

# January Birthdays

Emery Smith	1/02	Adelyn Slaughter	1/14
Breanna Butler	1/03	Trevan Koenig	1/15
Dave Gajer	1/03	Bailey Rideout	1/16
Ken Rippstein	1/04	Sharon Lee	1/16
Dalton Metting	1/05	Amy Hodges	1/17
Howard Spies	1/05	Dick Martin	1/17
Trevor Ledbetter	1/05	Jackie Schlinger	1/19
Chip Reynolds	1/05	Larry Bruchmiller	1/19
Rhett Hill	1/06	Sherri Fischer	1/19
LaFern Roessler	1/07	Sophie DeLaGarza	1/19
Craig Thedin	1/08	Kaley Hall	1/19
Lisa Stacy	1/08	Patrick Munsch	1/20
Parker Singer	1/08	April Alex	1/20
Magnolia Bowen	1/09	Troy Schmidt	1/22
Inez Bues	1/09	Melvin Koenig	1/23
Julie Thigpen	1/09	Effie Wofford	1/23
Bill Kelly II	1/09	Darla Strother	1/23
Mildred Slaughter	1/10	Erin Koenig	1/26
Christine Collins	1/11	Grace Bruchmiller	1/27
Janice Fait	1/11	Brett Ballard	1/28
Kayla Slaughter	1/12	Ellasyn Stumfoll	1/28
Butch Hartman	1/12	Tiffany Ballard	1/29
Vivian Dobbins	1/13	Christy Rodriguez	1/30
Rob Barjenbruch	1/13	Sharon Church	1/30
Robyn Shock	1/13	Donna Cliffe	1/31
		Ron Seerden	1/31
		Stephanie Partida	1/31
		Veronica Gajer	1/31

Happy Birthday

January 2024

## First English Evangelical Lutheran Church

516 N. Main, Victoria, TX 77901

Office Hours 9:00a - 4:00p

Rev. Chip Reynolds, Senior Pastor

Phone: 361-575-3623

Fax: 361-575-8877

Email: [Office@FELCVictoria.com](mailto:Office@FELCVictoria.com)

Website: [www.FELCVictoria.com](http://www.FELCVictoria.com)

TV Broadcast 10:30a Sundays

*KXTS-TV Channel 41 – Suddenlink Cable Ch. 9*

10:30 Sundays live streaming at “[Facebook.com/FELCVictoria](https://www.facebook.com/FELCVictoria)”

Happy  
New  
Year!



If you placed a poinsettia to decorate the church, you may pick up your poinsettia any time before **4:00 p.m. Thursday, January 4, 2024.**

Call Margaret at the church office if you have any questions. (361) 575-3623

February deadline is  
**Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

Newsletter  
**DEADLINE**



**Holiday Hours**

The church office will be closed **Monday, January 1** (in observance of New Years Day)

I have enjoyed watching the process of putting in the new parking lot at the church. There are several things that have intrigued me as it has gone through the transformation. And, not only have I learned some things about construction and concrete: I have learned some things about faithfulness as well.

The most important thing that I learned, though, was simply about the entire process. I watched a small group of people, commissioned to do the work of getting the parking lot done, work tirelessly to get it completed before Christmas Eve. And so, it has happened. But their dedication was not always easy. There were some bumps in the road (planning, variances, weather, and other things) that could have derailed it. But the transformation happened.

I look at people in this world much like that parking lot.

When we look at them, we see some scars and some brokenness on the outside. They have been hurt and abused in different ways, but we can't see everything. When we start to get under the surface, the real scars become evident. They are deep and hidden under layers and layers of stuff. Sometimes there are even some unexpected things hiding far below the surface.

Then those scars are healed...slowly and with much work...and through the love of God and his people, transformation comes about, foundations are laid, and the forms are put in place to build a new life in Christ. Then God transforms. We are changed in His love. We are made new.

As I walked across the concrete days after it was poured, I thought to myself about all the work that went into the creation under my feet. It really was a true labor and so is making but more importantly being disciples. We are in process. Some digging up the old, some healing old wounds, some putting structure in place, some getting fresh foundation, and some solidly doing the work that we were created for. We are all in process. Don't forget that. You are not done yet.

