



MESSENGER

Connected in Christ, we grow in faith, live with hope,
and reach out to share God's love with others.

First English Lutheran Church

September 2021

Address:

440 Garfield Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Phone:

715-423-2840

Fax:

715-423-2560

Website:

www.felwr.org

Pastor:

715-818-5690 Direct
Pastor Cheryl Davis
pastorcheryl@felwr.org

Secretary:

Janet Grackowski
fel@felwr.org

Financial Secretary:

Sherri Krutzik
Sherri@felwr.org

Bookkeeper:

Kathy Alft
kathyalft@charter.net

SUMMER WORSHIP

9:30am in person & FB Live
then, YouTube at 11:15am

Televised...

Wednesday @ 7am
Sunday @ 11am from the pre-
vious Sunday

Wisconsin Rapids
Community Media,
Charter 985 &
Solarus Channel 3

**For weather church closings
check TV Channel 7 WSAW**

The following article comes from the organization, LEAD. It was published 8/25/21 and has been edited due to space limitations. https://waytolead.org/dear-church-layleaders/?mc_cid=420207cf20&mc_eid=38b0415933

Dear Church Lay Leaders,

You are in the minority of people on the planet right now who are praying for the future of your church, God's church. Thank you! You are holding space for the Holy Spirit to show up and lead us through this pandemic. Because of you, the church has a strong past.

Many of you are also protecting the ways of the church from change. You want things to go back to how they were. Let's face it, you were comfortable, and like the rest of us, you knew what to expect. That was a good thing. Now you are disconnected from the people you used to see every week. How can you know how to pray for them or even how they can pray for you? It is hard, yet you are trying your best to keep the community together, like it used to be.

The thing is, no one expected this global shift to hit us. The rate of change has our heads spinning and our hearts yearning for the past. We feel threatened. We are having a hard time imagining what the future looks like and how we'll fit in.

The hope for the future is to calm ourselves down, catch our breath, and take a hard look at how the church thrived when it was threatened in the past. Just look at Acts 8. Followers of Jesus were persecuted, (actually stoned), and everyone except the Apostles fled Jerusalem. And those who fled were the people who started what we know as the Early Church. Under pressure, people of faith can rethink their way of life and thrive.

Will our congregation thrive or decline? The answer to that question is in your hands (with the help of God). The path forward is your willingness to try new things, to offer support rather than criticism, and to welcome people you don't know yet into leadership.

Yes, we firmly believe the growth of the church depends on the lay people and lay leaders, not the pastor. The pastor is your spiritual leader, but you create the culture in your congregation that is either warm and inviting or resistant and exclusive.

We are writing to you because we see people missing the fact that even in Jesus' day, things were political, so the call to love your neighbor as yourself has always been hard. Really hard. But easier if we are doing it together.

Thank you for reading this. We pray for you and hope you continue to pray for God's church to thrive. You have the power to prune and to plant. Thank you for doing that. Let us know if we can help.

Together in Christ,
Your friends at LEAD



September 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>5 9:30am Worship-comm</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>HAPPY LABOR DAY</p> 	 <p>7 7am Yoga 10am Staff Mtg</p>	<p>1 7am Yoga 10am Zoom Chat</p> <p>PASTOR'S ON</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1pm Sarah Circle</p> <p>VACATION</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>12 9:30am Worship-comm</p> <p>Fall/Winter Schedule begins</p> <p>Conf Classes Begin</p> <p>Acolyte training</p> <p>HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY!</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>Pastor Off</p>	<p>14 7am Yoga 10am Staff Mtg</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10am Zoom Chat</p> <p>12pm Finance</p> <p>1pm Quilters</p> <p>5:30pm Christ Ed Mtg</p>	<p>9 7am Yoga</p> <p>16 7am Yoga</p>	<p>10</p> <p>17</p>	<p>11</p> <p>18</p>
<p>19 9:30am Worship-comm</p> <p>11am – 12pm New Member Class 2 #1</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pastor Off</p>	<p>21 7am Yoga 10am Staff Mtg</p> <p>6:30pm Council</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10am Zoom Chat</p> <p>22</p> <p>10am Zoom Chat</p> <p>1pm Quilters</p>	<p>23 7am Yoga</p>	<p>24</p> <p>25</p>	
<p>26 9:30am Worship-comm</p> <p>11-12pm New Member Class 2 #2</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pastor Off</p>	<p>28 7am Yoga 10am Staff Mtg</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10am Zoom Chat</p> <p>Happy Birthday Pastor Cheryl!</p> 	<p>30 7am Yoga</p>		

