

February Birthdays

Madison Schatz	2/03	Caleb Fields	2/14
James Reinhardt	2/03	Kristie Sievers	2/14
Dennis Speed	2/04	Richard King	2/14
John Byron Janak	2/04	Clayton Heldt	2/15
Janie Metting	2/05	Kathy Stratmann	2/16
Sharon Kinsey	2/06	Marie Plemons	2/17
Hatley Heidrich	2/06	Vivian Taylor	2/18
Barbara Jo Reinhardt	2/07	Sheila Hoffman	2/19
Natalie Boldt	2/08	Brinley Koopman	2/21
Geralene Schulte	2/08	Rod Thompson	2/24
Rebekah Fishbeck	2/10	Matthew Church	2/24
Lanny Mitchon	2/10	Janis Trojcek	2/25
Raiden Dykes	2/10	Sarah Schrade	2/26
Cheri Little	2/11	Edna McDonald	2/26
Jim Hartman	2/11	Richard Seals	2/26
Scarlet Swoboda	2/13	Brittni Sharp	2/27
Jennifer Matus	2/13	Miranda Gajer	2/27
		Wyatt Jeffers	2/28
		Kylee Swoboda	2/29



March deadline is
Monday, February 19, 2024

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

February 2024

First English Evangelical Lutheran Church

516 N. Main, Victoria, TX 77901

Office Hours M-Th 9:00a - 4:00p

Rev. Chip Reynolds, Senior Pastor

Phone: 361-575-3623

Fax: 361-575-8877

Email: Office@FELCVictoria.com

Website: www.FELCVictoria.com

TV Broadcast 10:30a Sundays

KXTS-TV Channel 41 – Optimum Cable Ch. 9

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

FIFTY AND FUN – Fifty and Fun will meet **Thursday, February 8**, in Felger Hall at 6:00p. We will have Oysters and Fish. \$10.00 a plate.

Please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office if you plan to attend, so we know how much fish & oysters to buy.

Hope to see you there!!! If your last name begins with:

A– G bring a dessert — H - Z bring a side dish.

NEW MEMBERS “FOUNDATIONS CLASS”



If you know someone interested in joining First English Lutheran Church, please call the Church office to register at 361-575-3623. Pastor Chip will hold a New Members “*Foundations Class*” on **Sunday, February 4**, during the Sunday School hour at 9:15a.m. in the Activity Center. Then, **Sunday, February 11**, the new members will be received at 8:00a or 10:30a service. New Member classes are held quarterly.

“SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY - NOW through **Sunday, February 11**. Please support VCAM by bringing nonperishable soups and placing them in the VCAM barrels in the Main St. entrance across from the stairwell. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to “VCAM” and place in envelope by display. Thank you for your support! Board of Social Concerns.



In 1529, Martin Luther wrote and published the Small Catechism to instruct pastors and preachers that there was great need for the doctrine to be taught among the villages and city parishes. In his preface, he wrote how miserable it made him feel to know that the people claimed their faith in Christ, but had no knowledge of what they believed.

Martin Luther said, "The common people, especially in the villages, have no knowledge whatever of Christian doctrine, and, alas! many pastors are altogether incapable and incompetent to teach [so much so, that one is ashamed to speak of it]. Nevertheless, all maintain that they are Christians, have been baptized and receive the [common] holy Sacraments. Yet, they [do not understand and] cannot [even] recite either the Lord's Prayer, or the Creed, or the Ten Commandments."

After reading the preface, I am glad that I didn't live in his area in 1529. I probably would have had to consider a different profession.

But I know that today, even though we are far more educated in the modern era, we can still find ourselves at a loss about what we believe and how we apply that faith that we have in Christ. That's why we do Confirmation in part...to know what we believe. But, it is an ongoing process.

Beginning March 5, we will be doing a study on our Christian (specifically Lutheran) beliefs according to the Small Catechism. The exact details of how we are going to study it are not solidified as of yet, but it will be in Felger Hall from 6:30p – 8:00p starting on Tuesday, March 5. The idea behind the study is not about judgment or proving how smart or faithful we are by displaying our knowledge. The intent is to clarify and solidify what we believe so that we can more effectively follow Christ.

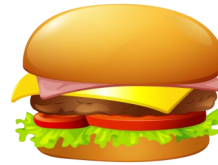
It will be as much about *my* study and learning as it will be anyone's, so come and journey together with me as we look at our faith through Scripture and the Small Catechism.

In His Arms
PC



Thank you

- I would like to thank my church family for all the cards, calls, prayers and kind words during the loss of my husband, Louis. Thank you to Pastor for a beautiful service, Friendly Service for the coffee and goodies prior to the funeral, Good Cheer for all their visits and Board of Elders for the nice book. Everything is appreciated! **Sharon Montgomery and family.**
- Our family would like to thank Friendly Service for the wonderful reception following Donna's funeral. **The Munsch Family.**
- The Christian love and support you have shared with our family as we experience the loss of my brother, Ronnye Rode, has been such a comfort and a treasure held close to my heart. Thank each of you for your many prayers on his journey, and, for your cards, notes, calls and your sympathy that has helped us as we miss him but rejoice in his heavenly healing. May God bless each of you as you have blessed us during this time of loss and these days that follow. **Jennifer & Jim Hartman and family**



TO GO YOUTH BURGER FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18th

FREE WILL OFFERING ACCEPTED

Immediately following late service

Pick up TO GO in Felger Hall

Burger with fixins — chips — cookies
Donation will help with Camp Fees

Thank you to the Board of Congregational Life for cooking!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FELC YOUTH!



