



You Are Invited!

Join us for **Rally Day**, our kickoff event for  
The 2011 - 2012 Sunday School year

What: Akalo Intergenerational  
When: September 11 at 9:15 am  
Where: Fellowship Hall  
Who: All Ages 😊

Enjoy a Continental Breakfast  
Register for Sunday School  
Meet our Dedicated Teachers  
Examine the Curriculum  
Learn about the Akalo Program



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

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Rev. Dr. John T. Schweitzer, Pastor: [pastor@felcrichmond.org](mailto:pastor@felcrichmond.org)

Mr. Linus Ellis, Associate in Ministry: [linus@felcrichmond.org](mailto:linus@felcrichmond.org)

Mr. Brian Wingfield, Parish Administrator: [bwingfield@felcrichmond.org](mailto:bwingfield@felcrichmond.org)



### From the Pastor

As I write this article, many of us are still without electricity, some have trees down on our property, and a few are dealing with structural damage to their homes: all because of Hurricane Irene. I'm sure the title of a 60s hit song: "Good Night, Irene" expresses how we felt when this nasty storm finally exited our area in the early morning hours on Sunday, August 28. But how wonderful it was to gather that morning in an undamaged church building that never lost power to worship God as we have been doing here for the past 100 years.

Awakening to a beautiful sunny morning that day after a dreary, stormy and sometimes scary Saturday, I couldn't help but think of Psalm 30:5 — *For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.*

The study Bible I use (*The New Student Bible*, © 1990, Augsburg Fortress) has a comment to this verse which I feel is particularly relevant to us, with not only a major tree-felling, property destroying and widespread power outage causing storm but also an *earthquake* (rare in these here parts!) on August 23 still fresh in our minds: "The Bible never ignores the emotions of the moment. Here, the psalmist acknowledges the tough times that come with living as God's child. But the Bible also insists on a long-range perspective. Difficulties don't last; God's care does. This psalm pictures 'weeping' as a guest who comes to stay for just a single night."

With those words in mind, and in order to provide a long-range perspective (we've all heard enough about the earthquake and Irene by now!), I prefer to look forward to the fall season here at First English Lutheran Church, a time which I am confident will provide us with many examples of God's power, which never goes off! Let's all come to church regularly and resolve to make this as exciting and blessed a time as 1911-1912 must have been for our spiritual ancestors as they got used to the then new building.

Finally, we are all aware of repairs and alterations being done to our building which in the meantime is 100 years old. It is great that these long planned for improvements are underway, and I hope we'll all bear with any temporary inconveniences they might bring with them. Once everything is finished we'll all be glad to be able to conclude the Centennial Celebration of our Monument Avenue building by rededicating the facilities to what with God's help will be another 100 years or more of serving for Jesus' sake at this strategic location in our beloved church.

~ **Pastor John Schweitzer**

# What's NEW?



## Wednesdays Together

The start of the school year means the start up of FELC's Wednesday night supper program. Wednesdays Together will begin again on **Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**. Dinner is served at **6:00 pm** for the low price of \$5 for adults and \$3.50 for children. The programming varies from month to month, but generally a Bible Study is held following the dinner. Also on the agenda each week is practice for the various Choirs. Please contact Linus Ellis if you would like to learn more about the Choir programs offered at FELC.



Summer is quickly drawing to a close so it's time to get back into the swing of things. Our meeting will be **September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**. The program will be presented by Sandra Jones, a news reporter for WTVR. Sandra will share some of her experiences as a reporter for Channel 6.

We will have a short business meeting prior to dinner. Please make your dinner reservations by calling Gloria Jones no later than September 6<sup>th</sup>.



Mark your calendars and set your alarm clocks because **RALLY DAY** is almost here! Please join us at **9:15am on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** as we register students and start the 2011-2012 FELC Sunday School year. We will once again be using the Akaloo program, published by Augsburg Fortress. The word akaloo is inspired by the Greek verb "to follow" (akolouthein). "Follow me," Jesus says to his disciples. Drop your nets. A new life awaits you. Akaloo is based on this powerful call to discipleship. This Christian education model seeks to nurture discipleship in people of all ages. Come and see what we can offer you for your personal spiritual growth. Check out the books, have a bagel, meet the teachers and find out how you too can Akaloo!