2021 Financial News & Attendance			
Monthly	Average Attendance	2021 Budget \$ Needed Monthly	Actual \$ Current Expenses
January	COVID-19	\$26,778.50	\$43,174.11
February	COVID-19	\$26,778.50	\$19,317.35
March	COVID-19	\$26,778.50	\$27,641.40
April	MAX 50	\$26,778.50	\$23,495.68
May	MAX 100	\$26,778.50	\$20,949.48
June	MAX 100	\$26,778.50	\$18,852.85
July	MAX 100	\$26,778.50	\$19,309.48
August	MAX 100	\$26,778.50	
September		\$26,778.50	
October		\$26,778.50	
November		\$26,778.50	
December		\$26,778.50	
July Other Income:			
Missionary Support: \$49.00, World Hunger: \$74.00 Misc. Benevolence: \$22.00 VBS: \$352.87			
To see full FELC financials please contact Janet for a copy.			

COUNCIL...

*MINISTRIES:

Christian Ed - Concerns about the ministry as a whole, asks questions of participants, let it flow organically based on need. C.E. has the full support of Council for whatever decisions it makes.

MSP - to approve ministry minutes as submitted.

*OLD BUSINESS:

Website & Tech - Amber Schumacher is going to research requirements before giving us an estimate of the costs of her to get the new website up and running. She will work towards an estimate that she may get started in September or sooner.

Covid Re-opening - MSP to approve the Covid Committee's message to the congregation - unanimous.

*NEW BUSINESS:

Council Schedule of meeting devotions/person/month was decided.

*PASTOR'S REPORT:

New member classes - are going well. 10 new members, 6 children and potentially a few returning members.

Continuing Education - Stepping up the Supervision, about supervising employees.

Vacation - Pastor will be on vacation September 1st - 7th.

Property Ministry - with no active property ministry, John is doing extra work. Talking with Personnel about making John the Property Manager, and adjusting his salary, or getting a Property committee together.

God's work, our hands - a new member is stepping up to help, no one has stepped up to head it yet. It is not likely to happen on September 12th, but it looks like it will happen at some point.

***Next Council Meeting is September 21st at 6:30pm via in person and/or Zoom.**



Change is coming,

don't fight it,

embrace it!



Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8



YOGA @ FELC

Every Tuesday & Thursday

7:00am



9th GRADE CONFIRMATION

Sunday, October 31st

At 9:30am



New Member Classes

Sundays @ 11-12pm

September 19th ~ October 17th

Must attend at least 4 of 5 classes.

WELCOME

S.W.E.P.S.

SWEPS ~ South Wood Emerging Pantry Shelf provides food to families in the community to meet emergency hunger needs.

The pantry is in need of canned veggies/fruits, canned soups, canned pastas, rice & pasta mixes, ramen and PB&J. Also, deodorant, tampons/pads, dish/laundry soap, shampoo & conditioner, and always volunteers!



THANK YOU!

Saturday, October 23rd

LWR Semi Loading

8:30am - Noon in the FELC parking lot

All items will be in the entryway on the West side of church. We will need them loaded into the semi trailer.

Confirmation students - service project.

Masks will be required!



Please keep our Members in Special Circumstances in your thoughts & prayers, send them a card, or give them a call...

