



JUNE 2025  
**Messenger**

## First English Lutheran Church

Connected in Christ, we grow in faith, live with hope, and reach out to share God's love with others.

### Casting Our Cares, Sharing His Yoke

I cast all my cares upon You.  
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.  
And any time that I don't know what to do  
I will cast all my cares upon You.  
(Written by Kelly Willard)

Since we began singing this chorus during prayer time in our Sunday worship services, many of you have mentioned that this song comes to you often during the week, giving you the strength and courage to keep on keeping on.

This is true for me, too. The melody and words are a profound reminder that we cannot shoulder life's challenges alone—nor should we. In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus invites us into a better way:

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*

You probably know that yokes were placed across the shoulders of two strong animals so they could pull heavier loads together than they could alone. But are you aware that the yoke had to be a perfect fit for each of them if they were to pull the load with ease?

The yoke Jesus invites us to share will fit us perfectly. As we share the burden with him, our load will be less than half as heavy! Plus, we'll be walking alongside Jesus, the one who has always loved us and always will. His presence, guidance, laughter, and friendship will further lighten our load. We'll find ourselves praising his goodness.

*You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. (Psalm 16:11)*

Aren't we fortunate to belong to Jesus?

Joyful instead of burdened,

Pastor Cheryl



# About FELC...

## First English Lutheran Church, ELCA

440 Garfield St, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 715-423-2840 [www.felwisrapids.org](http://www.felwisrapids.org)

Office Hours: 8am-3:30pm M - Th, Closed Fridays

Sunday Worship is at 9:30am each Sunday w/Communion & FB Live, YouTube @ 11:15am

*~ Every Sunday We Celebrate the Resurrection ~*



### The Staff at FELC...

Pastor	Cheryl Davis	715-818-5690	<a href="mailto:pastorcheryl@felwr.org">pastorcheryl@felwr.org</a>
Administrative Assistant	Janet Grackowski	715-818-5693	<a href="mailto:fel@felwr.org">fel@felwr.org</a>
Financial Secretary	Sherri Krutzik	715-818-5691	<a href="mailto:Sherri@felwr.org">Sherri@felwr.org</a>
Ministry Assistant	Rhonda Felton	715-818-5692	<a href="mailto:Rhonda@felwr.org">Rhonda@felwr.org</a>
Bookkeeper	Val Elliot	715-423-2840	<a href="mailto:Val@felwr.org">Val@felwr.org</a>
Property Manager	John Lory	715-423-2840	<a href="mailto:John@felwr.org">John@felwr.org</a>
Musicians	Dave Mueller & Tammy Parszewski	715-423-2840	<a href="mailto:fel@felwr.org">fel@felwr.org</a>

Services are televised Sunday at 11am from the previous Sunday on

W.R. Community Media & Charter 985, Solarus Ch 3.

*For inclement weather and church closings please tune to TV Channel 7 WSAW*

# Birthday & Anniversary...

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6/1	Patti Schill
6/2	Kennedy Edwards
6/5	Laureen Aumann
6/10	Valerie Smith
	Sadie Edwards
6/11	Susan Jackan
6/14	Tammy Parszewski
	Vince Ashbeck
6/16	Mason Maciejewski
6/18	Zelda Ross
6/20	Emma Waltenberg
6/23	Levi Clark
6/24	Nora Leverance
6/25	Ralph Lau
	Allison Jahns
6/27	Jim Walloch
	Rhonda Smorynski
	Abby Herzberg
6/28	Robyn Austin
	Stephanie Konkol
6/29	Sam Herzberg

6/30	Joanne Votava
	Josephine Lambert

### JUNE ANNIVERSARYS

6/2	John & Dawn Vinson
6/4	Dale & Laureen Aumann
6/5	Ryan & Stephanie Konkol
6/6	Jason & Kimberly Shields
6/10	Craig & Dot Brooks
	Jim & Sue Holberg
	Chuck & Carol Wallen
6/15	Bill & Darlene Dhein
6/19	Joe & Crystal Fraundorf
	Larry & Sue Reinke Jr.
6/20	Gary & Dawn Barten
6/25	Bob & Helen Zimmerman



# Writer's Corner...

## The Grace of Mulligans

*By Robyn Austin*

Even though I've been golfing for 3 decades. I never learned how.

No official lessons anyway. Just started golfing with guys and mimicked their "stand by the ball and swing hard" stance.

If you're a golfer, you know this doesn't always get the best results. I've pretty much resigned myself to be a "double bogey" golfer. For those who don't know golf, it means I'm OK, but not "good" or "bad."

This spring I convinced a few other ladies at work to take some group lessons. When the instructor asked me what I wanted to get out of it, I frankly replied, "I need to re-learn 30 years of bad form." No small task, right?

What I love about God is that anytime we ask Him for a do-over (a "mulligan" in golf), He grants it.

No matter how long we've strayed down a certain path, He supports our desire to do something different. To learn better ways.

But we do have to do some of the work. Be willing to learn.

There was a time in my young, wild, and free days where I likely made poor decisions and thought, "Sorry, God, I'll do better next time." (Haven't we all?) But now I have endless gratitude that His grace gives us in mulligans, even third chances, and more.

God does not give up on us.

There are so many verses in the Bible that attest to this that I couldn't pick one. Just know that if you are struggling to make the right decisions or feel like you're a failure to people you love, God is here.

He won't judge. He'll give you a mulligan or a do-over. And provide the strength for you to succeed.

