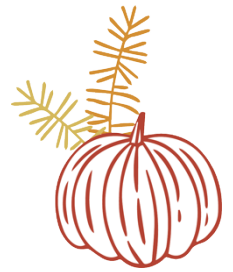


Do Kindness



Cross Beams



www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.



**First day of
Kingdom Kids was
a huge success!**

**Join us on Nov 1 &
Dec 1st!**



**Affirmation of Baptism
Banquet & Service!
Congrats Joe, Ethan &
Wyley!**



What's Inside:

- † Church News
- † Pastor Article
- † Upcoming Events
- † Prayer List
- † Council Minutes
- † Financial





Facebook likes to remind us of posts that we have made in the past. Many of those pictures were from when we lived in Bemidji, and I think that every single year there was at least one picture of snow in October. Every time I saw one, I thought, "Boy, I sure am glad that we moved south last November!!" And then, on Halloween, we woke up to snow on the ground. As long as it's not the snow of Halloween in 1991, I guess that I can live with it. It is still early, it will warm up and the snow will melt and when December rolls around, we will probably be wondering if a White Christmas will only be in our dreams.

Well, it's been a year since you called me to be your pastor. And what a year it has been!!!! Thank you for welcoming my family and me into your church, your homes, and your community! We love living in Ellsworth and we are so blessed to be here. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU!! We are still figuring each other out. Some of you are still not quite sure what to think of me. I know, I'm a little different from what you might expect from a pastor. I can be loud and goofy, and my sense of humor can be dry and self-deprecating, but please know that it comes from a sincere desire to bring a little bit of joy into this world.

When we watch the news, read the paper, and scroll through social media, it can seem like the world is going to hell-in-a-handbasket. I don't think that you are wrong, it probably is. HOWEVER, when we look back on history, it always looks like our world is that way. I can remember 15 years ago, when the retired guys at the golf course kept stopping at the 19th Hole, the bar at the golf course, to watch the news and see how bad the stock market was crashing and the aftermath that was left in its wake. I can remember a September morning, waking up to a screaming hangover and seeing the look on my parents' faces as we watched over and over, the video of planes flying into the Twin Towers and then seeing them come crashing down. Operation Desert Shield/Storm, Tianamen Square, the Iran Hostage Situation, ok, I was just a toddler when that happened. But what about the gas shortages of the 1970s? How many of you were concerned about your draft number when you graduated from high school and the Vietnam war? And before that, the fear of communists and the atom bomb. World War II, the Great Depression, World War I. World War I, the Great War, was to be the war that ended all wars... we know how false that was. We found new and inventive ways to hurt, maim and kill one another.

And that's just the last 100 years! Throughout our history, bad things have been happening and people use them to predict the end of the world. They point to the book of Revelation to interpret the events of the day and say "_____ is proof that the end of the world is near, and Jesus will return." Here's the funny thing, the Apostle Paul thought that Jesus would return in HIS lifetime! We know that to be wrong. In fact, here's what we know about the return of Jesus: NOTHING!! "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, BUT THE FATHER ONLY." Matthew 24:32 and Mark 13:32 say this. Luke 17:26-37 say something very similar. We don't know when Jesus will return, only God does.

In the meantime, instead of being scared and fearful, we can live our lives boldly and joyfully. Let us be like Jesus and serve one another. Serving others helps us to take our minds off our struggles and opens our world to a whole new experience. Worshipping God gives us reprieve from the bombardment of awful news that it constantly around us. Reading the bible shows us that God has always been there with his people, even in the worst times. Even on the darkest days, there is joy and light to be found.

Once again, thank you for letting me be your pastor! I love you!!

Peace, Pastor Pete

CHURCH NEWS

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, November 8 at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room.

We are studying holy places. This month our study focuses on Pilgrimage. Pilgrimage is not only about the destination. It is about the holy place of the journey itself.

How does pilgrimage challenge and inspire us?

Hostess is Diane Wiskerchen.

Please join us!



Thank You

Adopt-A-Highway-

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Adopt-A-Highway clean up!

-Chris Karlstad

Thank you all for your kindness in remembering Tom. We will be planting a tree in memory of Tom.