Philippians 1:4-6 *In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

In His arms,  
PC



# Worship Schedule

Date/ Time	Worship Assistant	Lay Readers	Communion Assistant	Deacons
1/7 8:00a	James Reinhardt	Kathy Svetlik	Kathy Svetlik	Jeff Sproles
1/7 10:30a	Al Reinhardt	Kathryn Reynolds	Kathryn Reynolds Tracy Hermes	James Janak
1/14 8:00a	James Reinhardt	Aaron Muegge	Aaron Muegge	Aaron Muegge
1/14 10:30a	Mary Gail Moody	Bridget Swoboda	Bridget Swoboda Debbie Moncrief	Jim Hartman
1/21 8:00a	Ginger McGill	Sue Boldt	Sue Boldt	Alton Johnston
1/21 10:30a	Al Reinhardt	David Henry	David Henry Sandra Heldt	Marty Foss
1/28 8:00a	James Reinhardt	James Reinhardt	Ashley Kucera	James Janak
1/28 10:30a	Mary Gail Moody	Dee Harper	Dee Harper Kathleen Sproles	Jeff Sproles

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** - Will resume on **January 10** at 5:30 pm. We will meet in Felger Hall. In this six-session series, Pastor Charlie Dates offers a big-picture view of the foundational book of Genesis, exploring the splendor of creation and the significance of God's work in the lives of flawed yet faithful men and women. And while it tells of fascinating people experiencing transformational events, Genesis continually points us back to their God and ours, the Creator. Study material will be provided. Please join us.  
Doris Childress, Sandra and Dan Hiller



**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AND FELLOWSHIP** - December has 5 Sundays. Join us in the Activity Center **Sunday, December 31** for **ONE WORSHIP SERVICE** at 10:00 a.m. Following the worship service we will enjoy some fellowship, food and fun. Board of Congregational Life will provide ham and black-eyed peas. We ask the congregation to bring a side dish and/or dessert. This is a great time to worship together and see people you know and meet people you don't. Hope to see you there!



**QUILTERS GROUP** – We will return to sewing on January 2, 2024, and will continue to meet on the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 9:00a to noon. If you have any questions, contact Donna Heinold at 361-571-7266.



**NEW FLOWER CHART** - The new 2024 flower chart is now up in the Narthex. If you wish to place flowers either on the Altar or Pedestal, please write your name on the flower chart, then, fill out the yellow flower form and place it in the completed forms bag. Even if you do not know what you want to say in the announcements the day your flowers are placed, we ask that you please, at least, put the yellow form with your name and requested date in the completed forms pocket.



**LADIES ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A BIBLE STUDY TO JOIN?** Well, you're invited to meet with us in Rachel Bible Study every 3rd Thursday of the month at 2:30 p.m. in the church office conference room. We are currently in a study of the book of Acts, and we are learning so much, not to mention the fun and fellowship. We enjoy studying God's Word together. Why not give us a try?  
Vickie Spann



## Sunday Services Attendance

Date	8:00a Attendance & Offering	10:30a Attendance & Offering	
12/3	67	178	
12/10	120	239	
12/17	71	150	
12/24	<b>One 10:00a.m. Service</b>	159	

## Christmas Eve Services Attendance and Offerings

Date	Attendance 4:30p	Attendance 7:00p
12/24	269	149

### SPECIAL PRAYERS



Kaylee Crozier, Ronnye Rode, Butch Butler, Cole Ohrt, Jerry, Dan, Chad Conrey, Darryl Burns, Jordyn, Holly Winkler, Steve, Trey Dobbins, Marsha Arnold, Bill Klesel, Rusty Reininger, Delores Watkins, Susan Friedrichs, Jay Thigpen, Pat Trapp, Sandy Muegge, Kathy Stratman, John Armstrong, Benna Beyer, Charlene Balfanz, Zac Koenig, Russell Putnam, Donald Calvez, Annabelle, Michael, Alan Cambell

### January Tellers

2- Kucera/Elles  
8 - Muegge/Hiller  
15 - Malina/Kelly  
22 - Elles/Westbrook  
29 - Kucera/Elles

### January



12/23 - 1/5/24 — Kathleen Sproles  
1/6 - 1/19 — Steve Nelson  
1/20 - 2/2 — Marie Plemons



## 2024 Heritage Day Celebration

### Recipient Nomination Form

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church's annual Heritage Day Celebration will take place on Sunday, April 28, 2024. The purpose of the event is to enjoy fellowship and give to selected recipients in our community. As in the year's past, the Heritage Day Steering Committee votes and selects recipients to honor at the Heritage Day Celebration. A silent vote from the Steering Team will determine the recipients and the recipients must be approved by Church Council. 100% of all proceeds generated at the Heritage Day Celebration are divided among the recipients. This year, 2024, four recipients will be selected. The 5<sup>th</sup> recipient is the FELC Heritage Day Community Assistance Fund.

The Heritage Day Steering Committee appreciates your nominations for recipients for the 2024 Heritage Day Celebration. Nominations can include individuals, groups, community organizations, or non-profits. If you would like to nominate someone or group, please complete the nomination form in writing and submit the form to the FELC Church Office or email them to: [aaronmuegge@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronmuegge@hotmail.com) If there is any brochures/paperwork from the nominee, please submit them with the completed form. **Deadline for nominations is Friday, January 12, 2024 at 5pm.** Thanks for your support.

