



First English Lutheran Preschool

March 2026 Newsletter



From the Director's desk:

We are so grateful and amazed at how quickly we have made it to this point in our school year!

Our staff has tried to create a safe environment in which your children have begun to blossom. I know that our classes are seeing the developmental skills increase as children are socializing with others, practicing their language skills, demonstrating physical feats, and simply enjoying their school days at FELP.

We look forward to each class being able to share their art displays with families this month as we celebrate children's creativity through various art media. You may look for your child's artwork in trout hall all month long! Wishing you well,

Mrs. Gleissner

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Office: 574-255-4234

YOUTH ART MONTH DISPLAY

March 2-6: Spring conferences (during/after school)

all classes in session

March 4: Conscious Discipline

Parent class 6-7:30pm (SJCPL)

March 8: Daylight savings time

(Spring forward one hour)

March 13: Spaghetti Dinner 4:30-6:30pm and Talent show starts at 6:30pm (auction link will be shared soon)

March 16-27: Registration for 2026-2027 for current/former families

March 17: St. Patrick's Day: Wear Green

March 22: Family ART event 3-4:30 pm

April 1: New families register for preschool
Online at www.firstenglishlutheranpreschool.org

April 3: NO SCHOOL-Good Friday

April 5: Easter Sunday (FELC service at 10:30)

April 6-10: NO SCHOOL-Spring break



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

2/3's class: March 15 **Brady** #3

3/ 4's class: March 2 **Liam** #4

March 3 **Easton** #4

March 23 **Otis** #4

Pre-K class: March 3 **Jacob** #5

March 12 **Bella** #5

March 12 **Ruby** #5

March 12 **Rose** #5

March 20 **Reagan** #5

March 26 **Luna** #5



Fall schedules: We offer 2 days AND 3 days of attendance in the 2/3 class next for next school year (MWF or TTh). Our 3/4 and Pre-K classes will also have 2-3 days of attendance with the Pre-K also offering 5 days. Families who have a 4-year-old attending Pre-K should investigate if they qualify for On My Way PreK <https://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/on-my-way-pre-k/find-out-if-you-qualify/> as well, there are vouchers available from the Child Care Development Funds for those who qualify financially, for more information go to: <https://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/child-care-vouchers/>



NAEYC's Week of The Young Child: The National Association for the Education of Young Children celebrates "Week of the Young Child" the week of April 13-17 this year, so we will enjoy activities with the themes of Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday, Work Together Wednesday, Artsy Thursday, and Family Fun Friday when we return from spring break.



March 13th Fundraiser-Spaghetti Dinner/ Auction/Talent Show: Many hands are needed to make our event successful. We are still in need of auction items if you have a business who might be willing to donate a service or item! We also need families to eat dinner (extra order forms are available in the office); We are still hoping to offer a Talent Show as a conclusion to the evening (6:30pm). Will you consider sharing a skit, song, activity or even telling a few jokes with some of your family members? Additionally, we will need help on Friday afternoon to set up and during the event to help with the food service, with eventual clean up. We will share our online auction link once the auction opens and auction closure will be 6pm Monday, March 16. Use this link to offer an hour or two of service:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4FA9A829A3FC1-61431153-family#/>



Conscious Discipline: In the Family Survey we had people interested in knowing the topics for a parent night. We will offer a few sessions with babysitting and dinner once plans are more finalized. Our staff is using this philosophy for our professional development, and we feel the concepts are very worthwhile for families to learn as well. It would be great to have several of our families attend the March 4th event held at the community center of the SJCLP from

6-7:30pm. Join Mrs. Gleissner and register with the link to attend:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd9JlfgmfO-ZfjJ0beBO29Hx3fuBhlwD0WIXmH7aTTsD4bR2A/viewform>



Family Conferences: We are offering conferences during the school day this first week of March. Teachers have reached out to several families but if you have not heard from them and you desire a conference time, please email your child's teacher directly. Classes will be in session all week as Mrs. Fulkerson returns to help for a few days if conferences are held during the school day. If you are regularly getting (and reading) your child's COR note, staying up to date with learning activities in the classroom and talking with your child's teacher before/after school, then you may opt out of participating in these spring conferences.



Food Pantry: Donations for this month are instant or scalloped potatoes or bar soap. There is a bin located under the FELP Info Bulletin board by trout hall doors to collect these items. Thank you to those who have given previously in the year and we will continue to support this endeavor until the end of our school year.