-Kriste & Gary



All Saints Day

All Saints' Day is a day set aside by the church for remembering dedicated Christians of the past. It is often called All Saints' Day or All Souls' Day. This day has been set aside "since the Middle Ages for remembrance of the beloveds who no longer laugh and cry with us on Earth. All Souls' Day is a beautiful occasion for contemplating how we care for our own souls."

We will celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 5. If you wish to submit the name of your loved ones who have died in the past year, please contact the office with their names and a photo. Names you provide do not need to be members of English Lutheran.



Endowment

The Endowment Committee will meet on November 8, if you have ministry funding requests, please submit them to the church office by November 1. Forms can be found online and on the forms shelf outside the church office.

Please contact Pastor Pete or a member of the Endowment Committee with any questions regarding the Endowment Fund.



Endowment Committee -
Warren Johnson, Peter Carr, Traci Maxwell, Dixie Basch, Diane Wiskerchen, Mary Sokolik, & Trina Groen

Choir

Choir has resumed and new members are encouraged and welcome to join! No experience necessary... on the job training will be provided!

Most rehearsals are Sunday after church. If you can't make all the practices, don't worry! Hope to see you there!

New format for Kids choir:
Missy and Ava will meet on the first Wednesday of the month starting in October to familiarize the kids with the song of the month they will be singing for service.

During Sunday School, the teachers will lead the kids in practicing the song.

Kids choir is scheduled to sing the Sunday following the first Wednesday of the month.



In Memory

ELC celebrated the life of Dale Melstrom on Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.



Pledge Cards

In your third quarter giving statement, you will receive a pledge card for your offering for 2024.

We ask you to prayerfully consider what you will pledge to God and fill out the card and return it to the church on November 12th.

During worship on that day, we offer up our pledges to God as we give thanks for the blessings that we have received from him and joyfully give of ourselves to praise God.

Thank you for being a vital part of our family of God!!



Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social

As we prepare for Thanksgiving this year, on Wednesday, November 22 at 6:00 PM, we will take a moment to thank God for all of the blessings in our lives.

We will have a worship service of Thanksgiving and Holy Communion followed by a Pie Social.

We will have a sign-up sheet for people to bring in pies that we will share after the worship service.

Join us as we give thanks to God!!



Advent Festival

Sunday, November 26th

To kick off the Advent season, we will have an Advent Festival during church on Sunday, November 26.

During this service, we will learn about some of our favorite Advent & Christmas traditions, sing our beloved carols and decorate the sanctuary.

Join us as we begin the Advent Season with this joyous worship service.



Advent Holden Evening Prayer Services

This year, we will have a Holden Evening Prayer Service on Wednesday nights during the season of Advent.

It will be a brief worship service that starts at 5:30 PM.

We will read through the first chapter of Luke's Gospel and sing about the angel announcing to Mary that she has been chosen to bear the Savior of the world and how she responds to it.

Take a quick break on Wednesday nights to come and worship!

And there may be a special surprise after worship each week!

Brunch

On Sunday, November 12th, Pastor Pete is cooking Brunch after church!

Join us downstairs in the fellowship hall after church for Brunch.



Men's Breakfast

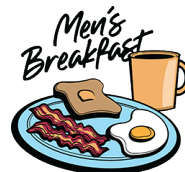
Pastor Pete will be cooking breakfast on Thursday mornings for the guys.

We will gather in the church kitchen at 8:00 am for a breakfast with a rotating menu and fruit with coffee and orange juice.

The suggested donation is \$5.00 to help cover the cost of food.

After we are done eating, we will pitch in to clean up.

We look forward to seeing you!



THANKSGIVING BASKETS INFO

We're Hiring!

Sydney, the Communications & Finance Coordinator is leaving in December. If you, or anyone you know is interested in filling these positions, please reach out to the church office! ELC is open to hiring one person for both roles, or splitting them up.

Communications:

- † Around 20-24 hours per week
- † Prepare weekly worship presentations, bulletins, monthly newsletter, constant contact emails
- † Maintain church records & membership
- † Manage ELC website and Facebook page

Finance:

- † Around 6 hours per week
- † Balance accounts, manage accounts payable, accounts receivable and general ledger, payroll
- † Attend Finance meeting & prepare monthly finance reports

Please contact the church office for more information!



