



February 2024 Cross Beams



www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.

Kingdom Kids



Lane & Lucy Mewes Baptism

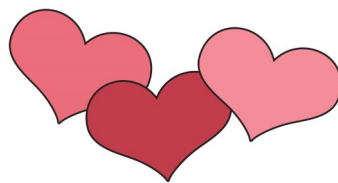


Confirmation Fun



What's Inside:

- † Church News
- † Pastor Article
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Do Kindness





Greetings,

When I was growing up, our house was sandwiched between two houses that both had elderly people who lived there. On the one side was a widow that I called Mrs. Bewbew (Binsfield) and on the other was Mr. and Mrs. Herburger (Hershberger). All three of them were lovely people. Mrs. Binsfield was a kind lady who rarely sat still and always had a candy dish with lemon drops in it. As I would leave her house for a visit, she would always tell me to have a piece of candy and bring one home for my little sister. I would oblige and take two and as I stepped outside, I'd pop them both in my mouth and say to my sister, "Sorry Beth, she only gave me one." I know, I was a terrible older brother, but Mrs. Binsfield knew what I would do, so she had the candy dish ready when my sister came over to ask for a piece of candy.

On the other side were the Hershbergers and they too were amazing neighbors. Mr. Hershberger loved to do woodworking and would invite me down into his shop to see his latest creations. One year, he made us a magazine basket that was shaped like Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, and it even had a red cotton ball for a nose. And we still display it every Christmas in memory of Mr. Herberger.

It has been said that children need at least 3-5 adults, besides their parents, to support them in their lives. The school is one place that they find support, and another is hopefully within our neighborhoods like I was lucky enough to experience, but we seem to be more disconnected from our neighbors than ever. The one other place that we can find great adults is within our churches. And I know that we have a lot of phenomenal people in this church!

Now if you are still reading this, you're probably thinking to yourself, "This sounds like a sales pitch. What is Pastor pitching to us?" And I would say that you are right!!! We are trying to expand the number of adults that support our confirmation students by helping you to get to know them better during the season of Lent. During the season of Lent on Wednesday nights, after the worship service is over, our confirmation students will be having one-on-one mentoring sessions with adults in our congregation, possibly you!

Now don't be scared, these will be fifteen-minute conversations and I will have some questions to help guide your discussion. Each Wednesday night after worship, you will sit down in the sanctuary with your youth and get to know them and they in turn will get to know you! The conversations should last 15 minutes or so and it will be every Wednesday night during Lent. Please say yes if you are asked to be a mentor.

And speaking of Lent, Ash Wednesday will be on February 14th, that's right Valentine's Day! You are dust and to dust you shall return, but I love you! Starting on Ash Wednesday and continuing throughout the season of Lent, join us on Wednesday nights for supper at 6:00 P.M., followed by a worship service at 7:00 P.M. Take some time at the end of a busy day to enjoy some supper with your neighbors and then let us go upstairs and worship God. And for a lucky few, get to know a bunch of amazing kids! God Bless!

Pastor Pete



CHURCH NEWS

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 14th in the Fireside room. Our bible study beginning this year is on creation and nature in our lives. Hostess will be Mary Sokolik.

Please consider joining us.

Hope to see you there!

-Nancy Ellefson



Feed My Starving Children

English Lutheran will be making another trip to Feed My Starving Children this year! We will be going Wednesday, February 7th.

We will have supper at church at 5:00 p.m., the bus will leave at 5:30 p.m. Our shift at FMSC is from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in Eagan. Anyone in the congregation is welcome to join us! You will need to sign up for this event. A sign up sheet will be located at the back of the sanctuary.

FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN

St. Paul's UCC Drive Thru Steak Dinner

Saturday February 10th, 4:00 p.m. thru 7:00 p.m. Dinner includes: Grilled Steak, Salad, Baked Potato, Special Green Beans, Homemade Bun and Dessert. Tickets are \$15.00 each and must be purchased in advance, in person or online at:

spuccellsworth.org



St. Paul's United Church of Christ
W5706 St. Rd. 72
Ellsworth, WI.

Proceeds go to spreading
kindness through outreach
ministry.

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!

Lenten Worship

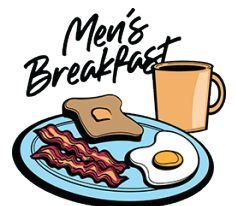
Lenten Worship
schedule:
February 14th,
Ash Wednesday

LENTEN
Schedule

February 21, 28
March 6, 13, 20,
Soup Supper will begin at 6:00 p.m. Worship will start at 7:00 p.m.. We look forward to seeing everyone!

Men's Breakfast

Pastor Pete is cooking breakfast on Thursday mornings for the guys. We will gather in the church kitchen at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast with a rotating menu, including fruit, coffee and orange juice.



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

Lenten Soup Suppers

We will be serving soup suppers during Lent, and need volunteers to bring soup and dessert! We will need enough soup to fill a roaster.

A sign up sheet will be located in the back of the sanctuary. Please note which kind of soup you will be bringing.

Contact the church office with any questions! Thanks!



In Memory

June Lundvall passed away January 2nd, 2024. There was a memorial service on Saturday, January 13th, 2024.

Patricia "Pat" Hanson passed away January 2nd, 2024. Memorial Services will be held at English Lutheran Church, Saturday, February 10th, 2024 at 11:00 with visitation from 10:00 —11:00.

Prayers to the families who lost their loved ones.

