



## From the Pastor

I am writing in the afterglow of our rededication service on Sunday, May 22. It was like no other service I

have ever been part of at First English Lutheran Church. Since Bishop Mauney preached, I was able to sit back and experience this part of the liturgy in a way not usually possible (actually I was able to do this for the past four Sundays, as we had guest preachers each week).

Everything about the day was special: the full church, the Bishop of the Synod of which Dr. Scherer was once Bishop (called President back then) taking part, the wonderful music, the short but important ceremony of rededication, and of course the unforgettable luncheon afterwards featuring more people in our fellowship hall than I have ever seen in there before (what's the legal capacity?). I'm sure those saints of old, who on May 21, 1911, gathered in our worship space to dedicate it to God's service and outreach to Metropolitan Richmond, were smiling down on us. If ever I was aware of the meaning of the phrase from the Creed, "I believe in the communion of saints," it was on Sunday, May 22. We were indeed surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 12:1).

But where do we go from here? It is no secret that we face great challenges as we begin the next hundred years in our house of worship on Monument Avenue. Some of them are financial, some have to do with societal changes, and others simply come with the territory when we accept Christ's challenge to follow him as his people in this place. Nevertheless, the first and most important answer to the question stated above is: we have to ask ourselves time and time again, "What is God calling us to be and to do at this unique time in the long history of First English Lutheran Church?" In seeking to answer this question four phrases can serve to guide us, and yes, I did talk about them in my sermon on May 29.

The first one is **this special place**. Even first time visitors to our church remark on the feeling of peace, of God's presence which seems to catch even the most hardened skeptic unaware. It's been said before, but can't be repeated often enough: on any given Christmas Eve, there's no place we'd rather be than at one of our services at First English. Let's invite others to this special place! And let's return here again and again, for countless souls have found the peace which passes all understanding within these hallowed walls.

The second is **in the city for good**. It's intentionally ambiguous; it can refer both to the fact that we have no plans to move to Short Pump or rural Chesterfield County, and that we're here to serve both God and humankind. The love of Christ compels us...more of that below. But our track record for social ministry is an enviable one and I trust we will continue to serve all of God's children and do so joyously.

The third is **the next hundred years**. Long-range planning has never been one of my strong points, but it has to be done. If 2111 seems like a long time in the future (honestly, unless science finds a way to manipulate the genes which tell the body to age, only a handful of our youngest children will still be alive at that time), then let's plan strategically and carefully for the next five or ten years. God doesn't want us to fly by the seat of our collective pants.

The fourth phrase comes from Dr. Scherer: we serve for Jesus' sake. That says it all. We're not a glorified social service agency, a club with a religious emphasis or a branch of the Christian historical society. We are part of the living church of Jesus Christ, against which the gates of hell shall not prevail. What a blessed assurance! In spite of the problems we face, and they are many, we need not fear failure if we continue to focus on Christ and Christ alone. That proved true in 1911, and it is just as true today. Let us move forward into the next hundred years with a strong and active faith in him who loves us.

~ *Pastor John Schweitzer*

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# What's Happening?

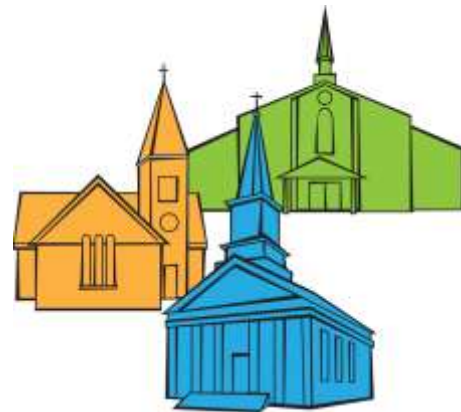


## **Women of the ELCA Evening Group**

### **WINTER VISTAS, WINTER VISIONS**

I'm very pleased that Emmett Heltzel will be our speaker once again. This time he will address the content of his book and will welcome discussion and questions. Those who have purchased Emmett's book, please try to read it before our **June 10<sup>th</sup>** meeting.