Thanksgiving Baskets

English Lutheran Church will continue the tradition of sharing *Thanksgiving* baskets with families in need within our community, so that, they too might sit down as a family to enjoy a traditional *Thanksgiving* dinner. This is an opportunity to not only bless, but be blessed in putting together Thanksgiving baskets for those who need them.

You can help! Gather names, donate items, or help assemble baskets.

Donations of non-perishable food for *Thanksgiving* Baskets may be dropped off at either entrance of the church or the church office. Please bring donated food items before Sunday, November 12. Any monetary donations can be put in the offering box or the church office. Please note *Thanksgiving Basket* on the donation.

Suggested items you could share:

Instant potatoes

Cranberries Boxed instant stuffing

Gravy Packets Canned vegetables

Assemble baskets: On Friday morning, November 17, at 9:00 am, volunteers are needed to assemble baskets at church.

Basket Pick-up: Families can pick-up their baskets on Saturday, November 18, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Thanks for sharing your blessings! †

If you or someone you know may be in need of a basket, please contact the church office at Office@englishlutheranchurch.org or 715-273-4617. Deadline to request a basket is Sunday, November 12.



Sunday School

Sunday School has started! Children ages 3 through 6th grade can join us on Sunday mornings following communion during the worship service for about 30 minutes. Times will be 9:45 to 10:15 am. Children will worship with their families and then when they go up for communion or a blessing with their families they will be dismissed with their teachers to classrooms. Class times will include some large group lesson time, large group activity, and music.

We have lots of fun things coming up for Sunday School - here are some important dates for your calendar! Note - these dates are also on our church calendar available on our church website.

Important Dates:

- November 11 - Sunday School students sing in church
- December 10 - Christmas Party & Sunday School students sing in church
- No Sunday School class - November 26 and December 17, 24, & 31



Confirmation

Classes: Our lessons will be based on the Old Testament. It is a 3-year rotation where everyone learns the same thing each year, Old Testament, New Testament and then the Small Catechism. We will also have a discussion guide for the small groups each week. Our schedule for class times is below:

Schedule - 6:00 Meal

6:20 Announcements

6:30 Whole Group Lesson

6:45 Small Group Time

7:00 - 7:30 Activity/Game

Dates -

Nov. 8 - Hand out Thanksgiving flyers in town

Nov. 15 - Pick up food for Thanksgiving baskets

Nov. 30 - Class

Dec. 6 - Class

Dec. 20 - Christmas Party - bring a \$5 gift for the exchange game



Congratulations to Ethan Ladwig, Wyley Myers, Joseph Lewis who were confirmed on Sunday, October 29th at 9:00 am!!

Kingdom Kids

Kingdom Kids is for Elementary age students on the first Wednesday of the month after school 3:30 to 5:00 PM. We will have a bus bring the EES kids right from school. We will have a snack, sing songs, play games and learn about God!

Dates:

Wednesday, October 4

Wednesday, November 1

Wednesday, December 6

Please register on our website!

COUNCIL NOTES, FINANCIAL UPDATE, PRAYER REQUESTS

October Council Meeting

- † Discussed Sydney leaving and how to best fill the position
- † Discussed a successful start to Kingdom Kids with 27 registered.
- † Property– Discussed outside steps that were repaired and the possibility of having a handicap accessible door.
- † Reviewed upcoming events such as All Saints Day, Thanksgiving worship & pie social, and midweek Advent services.



