



CHRIST
THE KING
SUNDAY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2013

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1603 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23220-2906

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Email: info@felcrichmond.org Web pages: www.felcrichmond.org

Rev. Dr. John T. Schweitzer, Pastor: pastor@felcrichmond.org

Mr. Linwood Lunde, Interim Music Director

Mr. Brian Wingfield, Parish Administrator: bwingfield@felcrichmond.org

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church – November 2013

From the Pastor

This past Sunday, November 3, 2013—All Saints Sunday—we paused in our services to remember those members who departed this life during the past twelve months, since All Saints Sunday 2012. Here is the list, which was also printed in our church worship bulletin:

Catherine Ann Ellke
+ 12/17/2012 – 66 years
Russell Coleman Purks
+ 1/4/2013 – 93 years
Betty Grace Ament
+ 2/14/2013 – 74 years
George Lee Watkins III
+ 3/19/2013 – 63 years
James Moir Largen Sr.
+ 3/15/2013 – 91 years
June Largen
+ 3/16/2013 – 90 years
Richard Holladay Cross
+ 4/13/2013 – 90 years
Shirley Mankin Nelson
+ 4/19/2013 – 86 years
Francis Lee Mason Hood
+ 8/31/2013 – 92 years
Alma Jones Powell
+ 10/6/2013 – 86 years
Carroll K. Davis – 92 years
+ 10/27/2013

We also sang the hymn “For All the Saints, Who from Their Labors Rest.” I’m always moved by the second verse, which states: “Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one within your great design. Alleluia! Alleluia!”

Immediately after that we confessed our Christian faith with the Apostles’ Creed, which includes the words “I believe in the communion of saints.” What a comfort to know that we are in blest communion with our departed loved ones! I think of all the saints in this church I have ministered to and worked with who are now with their Lord, and beyond that everyone whom I have known in life, some of greater influence, some of lesser, but all precious in the sight of God, who have died believing firmly in Christ, the resurrection and the life.

All Saints Sunday is special for this reason: for one moment the relenting march of time loses its grip

on us and we understand, be it ever so tentatively, that line of another hymn we sang on Sunday: “A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.” God is the Lord of time, God is unchanging, and we are secure under the shadow of his throne.

This past month has also brought some significant changes to us at First English, not the least of which has been the resignation of our Associate in Ministry, Mr. Linus Ellis.



As he states in his letter to the congregation printed elsewhere, he came to us as organist/choir director in 2000. In 2005 we called him as the first Associate in Ministry in the history of this congregation. Linus served us well in numerous ways: as organist, choir director, publications director, volunteer coordinator, enabler and organizer of new committees, and as someone who brought us a variety of guest choirs, organists, and other music groups. He will be sorely missed.

To add my own personal words of appreciation, I was greatly impressed when I came to First English to find an organist who could play the works of Bach, and in addition the entire French organ repertoire, with which I was not very familiar when I arrived.

His most lasting legacy will probably be the magnificent organ we have in our sanctuary, procured under his guidance in 2003. Who can forget his renditions of Boëllmann’s or Widor’s Toccatas at the end of festival services, which literally shook the building at their conclusions? Will Easter here ever be the same without his playing of Bach’s Prelude and Fugue in D major?

But we move on. A search committee which will also examine our needs in the area of music has been formed, and in the meantime we have secured the services of Mr. Lynwood Lunde to serve as our supply organist. The Council has already decided that, in view of our precarious financial situation, we will not seek to call another (full time) Associate in Ministry.

Thank you and Godspeed, Linus. May the Lord bless you in the next chapter in your life’s journey; thanks be to God for your years here.

~ Pastor John Schweitzer



Fall Service Project

FELC Fall Service Project: The Giving Heart

Women of the ELCA

Our next meeting is **November 8th** beginning with dinner at **6:00**. Our speaker will be Lynn Litchfield. Lynn is with the Chaplain Service of Prison Ministry of VA. I'm sure her talk will be most interesting. We will end the evening with our business meeting.



