

FIRST ENGLISH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Guide For Communion Assistants



During the “Sharing of the Peace”

- ◆ Move to the back of the sanctuary
- ◆ Get sacraments from ushers or from the table in the office area

At the start of the anthem

- ◆ Bring the sacraments to the altar
 - Two will carry the sacraments, the 3rd will follow as far as the front pew
- ◆ Those carrying the sacraments should bow slightly before turning
- ◆ Sit in the front pew

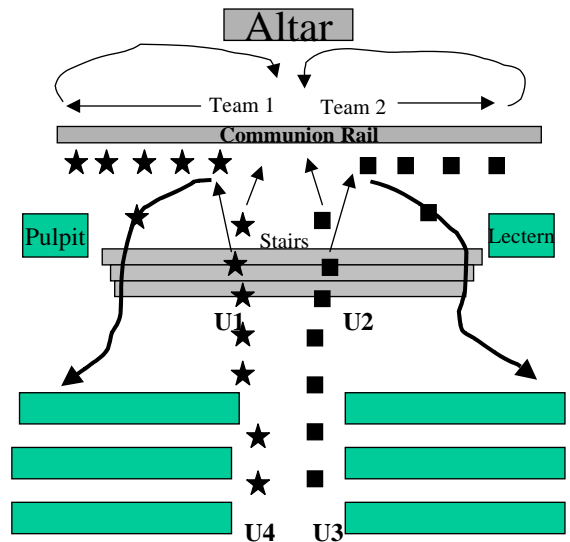
At the start of communion

- ◆ Two assistants should assist Pastor in serving communion to those who are unable to ascend the steps.
- ◆ One will take a filled tray of cups
- ◆ One will take an empty tray

After communion is served at the pew level

- ◆ All three assistants will go to the altar area.
 - ◆ One person will serve bread
 - ◆ Two will serve wine
 - ◆ Acolytes will assist with picking up empty glasses
- ◆ Latch the “doors” at the ends of the communion rails.
- ◆ When serving bread—declare
 - ◆ The body of Christ given for you

- ◆ When serving wine—declare
 - ◆ The blood of Christ shed for you
- ◆ Provide a blessing to children who are not communing (e.g. Jesus Loves You)
- ◆ Communion is served from the center of the altar rail to each edge. (see diagram)
- ◆ Stay alert—if one team runs out of wine the person serving wine on the other team will need to serve both sides.
- ◆ This should be a continuous process. When you reach the end cycle back to the beginning.
- ◆ After all in the congregation and choir have communed - All assistants should gather in a semicircle behind the altar and serve one another.
- ◆ Finally
 - ◆ Put the wine trays back as you found them. Put the bread back on the altar. DO NOT PUT trays behind the doors.
 - ◆ If you are still in front at the time of the communion prayer STOP and face the altar.



Be alert small hand signals will assist those unsure of where to go move comfortably to the communion rail and those unsure of when to stand and leave to feel comfortable in returning to the pews.

If you are unable to serve on the scheduled date

- ◆ Please find a replacement and
- ◆ Notify the church office