Marlene Chesebro

421-3275

Residence

2950 16th Street S

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

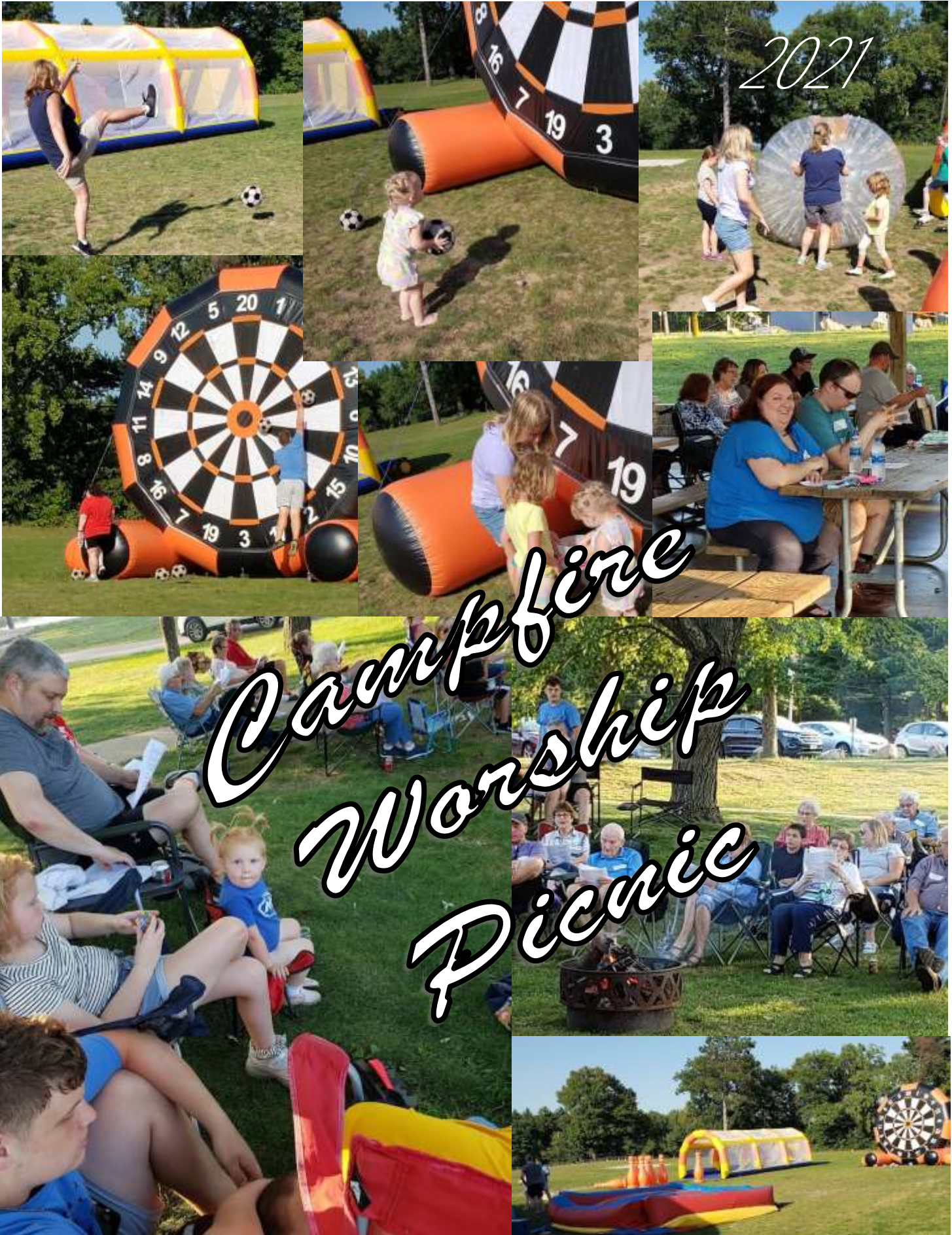
Marilyn Lee

715-424-7602

Renaissance Assisted

1500 Pepper Ave #102

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494



2021

Campfire Worship Picnic

September Birthdays

9/1 Marilyn Gillies
9/5 Noeella Knoll
9/6 Easton Edwards
9/8 Mary Benak
9/12 Lilyahna Smith
9/13 Olivia Ashbeck
9/14 Gary Kester
Emily Wangen
9/15 David Peckham
Jeanne Olson
Kevin Krueger
9/16 Janet Cavanaugh
Kaitlynn Fleisner
Nicole Velazquez
Lauren Jackson
9/17 Sigrid Kahoun
Bill Risinger
9/18 Beatrice Miller
9/19 Sharon Stueck
9/20 Marilyn Lee
9/22 Janice Van Tassel
9/24 Susan Hamilton
Randy Franz
Brenda DeWitt
9/25 Karren Zahn
Janet Graczkowski
9/26 Judy Long
9/27 Douglas Dresden
9/28 Ron McCabe
Rhonda Felton
9/29 Anne Handschke
Cheryl Davis
9/29 Abigail Wangen

September Anniversaries

9/4 Jim & Carole Prochnow
9/5 Pat & Jen Stoiber
9/8 Dave & Sue Davies
Mark & Mary Umnus
9/11 Dennis & Sharon Herzberg
9/14 Randy & Tari Jahns
Amanda & Aaron Zelin
9/15 Mike & Patti Schill
Jaimee & Kyle Dallman
Josh & Amy Hafermann
9/17 Dave & Kathy Alft
9/21 Craig & Karen Thurber
9/22 Cedar Hamilton & Tammy Parzewski
9/24 Josh & Tonya Manning
Andy & Jessica Edwards
9/29 Keith & Jeanne Olson

Children's Baptisms

9/1 Reagan Green
9/17 Sadie Edwards
9/19 Allison Stultz
9/23 Natalie Spreeman
9/29 Collin Mancl

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FELC...

Each month...

Mondays: Pastor's day off
Tuesday/Thursday: 7am Yoga
Tuesdays: 10am Staff Meeting
3rd Tuesday: 6:30pm Council Mtg
Wednesdays: 10am Zoom Chat
2nd Wednesday: Finance Mtg
Sundays: Worship at 9:30am with communion - in person & FB live, then YT at 11:15am