LENT



C X H U L L A E O J Q D K P L H G F D C Z J T H
P Q H Y N X Z W P D N W N R Y H H Q I F F U Z V
Z X E K O O R I A A C B T A L J F O N U P I M Z
U Z C D E S E R T J W J L Y K K Y K W N V H H K
C U Q K C P D T Q L Q E Y A R N G Y G G U L E E
R W K S X G A X G G M F Q D Z F F B R L F Q Q B
O E W B M I W S L Z V E G G Y B F R P U O G U A
S Q D T X C E A O A I O B E Q Q X Z L A L U Z L
S T N R B W I C V I P A C T T R A H D X L F K I
M U I J Z K U R E K R H B M J A Z A D A O D W M
K U J N T P F I I D J H A G Y R D U P U W Q L J
M J Y I S T H F H S S E A S O N X X M E B I X W
L E Y X C V G I U R G V Q L E H L A S H E S E S
E B V E X A E C T E S X P R E P A R E W X P Z H
Y F M L R E M E M B E R Q H H O L K C Z N K D E
D Q Y C D X U J G U M D W H C R U S U L N W Q D
C T N X V I B E Z C T V M N Y N J Q M E V W F Q
H S P D C I I J Z P Z H P N D D R E B N K X F Q
T Z I B H I P S X R N J A W P Q O C L T F R K J
E J K C J M V B I R G O C N S A Y E Y E H I I Y
K X W C B T D F J E S U S F V N X R V K R B W D
L B F L R E Y B N S B Y C T R F F V R Z G U B L
U A O I V N N V I V R Q S F R K K W S L W E Y L
A Y F M C G B U S A O M X T U R A V M E B B B Z

DESERT	SACRIFICE	JESUS	ASHES
PRAY	LOVE	FOLLOW	SEASON
PREPARE	REMEMBER	CROSS	LENT

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SOUP, SALAD AND SERVICE

If you or a group would like to get together to prepare one of the Wednesday noon meals of Soup and Salad, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 361-575-3623.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

The Season of Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Wednesday Lenten Worship Times are 12:05p & 7:00p. You are invited to attend the 12:05p for the three S's... Soup, Salad and Service in Felger Hall. Free will offerings accepted. The 7:00p service will be in the Sanctuary.

HOLY WEEK EVENTS AND SERVICES

Communion at all services unless listed.

Palm Sunday
March 24

8:00a Worship
10:30a Worship



Maundy Thursday
March 28

7:00p Communion
Worship with First Communion



Good Friday
March 29

7:00p Worship
(no Communion)



Saturday
March 30

10:00a Family Easter Celebration (all ages!)
Games, snacks, egg hunt, crafts

Easter Sunday
March 31
fast

8:00a Worship
8:30a — 10:30a Easter Break-
(Free Will Offering)
10:30a Worship



Easter Sunday – children, bring flowers to decorate the cross

Sunday Services Attendance

Date	8:00a Attendance	10:30a Attendance	
12/31	One 10:00am Service	234	
1/7	47	204	
1/14	61	183	
1/21	31	185	

Our Love and Sympathy to the family of:



- Rusty Reininger (Son-in-Law of Ken & Diana Rippstein)
- Ronnye Rode (Brother of Jennifer Hartman)
- Roger Buerchner

SPECIAL PRAYERS



Aileen Lott, Pat Trapp, John Armstrong, Cole Ohrt, Delores Watkins, Jerry, Dan, Marilyn Hamilton, David Pribyl, Ray Butler, Butch Butler, Zac Koenig, Susan Friedrichs, Jay Thigpen, Sandy Muegge, Charlene Balfanz, Rachel, Kathy Stratman, Al Johnson, Russell Putnam, Kay Thigpen, Landon Jackson, Crystal Barnett, Howard and Beverly Spies, Missy Sappington, Morgan Lemke, Kenneth Kickendahl, Doris Dold, Courtland Johnson, Laken Dawdy, Harry Zainotz, Taylor and Ty Runge, Bobbie Guinn, Joyce Randall, Makenna Thigpen

February Tellers

5- Muegge/Hiller
 12 - Malina/Kelly
 19 - Elles/Westbrook
 26 - Kucera/Elles

February

1/20 - 2/2 — Marie Plemons
 2/3-2/16 — Vickie Spann
 2/17-3/1 — Kathleen Sproles

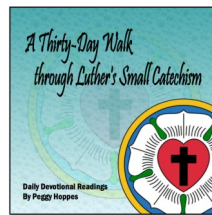


ADULT EVENING CONFIRMATION STUDY

The Latin word *confirmare*, the earliest ancestor of “confirmation,” literally means “to strengthen.” Paired with the word “faith,” this produces an appropriate definition of “confirmation” as used in this way—it’s a time to *strengthen faith*.