We'll eat at **6:00 pm**; the cost of the meal is \$4.00. After dinner we'll have the program and the evening will end with a short business meeting. This will be our last gathering until September; please try to come.



## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY**

The Annual Assembly of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be held at Roanoke College from **June 3 - 5** at Roanoke College. Main agenda items: adoption of 2012 budget and election of a Bishop. Bishop James Mauney is eligible for reelection. We will be represented by **Pastor Schweitzer** and **Linus Ellis** (both *ex officio*), **Joseph Thisted Sr.**, **Bonnie Buckner**, and **Nicole Krause**. First English member **Pastor Carol Schweitzer** will also be attending, representing Union Presbyterian Seminary, where, among other duties, she counsels Lutheran students.





Come one, come all to our annual Church Picnic,  
**Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>** from **noon to 3 pm.**

Roslyn-Virginia Diocesan Center  
8727 River Rd Richmond, VA 23229  
(804) 288-6045

Roslyn is located about 2 miles west of the beginning of River Road (where Cary Street Road becomes River Road).

Hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. Children's activities will include face-painting and a balloon toss. We will explore the beautiful grounds, including a walk down to the river and a look at their new chapel. This is a great time for fun and fellowship.

Wear your 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-Shirt. Any questions, contact Frances Booker, Congregational Life Committee.

See you there!



At the Church picnic this year, **June 12<sup>th</sup>**, the Education Committee will have a table set aside for cutting out material and other supplies to be used **at VBS Hometown Nazareth, Where Jesus was a Kid!** We will have all the needed supplies; you just need to bring your sense of humor☺.





These are the names of graduates that we have received thus far. If you have someone in your family graduating this year, please let us know and we will continue this list in the July Newsletter.

We congratulate the following young people upon their graduation from High School:

*Max Farinholt: Douglas Freeman High School*

*Haley Hoke: Clover Hill High School*

*Richard Myer: Cosby High School*

*Alaric Oldershaw: Patrick Henry High School*

*Ellen Sughrue: Atlee High School*

We congratulate the following persons upon their graduation from college:

*Robin Harlfinger Farinholt: J. Sargent Reynolds, RN*

*Erin Nelson: William & Mary College, BA*

*Rebecca Yates: Shepherd University, WV, Bachelor's Degree*

*Kelly Shiembob: University of South Carolina, BA in Journalism/Advertising*

And a big congratulations to:

*Mary Vaughn Smith, Eastern Virginia Medical School, M.D.*



Thanks to all who contributed to the Children's Christmas Project. With the funds donated, we were able to purchase a school of fish, two sheep, two goats, two pigs, a duck, and 10 chicks through the ELCA Good Gifts Program.

Animals provide families living in poverty with food, funds and fertilizer—all for a better future. Gifts to God's Global Barnyard support animal-related projects of ELCA World Hunger. Within a few months of birth, chicks begin laying eggs. Along with ducks, their eggs provide healthy meals and income. Pigs and their fertilizer can be sold at market. Goats provide milk and fertilizer, and their offspring can be given or sold to other families. Sheep provide warm wool and nutritious milk. Fish are used to develop a fish-farming project that offers long-lasting solutions to hunger.

ELCA Good Gifts are a special way to help make a significant impact on the mission and ministries of our church. ELCA Good Gifts are an opportunity to support and strengthen the work of the ELCA. Thank you for supporting the children of this congregation in their work to support and help others around the world.

FELC  
Vacation Bible School



Join us for an exciting Bible-times adventure in  
Jesus' hometown, Nazareth!

- **Place:** FELC Fellowship Hall
- **Dates:** Sunday, July 17 – Thursday, July 21
- **Times:** Sunday 12:00 – 2:30, Monday – Thursday 6:00 – 8:30
- **Meals:** Sunday potluck, Monday – Thursday dinner provided

Bring the whole flock to **Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus was a Kid!** You'll travel back into Bible times – without setting foot outside our community. Experience this fun, hands-on Bible-times village in FELC's Fellowship Hall. Each day your family can become part of history as they see, hear, touch and taste what it was like to live in Jesus' hometown! You'll get to explore marketplace shops, visit with Jesus' mom, Mary, take part in games, sing lively Bible songs, make crafts and enjoy some tasty meals as you discover more about Jesus' childhood. These experiences make God's Word come alive with new meaning for all who participate!