September...

6 Happy Memorial Day! Office Closed
12 Fall/Winter Schedule, Confirmation 6th - 9th starts. Acolyte training. Happy Grandparent's Day!
19 11am New Member Class 2, #1
22 First day of Autumn!
26 11am New Member Class 2, #2
29 Happy Birthday Pastor Cheryl!

October...

3 11am New Member Class 2, #3
10 11am New Member Class 2, #4
17 11am New Member Class 2, #5
23 8.30am LWR Semi Loading - Confirmation kids help.
31 Confirmation Day for 9th Graders.

November...

7 New Members are welcomed
25 Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed.
26 Office Closed.



Happy Fall!

A message from our COVID Task Force:

With the rising numbers of COVID in Wood County the following procedures will be in play...

- Masks are mandatory!** (Please bring your own if you have one)
- Masks and hand sanitizer will be available upon entry.
- Pews will be roped off with 2 empty pews between seated pews. Please leave at least 6' in the pew between your family and others.
- Both the balcony (up the stairs), and the overflow space (front right) will be available for your use.
- Talking after the service should take place outside, so please exit quickly.

Funerals will be allowed at the church if the above guidelines are followed. Seating restrictions will not change for funerals. No food will be served.

Meetings in the Library of the church will be socially distanced and masks will be required.

Boy Scout building usage will be restricted to adults and restrictions will apply.

Worship is also available via Face Book, You Tube, and W.R. Community Media - Cable Channel: Charter 985 & Solarus 3

~The Lord be with you. Thank you for your kind cooperation!

Fall Blessing to You All