*Name of Individual, Group, Community Non-Profit Organization*

*Contact Person & Phone Number*

*Please explain how your nomination serves and contributes to our community...the more information that you can provide, the better for our evaluation process.*

Please submit completed nomination form to FELC Church Office or email to [aaronmuegge@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronmuegge@hotmail.com) by Friday, January 12, 2024 – 5pm

*First English Evangelical Lutheran Church  
c/o Heritage Day Steering Committee  
516 N Main St.  
Victoria, Texas 77901*

## Heritage Day Celebration Steering Committee

Heritage Day is our annual celebration and fundraiser remembering our heritage as the first English-speaking Lutheran church in the Victoria area. First English Evangelical Lutheran Church gives back to our community every year with our Heritage Day Celebration. The Celebration is a way for members of the congregation to reach outside our church walls and spread God's Message and Word. 100% of all proceeds generated at the Heritage Day Celebration are given back to the community. Each year individuals, groups, or non-profit organizations are selected by the Heritage Day Steering Committee and are honored as the Celebration recipients. The Celebration includes a BBQ Meal, Live & Silent Auctions, Cake Walk, Country Store, Kid's Games, 50-50 Raffle, and so much more. Over \$900,000 have been given to the community thru our annual Celebration. The 2024 Heritage Day Celebration will take place on Sunday, April 28, 2024. If you are interested in helping plan and organize the 2024 Heritage Day Celebration, please contact Aaron Muegge (361) 652-4788 or [aaronmuegge@hotmail.com](mailto:aaronmuegge@hotmail.com)

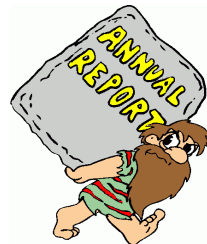


## 2023 ANNUAL REPORTS DUE –

First English Evangelical Lutheran 2023 Board Chairs, council president, pastor, auxiliaries, youth, men's, women's, and any other groups are to please turn in their Annual Reports to the Church office by 5:00 p.m. **Wednesday, January 31, 2024.** You may submit by email to [office@FELCVictoria.com](mailto:office@FELCVictoria.com)

or, if email is not available, you may drop it by the Church office anytime between now and January 31<sup>st</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret at the Church office – 575-3623.



# Thank you

- We are very grateful for the Christmas bonus given to us this Christmas. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your kind and generous gifts. We appreciate your thoughtfulness more than words can express. We hope all of you had a wonderful Christmas and your New Year is full of Blessings. **Pastor Chip, Barbara Jo, Margaret, and Julie, Mancia and Sylvia.**
- Thank you to the finance committee team Kristi H. Connie N. Lona H. Jayce S. David D. for your time and hard work over the past 5 months to get the budget ready for 2024. I appreciate everything you have done to finalize the budget. Ya'll are a blessing to the church! **Jay Thigpen**
- A HUGE Thank You to all that purchased goodies at the Youth Bake sale! We appreciate your support!
- Thank you to everyone that helped put together the "C" is for Christmas program!! It was a team effort and our kiddos did amazing! We hope you enjoyed it!

**FIFTY AND FUN** - Will meet **Thursday, January 11**, in Felger Hall at 6:00p. Please join us for food, fun and fellowship. Bring a meat dish, side dish or dessert to share.  
*February will be fish and oysters.*

**CONGRATULATIONS** – To Sharon Brannon and Mike Kinsey who were married Wednesday, November 22, 2023.



**CONGRATULATIONS** – To Mallory Hermes and Randall Depine who were married Saturday, December 9, 2023.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*Robert Curtner &  
Stephanie Partida  
204 E. Rio Grande # 108  
Victoria, TX 77901  
(979) 253-5142*

*Ron & Chistine Ledbetter  
Trevor  
213 Oak View Dr.  
Inez, TX 77968  
(361) 541-9404*

*Butch & Debra Hartman  
2005 Oliver Rd.  
Victoria, TX 77904  
(361) 576-2782*

*Lauren & Tony Pompa  
207 Merlin  
Victoria, TX 77904  
(361) 484-6112*

*Barry & Tammy Hartman  
305 CreekrIDGE Dr.  
Victoria, TX 77904  
(361) 550-4210*

*Lana Reimann  
313 Beechwood Dr.  
Victoria, TX 77901  
(361) 649-7889*

*Mike Kinsey  
4466 FM 1961  
Goliad, TX 77963  
(361) 935-7642*

*Randy & Carly Shock  
Robyn  
230 La Luz Dr.  
Victoria, TX 77905  
(361) 550-2175*

*Laurie Koehl &  
Russell Moore  
966 Timber Rd.  
Victoria, TX 77905  
(361) 649-6559*

***See bulletin board in the  
Narthex for some pictures***

### 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL INSTALLATION Sunday, January 14, 2024 8:00a and/or 10:30a

Council Officers and Board chairs will be installed at either service. Council Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month. The first Council Meeting will be Thursday, **January 18**, at **5:30p** in the office conference room.