

Missionary Sponsorship:

First English has a significant tradition of directly supporting a missionary overseas. This involvement began when a son of the congregation, James Thomas, was called to mission work in Ethiopia in 1964, where he was killed in a Jeep crash soon after.

Each year since then, First English has sponsored a specific internationally-based missionary. Currently, Pastor Peter and Sarah Grow-Hanson and their sons, Simon and Elijah, are sponsored in Senegal. Updates of their work are available at <http://growhansonsenegal.typepad.com>, where Pastor Peter discusses what it's like to be a Lutheran in Senegal. During Lent, First English focuses special attention on the sponsorship of our missionaries.

Church Women: The mission of the women's group is three-fold:

COMMUNITY enables each woman to value herself and others and to celebrate relationships which are global, diverse, and interdependent.

GROWTH provides a variety of learning experiences to strengthen each woman as a whole person and to equip her for ministry.

ACTION enables each one to articulate and act upon her faith as a disciple of Christ in all areas of life.

The Church Women make 20-25 sizable mission/ministry donations annually. The women actively participate in many projects throughout the year, the main one being Bible study. Meeting times are listed under Bible Study below.

Quilters:

A dedicated group of retired women meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium to use the sewing machines, fabric and tables to assemble 100 quilts per year. These are shipped overseas to aid in Lutheran world relief. For many they become more than a blanket; they serve as homes. If interested, call the church office at (920) 231-9890.