The fall service project this year is for The Giving Heart (www.thegivingheart.org). This is an all volunteer organization started in 2003 that serves the greater Richmond community and focuses on providing food, fellowship and essential items to those in need. First English will be providing gift wrapped shoeboxes for children in need containing items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, combs, writing pads, pencils, soap, and sealed snacks. The boxes will be distributed to children at The Giving Heart's Community Thanksgiving Feast held on Thanksgiving Day at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. A donations box with a requested items list is in the First English narthex. Shoeboxes are also needed. The First English youth group is supporting this project. People preferring to make cash or check donations for the purchase of additional items can include an amount with their offering, with a note indicating the amount and "Fall Service Project: The Giving Heart". An application will be submitted to Thrivent for matching funds. The "Wrap-Day" will be **Sunday November 17th** (after the 10:30 service) when the shoe boxes are wrapped (top and bottom separately) and filled. Last year, First English provided 105 boxes to The Giving Heart, let's see if we can do even better this year!

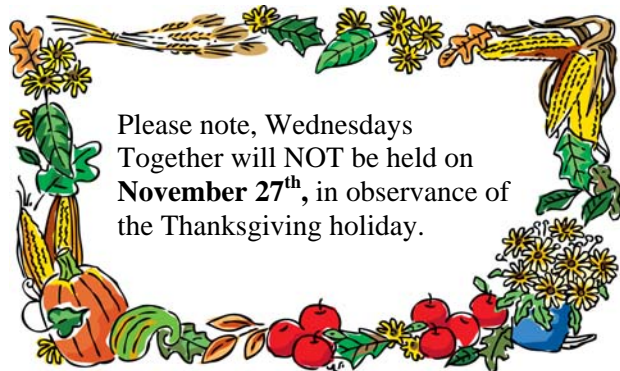


Mark your calendars NOW for the annual Advent Event!!

Sunday, December 1, 2013

Join the Education Committee for a light lunch during hospitality immediately following the 10:30 worship service. After lunch, make your own advent wreath and decorations. There will be activities for all ages. Don't miss this wonderful way to begin the season of Advent.

We will also be celebrating December birthdays with cake and ice cream after lunch.



Bingo is Back

Fun for all ages!
Please join us on Wednesday,
November 20th

Enjoy the Wednesdays
Together dinner at 6:00
Then stay for Game Night
(6:45 to 7:30)

Small prizes for the winners -
candy for everyone

Our October Game Night was lots
of fun!
(Just ask Reni, Cookie, Jordon, or
Scotty who were all winners)

LINUS ELLIS

1504 GROVE AVENUE, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23220

10/10/2013

The Congregation of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
1603 Monument Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Dear Members of the Congregation,

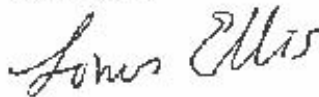
As many of you know, I came to First English Evangelical Lutheran Church in 2000 as a contractor at the request of the Interim Pastor, Larry Shoberg, an old friend. It was my intent to stay only until Pastor Shoberg left. When the Congregation decided to make Pastor Schweitzer the primary candidate and he came to visit, it was a very pleasant surprise. First English was certainly lucky to have found him. He asked me to stay and I decided to do so. It has been a great privilege to serve with him these past twelve years.

A couple of years later, with the encouragement and support of Pastor Schweitzer, Pastor Gunston, and First English's Congregation Council, I embarked on the candidacy process to become an Associate in Ministry. In 2005, after I received approval from the Candidacy Committee, First English choose to call me as its first Associate in Ministry. I was very honored and I have served in that call for over eight years.

In June 2011, my wife, Ruth, suffered a very bad fall. Since then she has required more of my time to help her and I have had to do a lot more of the work of maintaining our home. Fortunately, Pastor Schweitzer, the internet, and the congregation have allowed me to do a significant portion of my work for First English from home where I have been available to Ruth. However, my work load helping Ruth and maintaining our home has been steadily increasing. It has become more and more apparent this fall that I cannot maintain the schedule that I have. After several bouts of illness, I have reached the conclusion that I have to lighten my work load. Therefore, I have decided to resign my call to First English. I am making this resignation effective at the close of business, 5:00 pm, on October 15, 2013.