Chapel time: This past week Pastor Patrick shared that FELC is working on three aspects during this Lenten season: acts of charity, prayer and forgiveness. FELP is hoping to join in on the acts of Charity but collecting coins. The theme is “making a change” so you will see jars near the sign in tables for this month. If your child would like to add to these then we will have each class at the end of the week put their collection into the church’s containers. Thank you for helping your child find a way to offer some pennies, nickels, dimes or quarters!



New Siblings: We have had a little burst of babies born in the last few weeks! **Aedan** (2/3 class) became a big brother to his baby sister, while **Cade** (3/4 class) became a big brother (again) to a baby sister as well. **Audrey** (Pre-K class) has a new baby brother as she continues her big sister role. We know that **Skylar and Ava** are awaiting their baby’s birth soon as well.



NO “MISS” MARSHA Mondays: Just an FYI that the church secretary will not be in the office Monday mornings the remainder of this school year. She is trying out a shift in her work week. If you have a cash tuition payment to make, you may place this in the metal locked box by the office and Mrs. Gleissner will get your receipt later in the morning if possible. At this point Pastor Patrick will be available in the office to help with phones during the school day.



‘Two way communication’ One of my family engagement goals is to provide families with two way communication about their child (or other topics). As teachers create photos/anecdotes from your child’s learning experiences, families can add information or respond to these notes via the Kaymbu app. As well, there is a section where we can send “urgent” messages, and families can also share messages with us. This could be helpful to those families who do not regularly participate in the arrival or dismissal procedure!



MARCH COR notes: This month we would love for families to share a note about your child singing a favorite song. This can be done with a photo or video or just a sentence about what song they sang most (or some) of the words. Another note under the music category could be if they request a specific song, modify their voice during part of the song or even explore the sound of instruments in 3 or more ways.



Family ART process event: We are planning to offer a Sunday afternoon ART exploration family event March 22 from 3-4:30pm. We will have several art mediums to use in a variety of ways. If you can join us let us know!



What's Going on in Michiana:

March 4: Conscious Discipline parenting session (SJCPL-Community Learning Center) 6-7:30pm

March 5: Evening Story time (SJCPL-Main branch) 5-6pm (for 3-5 year olds)

March 7: Movie at SJCPL downtown library 1pm (Little Kid Flicks- variety of short films)

March 7: Friends of Elkhart Public Library Book Sale (EPL-300 Second St.) 9am-2:30pm

March 10: MAR10 Day (MPHPL-Downtown) family activities with Mario theme 5-6:30 pm

March 14 St. Patrick's Day parade (11 am) East Jefferson Blvd starting route

March 14/15: Sugar Camp Days at Bendix Woods (56960 Timothy Road, New Carlisle)

March 14/15: Potawatomi Zoo Winter days

March 17: Green Eggs and Ham party (EPL-Cleveland branch) 11am-noon

March 19: Mother/Son dance Palais Royale 5:30-7:30 pm (\$15 person)

March 21: Lion King JR sneak peek (MPHPL) 10-11 am

March 27: 4-4:45pm SB Symphony Orchestra string quintet 'concert' (SJCPL-Main)

March 27: Preschool Paw Patrol Party (Dunlap branch EPL) 10-11am

March 28: 10-noon Bendix Woods Nature Center (56960 Timothy Road) Bee Part of the Buzz!

Learning about the ecosystem bees play

March 31: National Crayon Day celebration (MPHPL-Harris branch) 6-6:45pm

Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Order Form

Our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction (with Talent Show) is scheduled for Friday, March 13 from 4:30-7pm (last service of food is 6:30pm). Tickets need to be purchased ahead of time so we can plan for the quantity of food.

If you are planning to attend, please fill out the form and return to the office. We will keep the tickets for you at the door. If you have other family or friends who wish to join you then you may send one check (payable to FELP) or include payment for all the tickets needed. There is NO online payment ability for this event as we need the paperwork with the payment. Thank you for supporting our preschool.

Dinner will include spaghetti pasta with or without marinara sauce, salad, bread, and a simple dessert.

Adult Ticket prices are \$8.

Number of tickets needed _____ X \$8 = _____

Child tickets (3 to 12 years) are \$3.

Number of tickets needed _____ x \$3 = _____

“Toddler” (2 and under) servings are \$1.

Number of tickets needed _____ x \$1 = _____

Family name:

Total amount enclosed: _____