# What's NEW?

## Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>: Hospitality Time



Join the Centennial  
Committee for an  
**Old Fashioned  
Ice Cream Social**

We'll be serving  
Hot Dogs,  
Popcorn and  
Ice Cream Sundaes

**Wear your red anniversary T-shirts!**

It's once again time to sign up for your flu shot to be given here at First English. On **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am** in the parlor, Dr. Hoi Ngai, registered pharmacist from CVS, will be administering flu shots.

Medicare Part B will cover the cost. For State employees, Covacare will cover the cost. Anthem/Blue Cross will pay part of the cost, depending on your plan. If you don't have insurance, the cost is \$29.95.

We need to know how many people to expect so please sign up on the blue sheet or call or email the church office.



**You Are Invited To  
An Afternoon at Maymont**

**Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, following the 10:30  
am service**

Join us for a "pack-your-own" picnic and a walking tour of Maymont's beautiful grounds. The walking tour will be lead by Deborah Ritz, FELC member and former Maymont employee. You may also elect to take a tour of the Mansion.





Coming in October

Join us as we celebrate



**Pastor Schweitzer's  
10<sup>th</sup> anniversary at  
First English**

Sunday, October 9, 2011

We will have a special  
pot-luck lunch following

the 10:30 service

(Further details to follow)

And plan to stay for the Richmond Boys  
Choir Concert at 2:00.



**Richmond Boys Choir Concert**

**Performing at FELC**

**Sunday, October 9, 2011 2:00pm**

**Don't miss this special event!**



Join the Leisure Group on their trip to Petersburg on **Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**. Our day begins at Pamplin Historical Park where we learn about life in the antebellum South and the lives of the soldiers who fought in the Civil War. We shall conclude our visit to Pamplin with a Southern Style Buffet Lunch including pork barbeque, oven-roasted chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, green beans, and peach cobbler. After lunch we travel to Blandford Church (a memorial to honor the Southern soldiers) to see their beautiful Tiffany stained glass windows and learn about the history of the church. Before returning to Richmond we shall take a riding tour of Petersburg. Everyone is invited to join us on this trip. For information and reservations, call Grace Gulick at 338-8783.



Mark your calendars for the annual Paley Festival. This year it will be held *Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm, Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm, and Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.* You don't want to miss it.



## Sunday School, Confirmation Classes and First Communion Classes

As you read elsewhere in this issue of our newsletter, **Rally Sunday** is on Sunday, September 11 beginning at 9:15 am in the parish hall. A special invitation is extended to all children in grade 7 or at least 12 years of age to attend that gathering; I will then meet with this age group to organize a new **Confirmation Class**. A letter with details has been sent out to all families with children in this age group; however, if you know of any non-members with children this age who would be interested, please pass on this information to them. The class will have two years of instruction, held during the usual Sunday School hour, and be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2013. There is no confirmation class for 2012.

In addition, we will soon be organizing a **First Communion Class** for children in the fourth grade and above who have not yet received communion instruction. Further information is forthcoming; usually we have three sessions and the first communion for them could be as early as Reformation Sunday (October 30), or perhaps on one of the Sundays in Advent. The children in this class will also receive training as acolytes and can begin serving in this capacity *before* their actual first communion, thus making more young persons available for this duty and relieving the existing acolytes of having to serve as frequently as is the case now.

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The Women of the ELCA would like to thank **Juliana Riley** for the afghan she crocheted for Lutheran Family Services. The afghan has two colorful layers of green and yellow with beautiful flowers. When it was taken to Lutheran Family Services the office staff fell in love with it. It is indeed very much appreciated.

~ Betty Davidson  
Mission Chair, WELCA

~ Carrie Jacobson  
Secretary, WELCA



### LINUS PROJECT - *Providing security through blankets*

Thank you **Juliane Riley** for another beautifully crocheted blanket. Your blanket will go to a child who is seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need of love and security.

For more information or assistance, please call Jackie Rowland 740-5909.