Serving at First English has been a wonderful experience and I appreciate all the support that you have given me. Please know that you will always be in my prayers.

In Christ's love,



Linus Ellis
Associate in Ministry



Fall Stewardship Campaign

It is time again for our participation in the Annual Financial Response process which enables the Finance and Budget Committee to build the 2014 church budget. Just as your household builds a budget so must the church. Many people feel uncomfortable providing the church with a pledge of a weekly financial commitment but only when we all participate in this process can we build a sound budget and continue to serve the needs of our congregation and the Greater Richmond area.

Relative to the Annual Financial Response process, the fall Stewardship Campaign has begun and will conclude on November 29. During this time, there will be temple talks, a celebration of talents and time, and recognition of an estate gift the church received.

Stewardship: The Shift

Considering a new approach to stewardship requires a large shift in the way that we think and talk about stewardship. How much of what is mine should I give away? How much of what is God's should I keep for myself?

Old Outlook

- ❖ Stewardship is about paying the bills
- ❖ Stewardship is about money

Shift in Perspective

- ❖ Stewardship is about loving God and my neighbor
- ❖ Stewardship is about my whole self

When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I have not a single bit of talent left. Then I can say "I used everything you gave me". - *Author Unknown*

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church – November 2013



	November 3 – All Saints Sunday	November 10 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost	November 17 – 26th Sunday after Pentecost	November 24 – Christ the King Sunday
8:15 Lector	Pat McAfee	Kevin Murphy	Grace Gulick	Jane Stockman
10:30 Lector	1. Bill Fenerty 2. Carol McCue	1. Nicole Krause 2. Mary Elizabeth Ellis	1. Emmett Heltzel 2. Cheryl Shiembob	1. Joe Thisted 2. Polly Brickman
Crucifer	Cooper	Molly	Jim Byerly	Stuart Myer
Acolytes	Cassidy Kirk	Nate Parker	Sydney Michael	Amanda Spenser
Altar Guild	Libby Riggle	Jim Byerly	Billy Duke Linda Wallace	Jenna Hoke Jeff Hoke
Communion Assistants	Debbie Lane Charlie Schumann Polly Brickman	Julie Goodman Joe Thisted, Sr. Joyce Smith	Wayne Griffin Joedy Smith Jim Byerly	Mary Elizabeth Ellis Carol McCue Linda Smith
Head Counter	Rob Comet	Rob Comet	Rob Comet	Rob Comet
Counters	Joe Smith Linda Smith	John Ritz Helen Comet	Betty Davidson Julie Goodman	Bob Lane Mary Elizabeth Ellis
Ushers	Wayne Griffin Roger Riggle	Reni Gower Jeff Nelson Lynn Heltzel Roger Riggle	Roger Riggle Sheryl Finucane Joedy Smith Bill Davidson	Bill Davidson Roger Riggle Brenda Myer Stuart Myer
Hospitality	Congregational Life	Betty Davidson & Mary Elizabeth Ellis	Lydia & Laura English	Oldershaw Family
Readings	Dan 7:1-3,15-18 Eph 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31	Job 19:23-27a 2 Thess 2:1-5,13-17 Luke 20:27-38	Mal 4:1-2a 2 Thess 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19	Jer 23:1-6 Col 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43



Newsletter Deadline

All submissions for the December issue need to be turned in to the church office no later than Friday November 15.

Thank you for your cooperation. Church Office Staff

FELC People News



Alma Jones Powell died on October 6, 2013 at the age of 86 years. Her funeral was held on Thursday, October 10 at Bliley's-Central Chapel with interment at Forest Lawn Cemetery. Next of kin is Stewart Powell Jr. and Deborah Bethel, with families.

