisle, assisted by his wife Phyllis, generously provided nourishing and delicious “bread for the journey”. The sumptuous meals were highpoints of the retreat!

The theme “Tree of Life” offered many instructive images from nature—of life cycles, seasons, root systems, branches, pruning, fertilizing, dormancy and new life—that guided reflection and discussion. In a number of ways the group affirmed the strength gained by time spent in community, as our “roots” grow and intertwine with each other to keep us strong as storms blow through our lives, and as our different gifts and perspectives bring “cross pollination” for creativity and problem-solving. It was agreed by all that women’s retreats need to become a regular part of life at First English.

A consideration of the needs of different age groups at the church along with what in our programming already provides for those needs led to an exciting budding, blooming and fruit producing discussion! By the end of Saturday, there were plans to organize 6 new small group activities: a Book Club, Kickball nights, a Singles Group, the FELC Trekkers (for hikers), a yoga class, and a Prayer Shawl Ministry. There was also an offer to organize a congregational trip to Holden Village in June of 2013 (Mark your calendars now!), an offer to teach cooking classes, and an offer to conduct a poetry writing workshop. Each proposed activity has someone committed to organizing it, so be watching Echoes, Sunday bulletins, and weekly e-mail notices for further information!

1ST Row: Connie, Kathleen, Renee, Nancy;
2ND Row: Shannon, Katherine, Nikki;
3RD Row: Margaret, Penny, Teresa, Jill,
Bonnie, Carolyn; 4TH Row: Charlotte,
Barbara S., Merrily, Gretchen, LaRu,
Phyllis, Cynthia, Jackie, Sandra;
Not pictured: Anne, Barbara W. Henri.



CONTINUE IN PRAYER FOR

Teresa Tice-Boggs and Family

Carolyn Albert

Family of Dorothy Banner

Ann Hinz

Helen Rodriguez, friend of Greg Meier

Kevin Fraser, friend of the Collmann family

Santa Garcia Heineman, friend of Barbara W.

Christopher Jordan, nephew of Barbara

Wiederaenders’ friend, Gloria Jordan

LaWanda Bailey, friend of Barbara Wiederaenders

Val, friend of Charlotte Gilman

Veronika S., friend of Greg Meier

Bill Martin, father of Barbara Wiederaenders’ classmate

OraNell Hassebrock, grandmother of

Katherine Ortiz

Felix, Kristen & Lauren Bargas, friends of Monica Lund

Don Larson & Family, cousin of Monica Lund

Dennis Burroughs, friend of Gratia Winship

Princetta MacLaren, step-mother of Andy MacLaren

Michaelie Wiebe, niece of Anne Wiebe

Gene Steinmeyer, uncle of Jill Essbaum

Greg & Renee Heins & Family, friends of Emily Atkinson

Mindy, Charlotte & James, friends of Monica Lund

Mallie Coker, friend of Katherine Houston

Jarett Werley, friend of Chris Billig

Ki Norman, friend of Monica Lund

Prayers: Of thanksgiving for First English Lutheran

Church’s 75 years of mission and ministry; and for

courage as we carry on the light of God’s love in Christ

from our generation to the next.

August 2011

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ECHOES is a monthly publication of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church. Founded in 1936, the church is located at the corner of Whitis Avenue and 30th Street in the North University area of Austin.

PASTOR

Michael Coffey

VICAR/INTERN

Peder Hinderlie



SUMMER WORSHIP

9:45 A.M. Worship Service

Summer Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall following the Children's Sermon

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday.



FIRST ENGLISH 75TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR MEMORY AND MISSION

SAVE THE DATE!
October 1, 2011 Choral presentation by FELC choir
October 2, 2011 10 am Worship followed by luncheon and program in the Fellowship Hall

November 6, 2011 All Saints' Sunday recognition of all of FELC's saints
February 12, 2012 Journey of faith through the arts and kickoff drive for anniversary mission event
April 22, 2012 Annual Chicken Bar-B-Que
July 18, 2012 Evening prayer services as anniversary year ends

Watch for additional details in future Echoes