- † *The next council meeting will be **November 21st at 6:30 pm.***

Financial Update

September 30, 2023 Cash Balances:

General Fund = \$98,443.11
Dedicated Fund = \$101,919.96
Total = \$200,363.07
Thrivent = \$95,491.44

September General Fund:

Income = \$12,780.96
Expenses = \$15,336.06



*The next finance meeting will be **November 14th at 6:30 pm.***

PRAYER REQUESTS

Healing:

Mallorie Daleiden
Liz Krohn
Mikey Krohn
Judi Nielsen
Tucker Thoen
Larry Larabee
Dean Mewes
Judy Nunn
Donna Tutor

Military service:

Johnathan Bergman
Josh Bechel

Long-term:

Lila Larson
Sherry York
Judy Morrow
Deb Pierce, Trina Groen's Mom ~ Alzheimer's
Mackenzie Marks, Connie Gossett's Granddaughter
Tomi Erlandson ~ Seizures & Health
Marianne Melstrom
Mary Dee Prokop, Mother of Eileen Mewes
Wendy Wegerer
Janet Arndt
Rob Mathis

Deaconess

The role of the Deaconess consists of sending thoughts, well wishes, and congratulations to members of our church to let them know we are thinking of them. Please notify the church office or any deaconess worker with any prayers.

Deaconess for November~ Vicki Nelson

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 3:30 Kingdom Kids 6 PM Confirmation	2 8 AM Men's Break-fast 6 PM Choir Practice	3	4
5 9 AM Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship	6 Pastor's Sabbath	7	8 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Endowment Comm.	9 Pastor Pete @ Synod Conference Meeting 6 PM Choir Practice	10	11
12 9 AM Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship	13 Pastor's Sabbath	14 6:30 PM Finance Comm.	15 6 PM Confirmation	16 8 AM Men's Break-fast 6 PM Choir Practice	17 9 AM Assemble Thanksgiving Baskets	18 10-1 Distribute Thanksgiving Baskets
19 9 AM Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10 AM Fellowship	20 Pastor's Sabbath	21 6:30 PM Council Meeting	22 6 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service & Pie Social	23 Happy Thanksgiving	24	25 Decorating for Advent Festival
26 9 AM Advent Festival!! 10 AM Fellowship	27 Pastor's Sabbath	28	29 5:30 Midweek Advent Service 6 PM Confirmation	30 8 AM Men's Break-fast 6 PM Choir Practice		



English Lutheran Church
229 West Main Street
Ellsworth, Wisconsin
Phone: 715-273-4617
Church website:
www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Find us on Facebook!
EnglishLutheranEllsworth

Congregation Council

President: Eric Van Nocker
Vice President: Melba Smith
Treasurer: Gary Brown
Secretary: Greta Larson
Denise Hager
Jill Hague
Lynette Winger
Dennis Swanson

Staff

Pastor Pete Warren
pastorpete@englishlutheranchurch.org
218-760-6974

**Sydney Durfee- Communications
Coordinator & Finance Administrator**
office@englishlutheranchurch.org
finance@englishlutheranchurch.org
Office: 715-273-4617

Julie Baggenstoss- Custodian

Music Director: Missy Kowalchuk
music@englishlutheranchurch.org

Accompanist: Ava Maxwell

Office Hours

Our office hours are:
Tuesday-Thursday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Stop in, call, or email. Sydney will be working from home Monday's and in the office Tuesday-Thursday.



2024 Offering Pledge Card

*Please bring this card with you to church
on November 12th or return to the office
by November 23rd*



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
Thank you so much for your support of English Lutheran Church's 2024 ministry and mission! As we give thanks for the bountiful harvest we've received from God, please prayerfully consider your financial support and volunteering your Time and Talents in continuing to grow our church. With your gifts, we can boldly share and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ together.

Our Mission: To share Christ's unconditional love, inspiring us all for service to others.

Worship Services

Online ~ Sundays on Facebook & YouTube
Livestream at **9:00 am**

In-Person ~ Sundays **9:00 am**

WORSHIP
with us

Our Mission:

To share Christ's unconditional love,
inspiring us all for service to others.

Cross Beams

Published monthly by:
English Lutheran Church
Ellsworth, Wisconsin.

Email:
office@englishlutheranchurch.org



Cross Beams

Name _____

Envelope # _____ Phone # _____

Email _____

My/Our 2024 Commitment to English Lutheran Church

\$___ per **week** / month / year (please circle one)

We will give **electronically** / offering envelopes (please circle one)

Do you wish to no longer receive offering envelopes? **Y** / **N**



*Questions and comments about changes to your giving may be directed to the office at
finance@englishlutheranchurch.org. Note: All commitments are strictly confidential.*