Beginning **March 5**, Pastor Chip will be leading a study on our Christian (specifically Lutheran) beliefs according to the Small Catechism. We will meet in Felger Hall on **Tuesdays** from **6:30p – 8:00p**.

Come learn, renew, or refresh your knowledge of Lutheranism. The basis for this study is not about judgment or proving how smart or faithful we are by displaying our knowledge. The intent is to clarify and solidify what we believe so that we can more effectively follow Christ. Come and journey together with Pastor Chip as we look at our faith through Scripture and the Small Catechism.



This is a resource you may want to purchase to follow during class. If you would like to order a book, please sign-up in the Narthex or call the church office by February 15th. Books will be *approximately* \$7.50.



COCOON TREE – Beginning Ash Wednesday, you may notice a new addition to the sanctuary of our church! What you will see is the Cocoon Tree that has been constructed for use during the Lenten season by the Board of Worship.

When worms spin their cocoons, they enter a period of hibernation and then transformation. They emerge at the end of this time as beautiful butterflies, transformed into new bodies, with a new life and purpose.

So it is with man. We are like the worms when we are without Christ, living from day to day, hoping not to be eaten by a hungry bird or another insect! When we hear and accept the Good News of Christ’s resurrection, we also become transformed. We are like the butterflies with a new spirit, with new purpose for life— to live for Christ and to do his will.

The Lenten season, one of reflection and meditation, corresponds to the hibernation of those worms, waiting in their cocoons, anticipating their new lives. It is like the reflection we do of our lives that we engage in during the Lenten season.

On Easter Sunday, the cocoons will be replaced with butterflies, dogwood blossoms, crystals, and shells. The butterflies represent new life in Christ. The shells and crystals represent water and baptism, which are also symbols for rebirth and regeneration, a new life as a Christian.



FIRST COMMUNION CLASS – If you feel your child is ready for First Communion, Pastor Chip will be having classes March 3 during the Sunday School hour at 9:15a.m. for child(ren) and parents. The students will receive First Communion Maundy Thursday, March 28. *To register your child, please call the church office at 361-575-3623 or sign up in the Narthex.*



SHROVE “FAT TUESDAY” PANCAKE SUPPER

Shrove Tuesday is **February 13**, the day before “Ash Wednesday”, and before we begin to fast for Lent.

Our youth invite you to an All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Supper! Serving will be 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in Felger Hall.

Menu includes Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit, Milk, & Coffee.

Free will offerings accepted.

It is not necessary to sign up, but it would help us get an estimated count.

Sign-up sheet is on table in the Narthex or you can call the church office

(361)575-3623



SHROVE TUESDAY

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ASH WEDNESDAY – The Season of Lent begins Ash Wednesday, **February 14**.

Wednesday Lenten Worship Times are:

12:05p & 7:00p.

You are invited to attend the 12:05p for the three S’s... ***Soup, Salad, and Service*** in Felger Hall.

Free will offerings accepted.

Please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office to help us get a count so we have enough food!

The 7:00p service will be in the Sanctuary.

2024 COUNCIL MEMBERS, PASTOR & STAFF

Marty Foss – President

Home # 361-649-5316
Email: fossmarty@hotmail.com

Gus Trojcek – President-Elect

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Chelsea Hill – Secretary

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Kristi Heidrich – Treasurer

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Jeff Sproles – Congregational Life

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Alton Johnston – Deacons

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Barbara Jo Reinhardt – Worship

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Email: choir@felcvictoria.com

Renee Foss – Youth

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Pastor Chip Reynolds

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Margaret Dentler – Church Secretary

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Work - Monday - Thursday 575-3623
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Barbara Jo Reinhardt–Music Director

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Email: choir@felcvictoria.com

Julie Thigpen – Family and Youth Leader

Home # 361-935-0235
Email: juleswalkinginfaith@gmail.com

Church Web Page: www.FELCVictoria.com
Email: office@felcvictoria.com
Church Office # 361-575-3623
Office Fax # 361-575-8877

Worship Schedule

Date/Time	Worship Assistant	Lay Readers	Communion Assistant	Deacons
2/4 8:00a	James Reinhardt	Jackie Schlinger	Jackie Schlinger	Aaron Muegge
2/4 10:30a	Al Reinhardt	Edna McDonald	Edna McDonald Barbara McDonald	Jim Hartman
2/11 8:00a	James Reinhardt	Emily Koenig	Emily Koenig	Alton Johnston
2/11 10:30a	Mary Gail Moody	Kylie Swoboda	Randy & Sandy Muegge	Marty Foss
2/18 8:00a	Ginger McGill	Ginger McGill	Rachel Sizemore	Jeff Sproles
2/18 10:30a	Al Reinhardt	Olivia Reynolds	Bryan & Sandy Serold	James Janak
2/25 8:00a	James Reinhardt	Louis Boldt	Sue Boldt	Aaron Muegge
2/25 10:30a	Mary Gail Moody	Merle Thompson	Merle Thompson Sharon Church	Jim Hartman