***So mark your calendars now, July 17 – 21. Fill out your registration form, consider if you can volunteer, and join us at Hometown Nazareth!***



Registration Form
FELC Vacation Bible School
July 17 - 21, 2011

Please place this completed form in the offering plate
or return to a Sunday school teacher.
Registration deadline is Sunday, July 3

Participant Registration (list names as they should appear on badges)

Name(s) and Age(s)
(Include parents)
Address
City ST Zip
Home Phone Cell Phone Emergency Contact
Home Email Allergies/Other Concerns:
Will parents be helping in other areas of Hometown Nazareth? Y / N Where?

Volunteer Registration (please complete if you plan to be a volunteer)

Note, adults are not required to volunteer.

First and Last Name
Home Phone Cell Phone
Home Email
I will donate supplies (please indicate either food or craft items)
I can play an instrument and will help with MUSIC (please note instrument)

Opportunities check your interests and you will be contacted by a VBS Director:

- Crafts Games Storytelling Service Project
Food Prep/Kitchen Decorations Photography Science Activities
On-Site Registration Bible Skit Roaming Actor Musician
Group Leader Other

I can volunteer (please check all that apply): Advance Set-up Sunday afternoon

Monday night Tuesday night Wednesday night Thursday night

# JUNE SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEERS



	June 5 – 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	June 12 – Day of Pentecost	June 19– The Holy Trinity	June 26 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost
<b>8:15 Lector</b>	Kevin Murphy	Nicole Krause	Kevin Murphy	Jane Stockman
<b>10:30 Lectors</b>	1. Jim Byerly 2. Mary Elizabeth Ellis	1. Shep Rowland 2. John Oehler	1. Polly Brickman 2. Mary Sue Oehler	1. Sandi Cowett 2. Jeff Nelson
<b>Crucifer</b>	Ed Wiles	Jim Johnson	<b>NOT FILLED</b>	Jim Johnson
<b>Acolytes</b>	Kirk Fenerty Nate Fenerty	Elle Fenerty Sydney Stricker	Cassidy Hoke Cooper Hoke	Molly McCue <b>NOT FILLED</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Polly Brickman Jim Johnson	Jenna Hoke Martha Snellings	Jenna Hoke Jeff Hoke	Jim Byerly Jackie Rowland
<b>Greeter</b>	Bill Fenerty	Bill Fenerty	<b>NOT FILLED</b>	<b>NOT FILLED</b>
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Jackie Rowland Charlie Schumann Jim Johnson	Carol McCue Joe Thisted, Sr. Ed Wiles	Julie Judge Jackie Rowland Charlie Schumann	Mary Elizabeth Ellis Deborah Hubbs Carol McCue
<b>Head Counter</b>	Laura Rice	Laura Rice	Laura Rice	Laura Rice
<b>Counters</b>	Bill Noller Elaine Smith	Sandi Cowett John Ritz	Margaret Thisted Joe Thisted, Sr.	Betty Davidson Julie Judge
<b>Ushers</b>	Wayne Griffin Stuart Myer Roger Riggle Rob Comet	Bill Davidson Lynn Heltzel Deborah Hubbs Roger Riggle	Rob Comet Stuart Myer <b>NOT FILLED</b> <b>NOT FILLED</b>	Bill Davidson Roger Riggle <b>NOT FILLED</b> <b>NOT FILLED</b>
<b>Hospitality</b>	Social Ministry Committee	Church Picnic	Brenda Myer	Joyce Smith
<b>Readings</b>	Acts 1:6-14 1 Peter 4:12-14;5:6-11 John 17:1-11	Acts 2:1-21 1 Cor 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23	Gen 1:1--2:4a 2 Cor 13:11-13 Matt 28:16-20	Jer 28:5-9 Rom 6:12-23 Matt 10:40-42

**\*\* Please find a replacement when you cannot serve and notify the church office at 355-9185 as soon as possible. Thank you for your time and service.**

## FELC People News



**Dr. William Russell Jones, Jr.** died on May 14, 2011 at the age of 95 years. A graveside service was held at Hollywood Cemetery on May 17, 2011 at 11 am. Next of kin is his wife Gloria and son William Russel Jones III with family.

**Virginia D. Emerson** died on May 22, 2011 at the age of 80 years. A graveside service was held at Greenwood Memorial Gardens at 2 pm on May 25, 2011. Next of kin is his son Randy Emerson and daughter Fay Kitchen with family.

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### Let's Celebrate June with the Following Members of our Congregation



JUNE

## Birthdays

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



On Saturday, May 14, 2011 at 4 pm, **RaMel Akil Clark** and **Kelley Suzanne Orr** were united in marriage in our church.



*Congratulations to all  
celebrating a Wedding  
Anniversary in June!*



<b>Wednesday June 1 – Wednesdays Together</b> 5:30 pm: Richmond Mental Health Group 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:45 pm: Youth Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday June 3</b> Synod Assembly, Roanoke College 8:15 pm: AA
<b>Saturday June 4</b> Synod Assembly, Roanoke College
<b>Sunday June 5 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> Synod Assembly, Roanoke College 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 – Social Ministry Committee
<b>Wednesday June 8 – Wednesdays Together</b> 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:45 pm: Youth Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday June 10</b> 6:00 pm: Women of the ELCA Evening Group 8:15 pm: AA

<b>Sunday June 12 – Day of Pentecost</b> 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 12:00 pm: Church Picnic
<b>Friday June 17</b> 8:15 pm: AA
<b>Sunday June 19 – The Holy Trinity Fathers' Day</b> 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 – Brenda Myer
<b>Tuesday June 21</b> 7:00 pm: Congregational Council Meeting
<b>Friday June 24</b> 8:15 pm: AA
<b>Sunday June 26 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> 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 – Joyce Smith



**Newsletter Deadline**

All submissions for the July issue need to be turned in to the church office no later than Wednesday June 15.

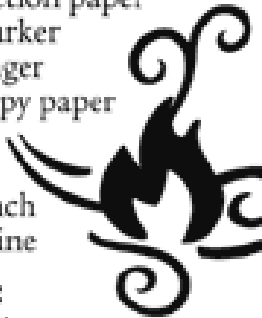
Thank you for your cooperation. Church Office Staff

# PENTECOST MOBILE

Make this craft as a reminder that God's Holy Spirit is all around you.

## What you need:

- Tissue paper (red, yellow, orange), torn into squares
- Plastic transparency
- Craft glue
- Paintbrush
- Construction paper
- Black marker
- Wire hanger
- White copy paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Hole punch
- Fishing line



## What you do:

1. Overlap tissue squares as "flames" on the transparency.
2. "Paint" glue (thinned with water) over the squares.
3. Fold construction paper in half. Write out Acts 2:4 at the top, by the fold.
4. Poke the hanger through the middle of the fold.
5. On the white paper, write "Holy Spirit" in English, Spanish (*Espiritu Santo*), French (*L'esprit Saint*), etc.
6. Cut out a flame pattern and trace it on the back of the transparency.
7. Cut out flames and glue the "Holy Spirit" names on them.
8. Thread fishing line through a hole atop each flame and tie flames onto the hanger.



## The Spirit Comes

ACTS 2 TELLS ABOUT A SPECIAL DAY WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME TO THE DISCIPLES.

Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.

**Across**

1. natural movement of air
4. to say something
5. refrain from work
7. place where God is
8. a combustion or burning that gives light, heat and smoke
9. part of mouth that can taste and lick
10. the time between sunrise and sunset
12. the day the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples

**Down**

2. followers of Christ
3. moved apart
6. quickly and unexpectedly
7. a building where people live
11. vibrations that travel through the air

Answers: Across 1. wind, 4. speak, 5. rest, 7. heaven, 8. fire, 9. tongue, 10. day, 12. Pentecost; Down 2. disciples, 3. separated, 6. suddenly, 7. house, 11. sound