Think of God as our caddie. He can guide us, but in the end, we still have to listen... and do the work. (Spoiler alert: He's much more forgiving than the greens on most courses!)



# Happenings...



**Sunday, June 15th**

## What is a father?

Being a male species does not make a man a father, for a dad is a special blend of hero; disciplinarian; a friend; someone to look up to; someone to model ... someone with a touch of the "mother" in him; someone who is big enough to say, "The fault was mine"... someone who lives the kind of life that makes you want to say, "I, too, shall follow him!" ~Alton Kaul



## SUMMER PICNIC

*SAVE THE DATE!*

Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am

Worship in the Park w/picnic

at Robinson Park



## New at First English ~ Prayer Box

If you or someone you know are in need of prayers please feel free to fill out a card and place it in the locked box. If the prayer is confidential there are envelopes provided to seal and place your prayer in the Prayer box. It's located near the entry of the sanctuary.



# ***Congratulations to our 2025 Grads!***



Riley, Pastor Cheryl, Ally, & Mason

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## **Local Farmers' Markets...**

### **Wisconsin Rapids**

Every Thursday & Saturday morning  
From 8:00 am - 1:00pm  
June 12th - October 11th  
100-198 1st Ave S, W.R.



### **Rome, WI**

Every Friday  
From 9:00am - 1:00pm  
Mid May - End September  
274 Geneva Trl, Nekoosa

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# Help Needed...

While you're away this summer...

Taking regular vacations is key to our well-being. It's important to spend time with loved ones, experience physical and mental refreshment, enjoy changes in scenery and routines, and prepare for future productivity.



**Remember  
Your Pledge  
This Summer**

Just remember: God's work goes on all summer long. When you're on vacation, your friends at church miss you. No one else can fill your unique role in the congregation. Your presence and gifts help the church thrive. So please give your regular offerings before you leave for vacation. And if you have the opportunity, try to attend church while you're away.

When on vacation, be with us in spirit, the rest of the summer, be with us in person.

Have a wonderful summer!



## Attention!

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area to help with the FOCUS Neighborhood Meal

Thursday, June 19th  
From 4:00 - 6:30pm

*Remember: Not everyone goes to bed with a full stomach.  
You can make a difference!*

# STUFF THE BUS

**Official Collection Site**

**July 1<sup>st</sup> - August 6<sup>th</sup>**









**UNITED WAY**  
South Wood &  
Adams Counties



**FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
440 Garfield Street, W.R.  
[www.felwisrapids.org](http://www.felwisrapids.org)

# JUNE 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30am Worship	2  Pastor Off	3 7am Yoga	4 10am Bible Zoom 2:45pm RR Bible	5 7am Yoga  Last 1/2 day School	6 8am Bible Zoom OFFICE CLOSED Pastor work @ home	7 Jackan & Vruwink  <i>United in Marriage</i> Synod Assembly-GB
8 9:30am Worship <b>Worship Mtg</b>  Wear Red! Pentecost SUNDAY	9  → Pastor off	10 7am Yoga  Continuing Ed -	11 10am Bible Zoom 1pm Ouliters 1:45pm SHINE W  Spiritual Retreat	12 7am Yoga  →	13 8am Bible Zoom OFFICE CLOSED Pastor on Vacay →	14  FLAG DAY
15 9:30am Worship <b>Happy Father's Day</b> Pastor on Vacay → Trinity Sunday 	16  →	17 7am Yoga  6pm Council Mtg	18 10am Bible Zoom 10:15am SHINE AV 2:45 RR Bible 5:15pm Christ Ed Mtg	19 7am Yoga  4-6:30pm FOCUS Neighborhood Meal	20 8am Bible Zoom OFFICE CLOSED Pastor work @ home 	21
22 9:30am Worship	23  6:30p Endowment Pastor Off	24 7am Yoga	25 10am Bible Zoom 1pm Ouliters 1:45pm SHINE W	26 7am Yoga	27 8am Bible Zoom OFFICE CLOSED Pastor work @ home	28
29 9:30am Worship	30  Pastor Off	Have a wonderful			 SUMMER	

# IN MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Make this keepsake to express love for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.

## What you need:

- White construction paper (11" x 13" sheet)
- Pencil
- Black permanent marker
- Crayons or paint

## What you do:

1. In the center of the paper, trace your foot in pencil. Darken the outline with marker.
2. Color or paint the footprint. Let it dry.
3. Trace your father's foot (same side) on top of your footprint (with yours in the middle of his).
4. Color or paint his footprint. Let it dry.
5. Sign your names and the date at the bottom.

HAPPY

# Father's Day

## Activity Page...

### A FATHER'S INSTRUCTION

Although babies don't come with instructions, God tells parents how to raise their children.

Directions: Fill in the blanks with letters, using the number grid to find the correct coordinates. The first number goes across, the second one goes down.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	a	L	d	i	j	g	r
2	m	b	o	k	h	u	s
3	e	n	c	x	t	p	f

2,2 7,1 4,1 2,3 6,1 5,3 5,2 1,3 1,2

6,2 6,3 4,1 2,3 5,3 5,2 1,3

5,3 7,1 1,1 4,1 2,3 4,1 2,3 6,1 1,1 2,3 3,1

4,1 2,3 7,2 5,3 7,1 6,2 3,3 5,3 4,1 3,2 2,3

3,2 7,3 5,3 5,2 1,3 2,1 3,2 7,1 3,1

Ephesians 6:4, NIV