



First English Lutheran Church and Child Development Center  
a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God Loves. We Love. Everyone!

October 3, 2024

Dear friends of First English Lutheran Church and First English Lutheran Child Development Center,

FELCDC needs your help. Since September of 1972, there has been a child development center housed in and supported by First English Lutheran Church as a mission of our church and as a manifestation of our care for the children of Austin. Over that time, FELCDC has grown and changed along with the city.

Staffed by a talented and experienced director, Dr. Paulette Clemons, and a dedicated group of teachers, today's CDC cares for and teaches children from six weeks to five years of age in a high-quality learning environment. With the highest rating from the Texas Workforce Commission's Rising Star rating system for quality child care, the CDC is honored to welcome families who rely on tuition assistance from state funds due to economic need and/or foster care situations. In addition, FELCDC itself provides tuition assistance for families in need when funds are available. Approximately 30% of our enrolled children currently rely on tuition assistance. We are proud to be able to provide quality teaching and care for these children while their parents work, attend school or train for new jobs. Unfortunately, the income received through tuition assistance falls short of our current tuition rates and necessarily results in financial challenges for the center.

During the summer of 2023, the CDC was forced to suspend operations for several months. With the support of the church council and a newly formed board, the center was renovated, and new staff was hired and reopened in September 2023. An infant care program was added this past spring to better serve the needs of the community and to help organically regrow our enrollment. Despite the hard work of our staff and teachers and parents, enrollment has not bounced back as we had hoped. We are not currently able to cover our expenses with tuition and fees. To be transparent, the CDC needs financial assistance. The board of directors and the staff have cut expenses where possible and continue to operate as frugally as practicable. But we need help to get through this challenging period of time. When enrollment increases, we believe that this can be a sustainable operation.

Please help us to continue this mission of First English Lutheran Church by making a donation to the FELCDC. We ask this not only because of the CDC's long history as a mission of this church but also because of the promise of its future. The stakeholders in the CDC want to continue to do what we do best: provide an enriched learning environment for children that is safe and nurturing.

3001 Whitis Avenue

Austin, Texas 78705

[www.felcaustin.org](http://www.felcaustin.org)

[www.firstenglishcdc.org](http://www.firstenglishcdc.org)

Church: 512-478-1933

CDC: 512-478-5424

FELCDC is a 501(c)3 charitable organization associated with First English Evangelical Lutheran Church and any contributions are tax deductible.

**Ways to donate:**

- Mail checks payable to FELCDC, to First English Lutheran CDC, 3001 Whitis Ave, Austin, TX 78705
- Donate via Zelle [bank transfer](#) using the email address of [kuchynata@yahoo.com](mailto:kuchynata@yahoo.com), which is connected to the FELCDC bank account
- Use the QR Code:



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