Carroll Kemp Davis died on October 27, 2013 at the age of 92 years. A graveside service was held on Thursday, October 31 at Washington Memorial Park. Next of kin are son, Carroll Kemp Davis Jr.; daughter, Margaret "Peggy" Jane Davis; daughter, Carolyn Franz; sister, Jane Davis Collins; with families.

Let's Celebrate February with the Following Members of our Congregation



Happy Birthday to
everyone celebrating a
birthday in the month of
November!



November Anniversaries

Congratulations to all
celebrating a Wedding
Anniversary in November!



<p>Friday November 1 12:00 pm: TFIG NA Meeting 7:30 pm: AA – Not Saints Group Meeting</p>	<p>Sunday Nov. 17 – 26th Sunday after Pentecost 8:15 am: Service of Holy Communion 9:15 am: Sunday School 9:30 am: Senior Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am: Service of Holy Communion 11:30 am: Hospitality – Lydia & Laura English 11:30 am: The Giving Heart Wrap Day 12:00 pm: Outreach Committee Meeting</p>
<p>Sunday November 3 – All Saints Sunday <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i> 8:15 am: Service of Holy Communion 9:15 am: Sunday School 9:30 am: Senior Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am: Service of Holy Communion 11:30 am: Hospitality – Congregational Life 12:00 pm: Strategic Planning Committee</p>	<p>Tuesday November 19 7:00 pm: Congregational Council Meeting</p>
<p>Wednesday Nov. 6 – Wednesdays Together 12:00 pm: AA – Wednesday Noon Group Meeting 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:45 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>Wednesday Nov. 20– Wednesdays Together 12:00 pm: AA– Wednesday Noon Group Meeting 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:45 pm: Game Night with Bingo 6:45 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>Friday November 8 12:00 pm: TFIG NA Meeting 6:00 pm: Women of the ELCA 7:30 pm: AA – Not Saints Group Meeting</p>	<p>Friday November 22 12:00 pm: TFIG NA Meeting 7:30 pm: AA – Not Saints Group Meeting</p>
<p>Sunday Nov. 10 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost 8:15 am: Service of Holy Communion 9:15 am: Sunday School 9:30 am: Senior Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am: Service of Holy Communion 11:30 am: Hospitality – Betty Davidson & Mary Elizabeth Ellis 12:00 pm: Congregational Life Committee</p>	<p>Sunday Nov. 24 – Christ the King Sunday 8:15 am: Service of Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Sunday School 9:30 am: Senior Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am: Service of Holy Communion 11:30 am: Hospitality – Oldershaw Family 12:00 pm: Worship & Music Committee Meeting</p>
<p>Wednesday Nov. 13 – Wednesdays Together 12:00 pm: AA – Wednesday Noon Group Meeting 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:45 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>Wednesday November 27 <i>No Wednesdays Together</i> 12:00 pm: AA– Wednesday Noon Group Meeting</p>
<p>Friday November 15 12:00 pm: TFIG NA Meeting 7:30 pm: AA – Not Saints Group Meeting</p>	<p>Thursday November 28 – Thanksgiving Day <i>Church Office Closed</i></p>
	<p>Friday November 29 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 12:00 pm: TFIG NA Meeting 7:30 pm: AA – Not Saints Group Meeting</p>

THANKSGIVING



candles

Brighten your dinner table with these festive candle holders.

What you need:

- An adult's help
- Miniature pumpkins (palm size)
- Tea light candles
- Pencil
- Sharp knife
- Spoon

What you do:

1. Place a candle on top of each miniature pumpkin and trace around the candle's base.
2. Have an adult cut around the circle.
3. Scoop out the pulp and seeds.
4. Place a candle inside. Keep scooping, if necessary, so the candle sits inside the pumpkin nicely.
5. Decorate your dinner table with the pumpkins. Have an adult light the candles for you.





PUZZLE

Why we're thankful

Leaves falling from trees are a sign of autumn's arrival. Giving thanks to God is a sign of our gratitude for his many blessings.

Directions: Using the words in the leaves, discover why it's good for us to thank God. (Hint: Use word length to help you.)



16:34, NIV

Answers: "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34, NIV