## September Worship Assistants

	September 4 – 12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 11 – 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 18 – 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 25 – 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost
<b>8:15 Lector</b>	Kevin Murphy	Kevin Murphy	Nikki Kardouni	Pat McAfee
<b>10:30 Lector</b>	1. Cheryl Shiembob 2. Bill Noller	1. Carol McCue 2. Bill Fenerty	1. Bill Noller 2. Cheryl Shiembob	1. Charlie Schumann 2. Jim Johnson
<b>Crucifer</b>	Ed Wiles	Ed Wiles	Ed Wiles	Stuart Myer
<b>Acolytes</b>	Laura English	Cassidy Hoke Nate Fenerty	Kirk Fenerty Ellie Fenerty	Cooper Hoke Sydney Stricker
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Polly Brickman Stuart Myer	Jeff Hoke Jenna Hoke	Jim Byerly	Libby Riggle Jackie Rowland
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Debbie Lane Jackie Rowland Charlie Schumann	Julie Judge Debbie Lane Charlie Schumann	Julie Judge Carol McCue Joyce Smith	Mary Elizabeth Ellis Joyce Smith Ed Wiles
<b>Greeter</b>	Roger Riggle	Deborah Hubbs	Bill Fenerty	Jim Byerly
<b>Head Counter</b>				
<b>Counters</b>	Mary Elizabeth Ellis Elaine Smith	Suzanne Stricker Kurt Stricker	Betty Davidson Jennifer Gentry	Jenna Hoke John Ritz
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Davidson Stuart Myer Roger Riggle	Jim Byerly Reni Gower Jeff Nelson Roger Riggle	Bill Davidson Lynn Heltzel Joedy Smith Jeff Tehovinik	Reni Gower Deborah Hubbs Jeff Nelson Joedy Smith
<b>Hospitality</b>	Sheryl Finucane	Ice Cream Social	Nicole Krause	Deborah Hubbs
<b>Readings</b>	Ezek 33:7-11 Rom 13:8-14 Matt 18:15-20	Gen 50:15-21 Rom 14:1-12 Matt 18:21-35	Jonah 3:10-4:11 Phil 1:21-30 Matt 20:1-16	Ezek 18:1-4,25-32 Phil 2:1-13 Matt 21:23-32

**\*\* 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



**Margaret Emily Euler** died on August 6, 2011 at the age of 88 years. A memorial service was held at the Central Chapel of Bennett Funeral Home on August 17, 2011 at 2 pm. Interment is at Oak Grove Cemetery, Portsmouth VA.

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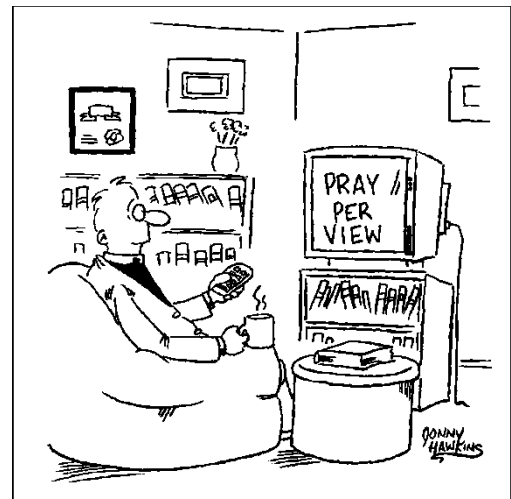
**Let's Celebrate September with the Following Members of our Congregation**



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



Congratulations to all  
celebrating a Wedding  
Anniversary in  
September!



