



Cross Beams

September 2019

www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.



Pierce County Fair



Making Gravy for the Fair



National Night Out





“Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” Luke 12:51-53 NRSV

Dear Fellow Children of God,

On Aug. 18, I preached on the text above from Luke. As I told those present that day, it's a tough text. It almost seems out of character for Jesus to say he came to bring division and not peace. He is, after all, the “Prince of Peace.”

We live in an era of extreme divisiveness, so many of us long for there to be less division and more unity. As I mentioned in my sermon, I tend to avoid conflict, and yet, this gospel reading seems to challenge me on that. But why would Jesus say he came to bring division? Because following Jesus meant living a life that was counter-cultural 2000 years ago, and is still counter-cultural today. Following Jesus means living like Jesus did, and that means loving those who are different than us and those with different beliefs than us. And when we do that, we might ruffle the feathers of friends and family...and maybe even our fellow church-goers.

Are you willing to risk conflict with friends, family and fellow church members, in order to visit those in prison, to care for the widow and orphan, and to welcome strangers from foreign lands as our Lord called us to do?

Are you willing to follow Christ's call to build this new community he called the kingdom of God that is governed not by power but by fairness, where ALL those in need are cared for, where forgiveness is the standard, where the poor are honored and respected, and where wealth is shared rather than hoarded?

Doing those things might cause us to experience more of the division Jesus spoke about. But I wonder if Jesus' words to us in these verses from Luke are a challenge to not get too comfortable and to not let our fear of conflict and division keep us from helping bring about his kingdom where everyone has a seat at the table and is loved, honored, respected, and cherished?

May we all put our politics aside, put our pride aside, put our fear of conflict and division aside and do what's right and bring God's kingdom to all people, loving and caring for them and all of their needs, no matter the personal cost, just as our loving Savior did for us. Amen.

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Pastor Jeff



Fall Line-Up

As we wrap up the Summer season, keep these dates in mind for events and ministry start dates this Fall. See the details of these events in this publication.

- † **God's Work, Our Hands** ~ Sept. 8
- † **Women's Bible Study** ~ Sept. 11
- † **Rally Day** ~ Sept. 15
 - Sunday School begins
 - Sunday School Teacher & Confirmation Guide Installation
 - Backpack Blessings for all students
 - Blessings for all school teachers, administrators, & employees
 - Burn the Mortgage Celebration
 - YAGM joins us in worship
- † **Confirmation Orientation** ~ Sept. 18
- † **Adopt-a-Highway** ~ Sept. 21
- † **Graduates Quilting** ~ Oct. 7



God's Work, Our Hands

We are hosting a "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday on **September 8**. This is a chance for Lutheran churches around the country to share God's love through service to our communities. The overall goal is to do a few manageable projects in 1-3 hours after worship that Sunday.

You can help make this happen by doing any of the following:

- ◇ Serving free hot dogs and ice cream on Main Street.
- ◇ Weeding/pruning our church property facing Main St.
- ◇ Assisting in cement repair of our cement steps.
- ◇ Partnering in some random acts of kindness with Pastor Jeff with Dollar Club funds.
- ◇ Filling out greeting cards for shut-ins and school children in El Paso, TX.

Contact us if you can help serve the community by volunteering for any of the above items. Let Trina Groen, in the office know or sign up on the table in the gathering area.



Sunday School Teachers Needed



We are in need of a couple of Sunday school teachers this year. We are searching for 2 teachers: a teacher or team teachers for grades kindergarten & first grade and grades 4-6. Please contact Renee or Samantha if you're interested at

childrensministry@englishlutheranchurch.org.

Music Director Update

We have selected a final candidate and are in final contract negotiations. We hope to introduce him to the congregation and have him begin work with us in October.



Backpack Blessings

On Rally Sunday, September 15, please have your children bring their backpacks to services. Pastor Jeff will be giving the children a special blessing over their backpacks.



Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)

Calla Gilson, a representative from YAGM will speak at our worship services on Sunday, September 15. Calla has just returned from Jerusalem and the West Bank and will share her experiences with us.

The ELCA *Young Adults in Global Mission* program invites ELCA young adults ages 21-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. As they offer themselves in service, ELCA young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors. They share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world.

A year of service through the *Young Adults in Global Mission* program invites young adults to become the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, providing critical support to ministries and projects in communities of need. Areas of service include, but are not limited to, health and development, congregational ministry, human rights, education, homelessness, addiction recovery, women's issues and children and youth. Current YAGM country programs include: Argentina/Uruguay, Australia, Central Europe, Jerusalem/West Bank, Madagascar, Mexico, Rwanda, Senegal and United Kingdom.

Mortgage ~ It's Over!!!

Our mortgage is paid off!! Thank you to all for your donations to help us get out of debt!

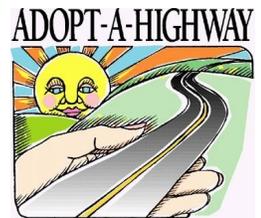
We will have a celebration between worship services to "Burn Our Mortgage" on Sunday, September 15. Join us!



Adopt-A-Highway

Saturday, September 21
(Alternate Rain Date is Sept. 28)
9:00 am to 11:00

Join us for *Adopt-A-Highway* on Saturday, Sept. 21, beginning at 9:00 am. We will clean our section of County Road C. Meet at church at 9:00. Students, this is a great service activity for your school service hours! For more information, please call Chris Karlstad at 273-3846.



Teachers & Guides & School Employees

We will install our Sunday school teachers and confirmation guides on September 15 during worship.

We will also bless all of our teachers, administration, bus drivers, aides, and other school, college, & university employees during worship on Sept. 15.



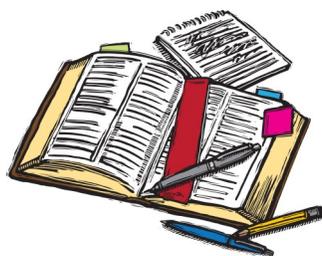
Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study resumes on Wednesday, September 11, at 10:00 am. We meet in the Fireside Room.

Session one of our study is: "No Hard Feelings?" The angst of anger. The emotion of anger is in all of us. How we handle it is complicated.

Ephesians 4:26 says: "Be angry but do not sin, do not let the sun go down on your anger."

Please, come join us. We use the magazine called Gather, but it is not necessary to have it. Two copies of the Gather magazine are on the forms shelf just outside the church office that will give you an idea regarding how our bible studies are covered.



Hostess is Nancy Ellefson.

Graduate Quilts

Quilters: our next gathering will be Monday, October 7, 6:15-8:15 pm

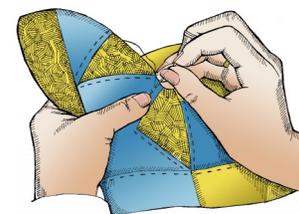
Please join us as we craft together beautiful, handmade quilts for our High School Seniors who will be graduating next May.

You do not need sewing skills as the tops are sewn by some of our members at home, and we meet to assemble and "tie" the quilts together at church.

Materials and monetary donations are welcomed to help support this ministry.

For additional information contact:

Judy Erickson
715-603-5197
or Tammy Brenner
715-273-3591



QUILTING GROUP

Thank You Notes



Thank you to all who donated food to the Summer Backpack Program and helped pack this summer. Thank you to the *Pierce Co. Food Pantry* and its volunteers for all of your help with delivering and

hosting our program for the summer. We were able to serve 6 families with food each week this summer.

We would like to thank you for helping with *National Night Out 2019!* Thank you for hosting a booth representing *English Lutheran Church* for our event. *National Night Out* in Ellsworth would not be what it is today, without your help and generous donations every year. We had the biggest crowd ever this year, with approximately 400 in attendance! We appreciate your participation and efforts, knowing we can count on you and *English Lutheran Church* to help with *National Night Out* in the years to come.

~ Thank you
~ Jen Wagner & the Ellsworth Police Department

Thank you for your recent donation. It is very much appreciated. Together we can and do make a difference. Your gift of 67 lbs. of food is greatly appreciated.

~ Thank you!
~ Laurel Mason, Hunger Prevention Council of Pierce Co.

Partners In Ministry

Melba Smith became a new *Partner in Ministry* on August 11, 2019.

Welcome Melba!



Fair Stand Food

There is some food left over from the fair stand available for purchase. Prices for the items are taped to the refrigerator and freezer in the lower levels of the church. Please put the money in an envelope labeled "Fair Stand Food" and place in the offering plate. Items for sale are: hamburger tubes, beef, sliced cheese, butter, ice cream, & soda.



County Fair

Confirmation Orientation

As part of our continued emphasis on cross-generational activities, students & parents/guardians are asked to attend our:

4th ANNUAL FAMILY POTLUCK & ORIENTATION NIGHT on SEPTEMBER 18!

Families: Please bring enough of the following to feed 10 people, based on your last name:

Last Names	A-C	Bring a Salad to Share (fruit, pasta, potato, lettuce/spinach, slaw)
Last Names	D-H	Bring a Dessert to Share
Last Names	I-M	Bring a Salty Snack to Share
Last Names	N-Z	Bring Fruit or Veggies to Share

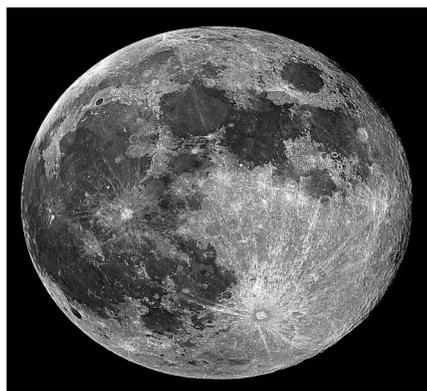
(English Lutheran will provide hot dogs, brats, buns, condiments and beverages.)



The schedule for orientation is as follows:

6:00-7:00 p.m.	Family Potluck and Confirmation Registration Verification
6:45-7:00 p.m.	Meeting in Sanctuary with 10th Grade Students & Families
7:05-7:30 p.m.	Meeting in Sanctuary with 7-9th Grade Students & Families

A large amount of information, much of it different from last year, will be given this night, so it is essential that all the students and at least one parent attend. Siblings and friends are welcome too!



8:15 p.m., Friday, Nov. 8 to

7:45 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 9

\$40 or \$30 if you bring a non-member friend.

Financial Aid Available

Chaperones Needed:

- ~ We can take up to 3 chaperones in grades 10-12.
- ~ Adults needed as well.

MOONLIGHT MADNESS!

Come join us and about 400 other Twin Cities youth for this exciting event for students in GRADES 6-9 and their friends!

HIGHLIGHTS OF OVERNIGHT:

Augsburg College Gym & Dome

- Open Gym (bring own labeled balls)
- Dance with professional DJ
- Pizza and beverage
- Football Dome (bring own labeled frisbees, footballs, dodgeballs, etc.)

Grand Slam

- Video Arcade
- Laser Tag
- Mini Golf & Batting Cages
- Bumper Cars

Andover Theater

- Choice of 5-6 PG or PG13 movies

Mermaid Bowl

- Bowling



Christikon

We are planning another trip to Christikon in 2020, likely in mid-July, after taking a year off in 2019. The *Children, Youth, and Family Committee* decided to alternate years between the mission trip and a major camp experience so that we can focus our efforts on recruiting and fundraising. More information about Christikon will follow soon, including a special camp informational meeting on October 23. If you are in grades 6-12 and would like to learn more, or already know you are interested in attending camp, please contact Pastor Jeff so he can include you in on the planning!



Welcome to another Sunday School year! We're so glad to have your child(ren) join us for class. Our *Rally Sunday* will take place on Sunday, September 15. The Sunday School hour will be 10:00-11:00. We will begin in the church and head to the classrooms after the children's sermon. The children will then go with their teachers to their classrooms and will spend the remainder of the hour in class. Parents should pick their children up from their classrooms following the worship service.

On *Rally Sunday*, please have your children bring their backpacks to services. Pastor Jeff will be giving the children a special blessing over their backpacks to provide guidance to the children for the following school year. Also, on this day, we will be installing our Sunday School teachers and aides. **WE ARE IN NEED OF TEACHERS THIS YEAR. OUR K-1 CLASS AND OUR 4-6 CLASS ARE IN NEED OF TEACHERS.** This can be a team teaching effort. If you are interested please contact us (see contact info below).

Also, I would like to introduce our newest co-coordinator of the Sunday School, Samantha Lee. She is very excited to be joining me in this role to help spread God's love to our children.

Mission Projects this year will continue to support our community. We will continue to do some of our favorite projects like the *Christmas Tree of Spirit*, Prayer shawls/blankets and Easter Baskets for shut ins. We will try our hand at some new projects, too! The Sunday school classes will also be joining the worship service at times throughout the year and helping with some of the worship volunteer tasks such as usher and reader. We are looking forward to another great year of growing the faith of our youngest members!

God's Blessings,

Renee Van Nocker and Samantha Lee
Co-Coordinators of Sunday School

Contact Info: Renee Van Nocker or Samantha Lee at childrensministry@englishlutheranchurch.org or the church office at 715-273-4617 or office@englishlutheranchurch.org.

2019/20 Sunday School Registration Form

Complete the below information for our 2019 Sunday School year. Our Sunday school is on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am. The children will begin the Sunday School hour in worship with their family. After the children's sermon, the children will go with their teachers.

Throughout the year, we will have some special projects and events. We would love to have your help for these. If you are interested, please check below.

Children's Names	Date of Birth	Grade
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Parents' Names: _____

Phone Numbers (home & cell): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

I am interested in helping with Sunday School special events/projects.

I give my consent to use my child's picture for *English Lutheran Church* publications/website.

Please note any allergies your child(ren) may have: _____

Please note any activity limitations your child(ren) may have: _____

Please contact Renee Van Nocker or Samantha Lee at childrensministry@englishlutheranchurch.org or the church office at 715-273-4617 or office@englishlutheranchurch.org.



August Council Minutes

- † Music Director Selection: Endorsed recommendation of the Worship and Music/Personnel choice. Council moves to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to work out the employment details of the Music Director selection.
- † “Burn the Mortgage” celebration scheduled for September 15th.
- † Put the profits from the *Cheese Curd Fest* (approximately \$255) towards the 100th Anniversary Celebration.
- † Affirmed Finance Committee’s recommendation to end line of credit at the bank.
- † Roof update. Waiting for another inspection.
- † Fair Stand update. Increased revenue from last year.
- † Youth Ministry update. Discussions continue.
- † Discussion of the Stewardship Committee having a meeting soon to address items on their agenda.

Reports:

- Secretary’s June minutes. Approved online.
- Finance/Treasurer’s report. Approved.
- Pastor’s report. Accepted.
- Property report. Accepted.
- Endowment report. Accepted.



Worship Attendance

Week of:	8:30	10:00	Total
August 4	44	45	89
August 11	29	29	58
August 18	38	37	75
August 25	38	41	79
Totals:	149	152	301
Average:	37	38	75
2019 Sunday Avg.	43	69	112

2019 General Fund

Month	Actual Monthly Income	Actual Monthly Expense	Actual YTD Income	Actual YTD Expenses
April	23,068.12	19,495.12	86,652.94	94,114.77
May	15,544.10	18,511.75	102,197.04	112,626.52
June	14,891.46	16,596.85	117,088.50	129,223.37
July	13,530.84	20,252.00	130,619.34	149,475.37

Fair Stand Financial Update

The 2019 ELC fair stand deposits totaled \$42,278.70. This was higher than the last couple of years. We are still receiving bills and will report on the final finances by the end of September. Thank you to all who helped with this event!



PRAYERS

Special Prayers:

Prayers for the family of Jenni & Adam Hines as Jenni's mother, Carol Yarwood, died.

Prayers for our students, teachers, and administrators as we begin a new school year.

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Joel & Sharon Schulze!

Healing:

Lynette Winger ~ Heart Attack

Gary Karlstad, son of Joyce Karlstad ~ Stage 4 Lung Cancer

Carol Krie ~ Cancer

Terry Wegerer, Brother of Darla Moquin ~ Stage 4 Lung Cancer

Jennifer Maday ~ Hip Surgery & Heart Attack

Long-term:

Clint Olson

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

David R. Johnson

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

Ed Sanders, Diane Wiskerchen's Dad

Joyce Geister, Julie Baggenstoss & Carol Melstrom's Mother

Hazel Wegerer ~ Dementia

Mackenzie Marks, Connie Gossett's Granddaughter

Tomi Erlandson ~ Seizures & Health

Dale & Marianne Melstrom

Mary Dee Prokop, Mother of Eileen Mewes

Muriel Jeffrey, Nancy Ellefson's Sister

Sherry York

Wendy Wegerer ~ Health Issues

Esther Risberg, Julie Davis' Mother

Military service:

Zack Daleiden

Cody Tschida

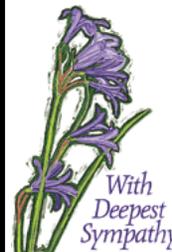
Johnathan Bergman



in the
shadow
of your
wings.

PSALM 17:8

In Memory



Frannie Duval died August 18, 2019. Her funeral was August 24 at *First Baptist Church in Woodville, WI.*

Remember her family and friends in your prayers.

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 September
~ Til Peterson

Malawi Updates



Water

Earlier this year, we started a campaign to celebrate 20 years in ministry with our partners in Malawi, Africa. Seeing an ongoing need for accessible, clean, drinking water, we created a goal to raise \$20,000 this year, enough to build two new, deep-drilled wells.



Your generosity and support of this goal has been overwhelming! So far this year, your gifts have reached \$21,240!

If you still want to contribute, but haven't yet had the opportunity, please know that it's not too late! This campaign will continue through December of this year. THANK YOU!

Malawi Visits



GROUP 1: On June 17, a group of 7 travelers from *Immanuel Lutheran* in Eau Claire traveled to Malawi to spend two weeks with their companion parish in Zomba. Their journey included visiting all of the congregations in their parish, sharing time and stories with old and new friends, worshipping and praying together, and exploring Malawi's culture through village markets, safari camp, and new foods. They practiced their Chichewa greetings and, during home visits, learned a lot about daily life, education, healthcare, government and the effects of the recent flooding and storm damage in Malawi.

Pastor Henery Makawa of the Zomba parish, as well as church elders and members welcomed the group with vibrant singing, dancing, handshakes and hugs.

GROUP 2: Two days after group 1 departed to the US, the second group arrived in Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi, and home to the *Evangelical Lutheran Church* in Malawi office/compound. This group came from all around the synod, wanted to learn more about the church in Malawi, our companionship, and see some ministries first hand. These four women visited a newly completed clinic in Midisi, *Never Ending Food* (a permaculture training site in Chitedze), Beni congregation which is the home of an expanding feeding center/school/agricultural site, Matsimbe village where a water project has transformed a community, worshiped at the cathedral on the ELCM compound, met a ton of new friends, and explored Malawian culture through village markets, safari camp, and new foods.



Through the questions, curiosity, exploration and love that was shared, it was evident that the Holy Spirit continues to inspire and strengthen this companionship! More to come...

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*If you'd like to read a detailed account of their time in Malawi, you are welcome to check out the Companion Coordinator's blog (8 entries total):

<https://summerinmalawi2019.blogspot.com/2019/06/trials-of-travel-and-yet.html>

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If you have any questions or would like to know more about our companionship with Malawi, please contact the Companion Synod Coordinator, Deacon Laura Ramlow, at Iramlow@nswi.org



13TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BANQUET

First Choice Clinic invites you to our
13th Annual Fundraising Banquet
Thursday, September 19, 2019

Cornerstone Community Church
420 West Third Street
Red Wing, Minnesota 55066

RSVP by Tuesday, September 10th
Phone: 651-267-4357

Online: www.firstchoiceclinicrw.com

OPTION 1 Lunch Program

Doors open at 11:30 am • Meal will be served at Noon

OPTION 2 Dinner Program

Doors open at 6:00 pm • Meal will be served at 6:30 pm

Each program will last approximately two hours.

Former Intern

Pastor Bill Tesch was a seminary intern at English Lutheran Church in 1987-88 and a student pastor 1988-89 while attending Luther Seminary.

In September, Bishop-Elect William (Bill) T. Tesch will begin his six-year term as Bishop of the *Northwestern Minnesota Synod*.

He will be installed on September 8, 2019, in Moorhead, MN.

Pastor Tesch's personal mission statement is: "A Follower of Jesus: Creating Gospel Collaborations with Faithfulness, Authenticity and Love."

Pastor Tesch has served in South Dakota since his Ordination in 1989. Pastor Tesch also serves in the United States Military (South Dakota Air National Guard) and is a senior leader holding the rank of Colonel. He is married to Chris Tesch who teaches Nursing at the University of South Dakota. He and Chris have two adult children. In his spare time, Pastor Tesch enjoys exercise, hunting, fishing, book club, entertaining friends and family... and a host of other hobbies for which he really has no time!



Together for LIFE



*And if one prevail against him,
two shall withstand him;
and a threefold cord
is not quickly broken.*

Ecclesiastes 4:12

There is NO CHARGE to attend but reservations are required for this event.

Rob will be encouraging us with a heartfelt message about how we, the people of God, are called to do all in our power to love families, elevate marriage, help men and women in crisis, and save innocent babies. We look forward to sharing with you more about the life-saving work of First Choice Clinic and encourage you to invite friends and family to join you.



Rob Rienow
Visionary Family Ministries

ENCORE EVENT
Friday, September 20th, 9:00 am - 11:30 am
"Never Too Late"

Rob will be sharing practical and biblical wisdom designed to guide parents trying to reach their adult children for Christ. "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."

3 John 1:4

Scam Alert

In the past month, we have had two pastors in our synod who have experienced the same situation.

Someone has been using the pastors names (although not their phone number) to solicit donations of iTunes gift cards via text message around their communities.

The number used to send the scam messages in both situations is 715-304-0857.

English Lutheran Church has also experienced a similar issue. Earlier this summer, someone impersonating Pastor Jeff contacted a business soliciting donations.

Please know that our pastor and congregation would never solicit donations in this way, and if you should receive such a message, please ignore it.



English Lutheran Church
 229 West Main Street
 Ellsworth, Wisconsin
 Phone: 715-273-4617
 Fax : 715-273-5974
 Church website:
<http://www.englishlutheranchurch.org>
 Find us on Facebook!

Staff

Pastor, Jeff Smith

pastor@englishlutheranchurch.org
 Office: 715-273-4617

Call or email to schedule a meeting as office hours vary.

Cell: 651-235-7204 (preferably 9 am-9 pm)
 Call or text any time for urgent pastoral care.

