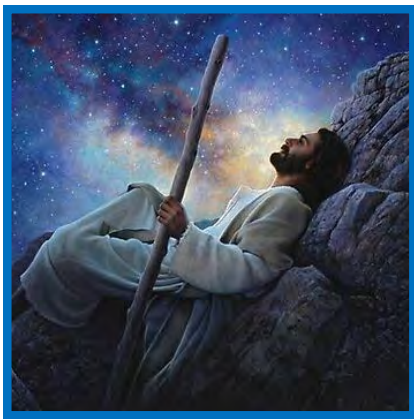




And there is salvation in no one else;
for there is no other name
under heaven given among men by
which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Office Hours: 8:30—Noon
Monday thru Friday and by
appointment**

Emergency Calls:

Church office: 507.346.2793

Church Email:

felcsvmn@gmail.com

Pastor Wessel home: 346-1073

Pastor's email

loelwessel@msn.com

President Jim Edgar 507-271-4419

firstenglishlutheranchurchsv.com

August 2026 Newsletter

**Morning Prayer M—F
8:00 AM**

**As for me and my
house, we will serve
the Lord
Joshua 24:15**

From Vicar Yang



Time passes quickly. Since I first arrived here on May 16th, ten weeks have passed. Each day was similar, but I was blessed in different ways.

Pastor Wessel and I start our devotions at 7:30 each morning, while Wendy is working in the secretary's office. I enjoy the morning prayer at 8:00. I read different commentaries to prepare to lead prayer each Friday. After the prayer, Pastor teaches me English pronunciation. He also makes sure my theology is right.

I make more work for Pastor Wessel, which I'm so proud of. Each morning, he spent at least 40 minutes teaching me phonics and Scripture reading. I'm surprised how much my English has improved in ten weeks. I guess church members feel the same way. They can hear the difference between now and when I first got here. That's because I have a good mentor, and caring environment from the church. Thanks be to God.

So far, I have preached twice. The first time I preached, I led Matins and preached in the communion service. At the end of that sermon, I quoted my version of Psalm 23: "The Lord is my shepherd, He leads me to Spring Valley". Last week was my second preaching while pastor was at the convention in Phoenix. I led the whole service. It went smoothly, and I received the feedback that they could hear my sermon clearly. I can tell everyone is happy to see my growth.

I have led two Wednesday Evening Prayer Services. I taught the book of Jonah and Nahum. Those books are messages to Nineveh. In Jonah's story, the Ninevites repent. But the prophet Nahum announced the judgment of Nineveh. I said that judgement was for the regime of the Chinese government, too.

I like visiting the elderly, the sick, and the needy with pastor, learning how he communicates with them, prays and serves communion. Each visitation is so precious and unique, because each member, though they cannot come to church, is valuable and precious.

I love my host families, the Edgar family and the Kohn family. They made me feel that I'm at home. Their caring hearts are always with me. I love Jim's pizza and Tami's pie. Brent flies the plane like flying a kite. Sarah has a great sense of humor.

I see each day as a gift. I could not mention each one's name in this short letter. But I thank God in my heart for your kindness. I was invited to do an interview on a YouTube Channel—Upper Room in Preston at 6:00 on July 30th. I am going to share about Christianity in China and my journey in China as a Christian. Prayers are needed so that I have courage and strength at that time.

God's Peace.

Vicar Timothy

Join Us This Summer

**12 Minor Prophets
1 Major Message**

at
Evening Prayer
Wednesdays
7:00pm

We will finish out the summer with the
4 remaining prophets.

Craft Day

There will be no craft day in
August.

First English Fellowship Night

**Join us at First English for an evening
of relaxation and fellowship with
your friends and neighbors. This
month you can put puzzles together.
There are puzzles for all skill-levels.**

**Thursday, August 20
7:00pm-9:00pm
Fellowship Hall**

Our Website is Live

The address is
firstenglishlutheranchurchsv.com

***As for me and my house, we will serve
the Lord
Joshua 24:15***



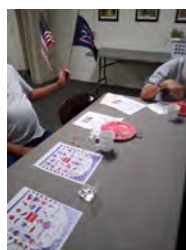
Sunday, May 24 Pentecost
Vicar Yang
reading scripture in Chinese.



Sunday, June 28
Vicar Yang delivers his first
sermon.

Prayer and Thanksgiving for America

On July 1st, First English dedicated our Wednesday Evening Service to pray for our country and give thanks to God for His Blessings. After the service, the congregation met in the Fellowship Hall to sing patriotic songs, listen to a reading of The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere, and play Patriotic Bingo. Thank you to all who helped make this evening memorable.



Fellowship Night

We hosted a Fellowship Night on July 16. This night was board game night. There was plenty of laughter and fellowship.



Fishing Monopoly



Scrabble



Apples to Apples
(Game over/Just socializing)

THANK YOU

250TH Anniversary Challenge
Sponsored by the American
Legion Auxiliary and
VFW Auxiliary
Our challenge to collect 250 cans of soup by July 4th was more than accomplished. We collected 265 cans of soup and 54 cans of vegetables. A total of 319 cans were delivered to the Spring Valley Food Shelf on July 8th. Our congregation contributed 33 cans of soup. Thanks to everyone who participated in this challenge.



Missionary

Barb Rebentisch

Following our Wednesday Evening Prayer Service on July 15th, Missionary Barb Rebentisch shared her story and information about her work in Taiwan.



You can contact her at barb.rebentisch@lcms.org to receive monthly newsletter up-dates.