# SEPTEMBER

<b>Friday September 2</b> 8:15 pm: AA	<b>Sunday September 18 – 14<sup>th</sup> Sun. 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 – Nicole Krause 11:30 am: Flu shots
<b>Sunday September 4 – 12<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost</b> 8:15 am: Service of Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Sunday School 9:30 am: Summer Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am: Service of Holy Communion 11:30 am: Hospitality – Sheryl Finucane	<b>Tuesday September 20</b> 7:00 pm: Congregational Council Meeting
<b>Monday September 5 – Labor Day</b> Church Office Closed	<b>Wednesday Sept. 21 – Wednesdays Together</b> 5:30 pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:30 pm: Richmond Mental Health Group 6:45 pm: Youth Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal
<b>Wednesday Sept. 7 – Wednesdays Together</b> 5:30 pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal 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 September 23</b> 8:15 pm: AA
<b>Friday September 9</b> 6:00 pm: WOELC Evening Group 8:15 pm: AA	<b>Sunday September 25 – 15<sup>th</sup> Sun. 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 – Deborah Hubbs 12:00 pm: Afternoon at Maymont
<b>Sunday September 11 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost</b> <b>Rally Day</b> 8:15 am: Service of Holy Communion 9:15 am: Sunday School Rally Day 9:30 am: Senior Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am: Service of Holy Communion 11:30 am: Hospitality – Ice Cream Social 12:00 pm: Congregational Life Committee	<b>Wednesday Sept. 28 – Wednesdays Together</b> 5:30 pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:45 pm: Youth Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal
<b>Wednesday Sept. 14 – Wednesdays Together</b> 5:30 pm: Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm: Dinner 6:45 pm: Youth Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm: Senior Choir Rehearsal	<b>Friday September 30</b> 8:15 pm: AA
<b>Friday September 16</b> 8:15 pm: AA	



### Newsletter Deadline

All submissions for the October issue need to be turned in to the church office no later than Thursday September 15.

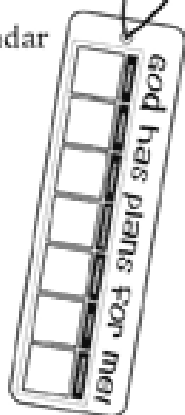
Thank you for your cooperation. Church Office Staff

# A daily reminder

Make this bookmark to remind you that God is with you every day.

### What you need:

- An old calendar
- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Glue stick
- Pencil or marker
- Stickers
- Hole punch
- Ribbon or yarn



### What you do:

1. Cut out the first line of squares from an old calendar, including the days of the week along the top.
2. Cut the cardstock into a rectangle a little larger than the calendar section.
3. Glue the calendar section onto the cardstock.
4. Write "God has plans for me" (Jeremiah 29:11) on the bookmark.
5. Add stickers or other decorations on the back.
6. Punch a hole on one end of the bookmark.
7. Loop some ribbon or yarn through the hole.



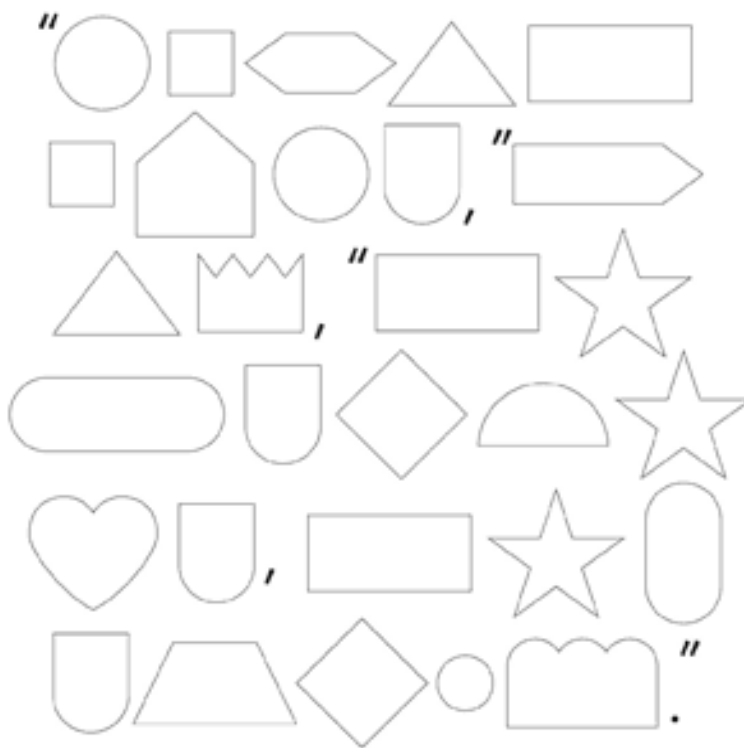
# KID'S PAGE



## GOD'S PLAN

*When we ask God for guidance, he will show us his perfect plan for our lives.*

**Directions:** Use the shape code to the right to write out Jeremiah 29:11, NIV.



Answers: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV)