



Cross Beams

January 2023



www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.



What's Inside:

- † Upcoming Events at English Lutheran
- † Finance Updates & Council Meeting Notes
- † Prayer Requests

english
LUTHERAN CHURCH



It is once again, that time of year again when we say, "This next year is going to be different!" And in truth, for us at English Lutheran Church, 2023 will be different from 2022, just like 2022 was different from 2021, 2021 was different from 2020 and we all know how drastically different 2020 ended in December from how it began in January. In fact, there has been so much change these last few years that many of us feel unsettled and left adrift amidst all of the changes.

But there is one thing that has not changed, there is one thing that we hold onto as an anchor in our lives and that one thing is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith and our lives, Jesus Christ. We can cling to the cross as we are tossed about the storms of life and know that no matter what happens, Christ is with us.

This year will bring yet more change. I have been at English Lutheran for just over six weeks now and have loved every moment of it. It has been awesome to worship with you and to get to know you. I have been feeling adrift because I am still getting a feel for how things work and getting know people's names. This is something that I will continue to work on as I have more time to visit with you and get to know you.

One of my favorite ways to get to know people is by breaking bread together. Food and fellowship have gone hand in hand with faith since the early church. Just like Jesus and the disciples at a full meal at the Last Supper, the early Christian worship services used to include a full meal. As time went by, it was whittled down to just the bread and the wine. But we can still take time and break bread with each other outside of worship and I hope that we will do that a lot!!! We need to food to feed our bodies and eating with others also helps feed our souls.

I am so excited to be your new pastor!! And I look forward to seeing what the Holy Spirit has in store for us. There is so much room for us to grow as a family in Christ. We truly are in a time of New Year, New US!!! May the Lord bless you and keep you and have Happy New Year!!

Pastor Pete

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study group will meet on Wednesday, January 11 in the Fireside Room.

Our hostess is Diane Wiskerchen.

Please consider joining us!



Thank You Notes

Piper's Bake Sale

Thank you to everyone who assisted with Piper's bake sale! Whether you donated baking supplies, purchased treats, or donated your time helping her bake, your help is greatly appreciated!

Christmas Tree of Spirit

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the Christmas Tree of Spirit! This year, ELC supported school lunches and the Pierce County Foster Care Program by purchasing diapers and pull ups. Thank you for sharing the Christmas message of generosity!

Altar Guild

Thank you to everyone on Altar Guild and everyone who helped decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. It looked beautiful, and the congregation appreciates it!



Sharing Shed

Please remember English Lutheran's Sharing Shed for your extra or no longer needed winter jackets and coats, warm hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and boots.

Drop off directly into the Sharing Shed, just outside the south door of the church.

Thank you!



Annual Meeting

Join us for the annual meeting of the congregation!

It will take place on **Sunday, January 29th at 10:00 am.** It will be right after the worship service.



We look forward to seeing everyone!

Worship Service Survey

In the fall of 2022, we decided to try changing from two worship services on Sunday to a single worship service on a trial basis. The new single service was meant to be a combined service, with elements of both traditional and contemporary services.

We are now at the point of deciding whether or not to continue with a single service on a permanent basis and would like your input to help make the decision.

We have created a survey to gather the congregation's thoughts and opinions. You can complete an online survey, found on our website, or we will have physical copies at the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you for your input!



December Council Meeting

- † Discussed the need for a congregational survey on 1 worship vs 2 worship services.
- † Recruitment for offering counters.
- † Nominating committee update for council members.
- † The 2023 budget was presented to council and approved.
- † Approval for \$100 donation from Memorial & Gifts to the Peter Kolodzienski Fund.
- † Finalized annual meeting date: January 29, 2023 after worship.
- † *The next council meeting will be **January 17, 2023.***

Financial Update

November 30, 2022 Cash Balances:

General Fund = \$124,730.49
Dedicated Fund = \$96,872.59
Total = \$221,603.08
Thrivent = \$89,493.58

November General Fund:

Income = \$49,706.21
Expenses = \$15,761.44



Youth News

We had a busy December in Sunday school and confirmation! We enjoyed some crafts, snacks, games—including human hungry hippo, gifts, and lots of laughter at both of our Christmas parties! A great way to celebrate in this festive season! We also enjoyed being a part of the no-rehearsal Christmas nativity during worship.

Confirmation

Looking forward to the new year, some of our events/activities and classes for Confirmation are as follows.

Luther Point Bible Camp—Winter Camp February 17-19.

The winter camp is a Friday to Sunday. It begins at 6:00 pm Friday evening and goes through Sunday at 11:30 am. This is open to 6th-12th graders. We'd love to take a bunch of kids up for this! We'll drive and have at least one chaperone. The cost is \$25 for each student. The camp is held in their retreat center, which is a beautiful facility! The camp will be led by Luther Point Bible Camp counselors and there will be other kids/churches there as well. There will be indoor and outdoor activities.

Dates:

January 4th & 18th — class
February 1— Feed My Starving Children trip to Eagan
February 15— class
March 1st, 15th & 29th— class & Lent worship
April 12th & 26th— class
May 10th — Year End Party



PRAYERS

Special Prayers:

Healing:

Rachel Proulx, niece of Julie Davis ~ Breast Cancer

Liz Krohn

Mikey Krohn

Judi Nielsen

Kim

Nathan Baar

Tucker Thoen

Heather

Morgan

Kinzleigh

Jerry Baggenstoss

Long-term:

Lila Larson

Sherry York

Judy Morrow

Karen McAdams, Linda & Gary Onan's Daughter
~ Multiple System Atrophy

Deb Pierce, Trina Groen's Mom ~ Alzheimer's

Mackenzie Marks, Connie Gossett's Granddaughter

Tomi Erlandson ~ Seizures & Health

Dale Melstrom

Marianne Melstrom

Mary Dee Prokop, Mother of Eileen Mewes

Wendy Wegerer

Military service:

Johnathan Bergman

Josh Bechel



*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

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 January~ Elaine Hines



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: Peter Carr
Vice President: Eric VanNocker
Treasurer: Gary Brown
Secretary: Julie Davis
CYF: Denise Hager
100th Anniv: Greta Larson
Worship & Music: Melba Smith
Property: Paul Tonsager
Jill Hague ~ undecided ministry

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 Kowalchyk
music@englishlutheranchurch.org



Office Hours

Our office hours are:

Tuesday-Friday
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, and Pastor Pete will be working Tuesday-Friday.



Our Mission:

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

Worship Services

Online ~ Sundays on Facebook
Livestream at 9:00 am

In-Person ~ Sundays 9:00 am



Cross Beams

Published monthly by:
English Lutheran Church
Ellsworth, Wisconsin.

Email:
office@englishlutheranchurch.org



Cross Beams

January 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
New Year's Day Jan 1 ● 9am In-Person & Online Worship	New Year's Day (substitute) 2	3	4 ● 6pm Confirmation	5	6	7
8 ● 9am In-Person & Online Worship ● 9:45am Sunday School	9	10 ● 6:30pm Finance Meeting	11	12	13	14
15 ● 9am In-Person & Online Worship ● 9:45am Sunday School	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17 ● 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	18 ● 6pm Confirmation	19	20 Deadline for Newsletter Articles	21
22 ● 9am In-Person & Online Worship ● 9:45am Sunday School	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 ● 9am In-Person & Online Worship ● 9:45am Sunday School ● 10am Annual Meeting	30	31	Feb 1 First Day of Black History Month ● 7pm Feed My Starving Children Even	2	3	4