Communications Coordinator & Finance Administrator, Trina Groen

office@englishlutheranchurch.org

Custodian, Julie Baggenstoss

Music Director, Vacant

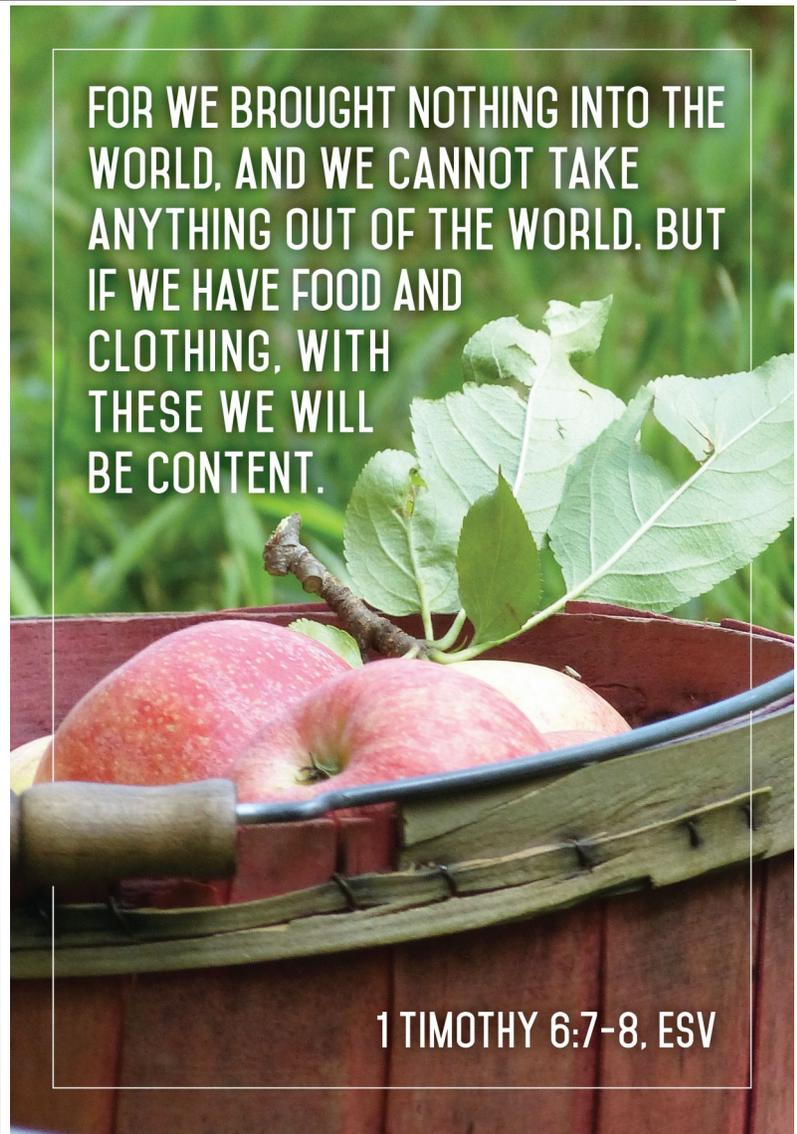
	The church office is open:
	Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday
	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
	Friday ~ 9:00 am-1:00 pm Closed on Tuesdays.

Congregational Council

President: Warren Johnson
 Vice President: Dennis Boettcher
 Treasurer: Gary Onan
 Secretary: Julie Davis
 Peter Carr
 Joyce Karlstad
 Dean Mewes
 Kristen Kinneman
 Lynette Winger

Sunday Worship Times

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship



FOR WE BROUGHT NOTHING INTO THE WORLD, AND WE CANNOT TAKE ANYTHING OUT OF THE WORLD. BUT IF WE HAVE FOOD AND CLOTHING, WITH THESE WE WILL BE CONTENT.

1 TIMOTHY 6:7-8, ESV

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



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September 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sep 1 8:30am Traditional Worship 10am Contemporary Worship	2 Church Offices Closed Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8 God's Work, Our Hands Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 10am Contemporary Worship	9	10 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	11 10am Women's Bible Study	12	13	14
15 Blessing of Backpacks Teacher & Guide Installation YAGM in Worship 8:30am Traditional Worship 10am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School Begins	16	17	18 Confirmation Orientation & Meal 1:30pm Medica Meeting in Dining Hall	19	20	21 9am Ditch Clean up
22 8:30am Traditional Worship 10am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School	23	24	25 7pm Confirmation	26	27	28 9am Alternate Rain Date for Ditch Clean up
29 8:30am Traditional Worship 10am Contemporary Worship 10am Sunday School	30	Oct 1	2 7pm Confirmation			