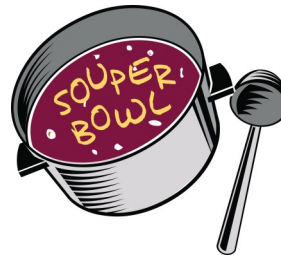
IN LOVING
Memory

Souper Bowl Sunday!

Sunday February 11

On Super Bowl Sunday, you can help support Sharing & Caring Hands. Please place your donations in the kettle of your choice for the NFC or AFC team to win.

Donations will help cover the cost of the meal that we will be serving at Sharing & Caring Hands later in the year.



We will announce the team with the most donations!

Thank you!

Thank you to the confirmation kids for the basket filled with wonderful gifts which I received this past year at Christmas. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

God Bless All Of You!

Melba Smith

Thank you to the out going Council Members for your dedication to English Lutheran Church:

Eric Van Nocker
Melba Smith
Gary Brown



Holy Baptism

Lane Howard-Russell Mewes and Lucille Anndee Mewes became our brother and sister in Christ through Holy Baptism on Sunday, January 28th at 9:00 a.m.



Lane and Lucy's parents are Nick and Miranda Mewes. Lane's sponsors are Nick Mewes and Cristina Holzer. Lucy's sponsors are Brian Hauge and Lacey Sandow.

We celebrate and welcome our newest members to the Body of Christ.

Welcome, Lane and Lucy!

New Office Staff!!

We are pleased to announce Denise Anderson has accepted the Administrative Assistant position and has begun training with Tammy. Denise lives in Prescott, WI and comes to us with a strong administrative background previously supporting a real estate lawyer with Schafer Richardson in Minneapolis. Denise will be in the office Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Congratulations & Welcome!!



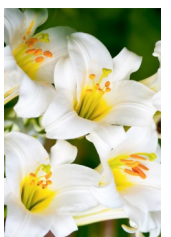
Easter Flowers For Sale

Easter flowers are for sale! Order forms are located in the back of the sanctuary. You can choose which flowers you would like.

Please make checks payable to Reuvers Nursery.

Deadline to order is Monday, February 26th. Thank you!

NOTE: Plants will be marked on the backside of the pot with the name of the purchaser.



Kingdom Kids

Kingdom Kids is for Elementary age students on the first Wednesday of the month after school 3:30 to 5:00 P.M.

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: February 7, April 3, May 1

Confirmation

For Lent, we will meet with our mentors after the Wednesday Lenten worship service. If you are asked to be a mentor, please say YES!

Schedule:

6:00 Meal
6:20 Announcements
6:30 Whole Group Lesson
6:45 Small Group Time
7:00 - 7:30 Activity/Game

Dates:

February 7, Feed My Starving Children
February 14 thru March 20 Confirmation Mentoring



Sunday School

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 a.m. 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.

Important Dates:

Sunday School: February 4, 11, 18, 25



January Council Meeting

- † Budget review for upcoming Annual Meeting.
- † Review of agenda for Annual Meeting.
- † Continued discussion of empty lots adjacent to the church, the potential sale will be reviewed and voted on at the Annual Meeting.
- † Administrative Assistant Search posting.
- † Continued discussion on automatic door project.
- † Nominating Committee continues to see nominations for 2024-25 Council Members
- † *The next council meeting will be **February 20th at 6:30 p.m.***

Financial Update

December 31st, 2023 Cash Balances:

General Fund = \$118,150.69
Dedicated Fund = \$78,056.47
Total = \$196,207.16
Thrivent = \$101,849.34

December General Fund:

Income = \$15,308.05
Expenses = \$17,779.54



*The next finance meeting will be **February 13th at 6:30 p.m..***

English Lutheran Church Council Minutes



December 19, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Pastor Pete, Eric Van Nocker, Melba Smith, Gary Brown, Denise Hager, Greta Larson, Jill Hague and Tammy Rieck, Communications Coordinator.

Opening

- a. The Meeting was called to order by Eric Van Nocker, President.
- b. Our Mission Statement was read aloud by all.
- c. Denise Hager led devotions and Melba shared a thoughtful and inspirational message for the coming year.
- d. The December agenda was revised. The potential land sale was added under old business. Council nomination suggestions were added under new business. Approval of December agenda, as amended - MSC
- e. Approval of the November minutes – MSC

Old Business

Gary led the discussion on automatic door openers. He discussed the importance and the various estimates that have been received, the general cost involved, and our talented team of congregation installers. A motion was made to approve the purchase of two automatic doors openers and accessories. The motion contained a spend limit of \$5,000. If the cost were to exceed the approved amount, we asked the team to circle back for approval of additional funds. – MSC

Pastor Pete updated the Council on the ongoing search for six wooden, five-foot roundtables. The search for the ideal tables continues.

Eric reported that Piper's bake sale for KS95 Kids was a success. She moved all the bake goods and donated \$850. Eric shared that Piper's impressive efforts on the Bake Sale will be highlighted in the Pierce County Herald.

We received a Market Value Analysis on the empty lots we own adjacent to the Church. A discussion was led to consider having the congregation decide if we should sell the property. Council reviewed our previous discussions (village assessments, dumping on the property, etc.), along with additional realtor opinions and made a motion to have the congregation decide. The potential sale will be reviewed and voted on by the congregation at our annual meeting.

New Business

We confirmed the date for the English Lutheran Church Annual Meeting, January 28, 2024.

Gary Brown gave a preliminary review of the 2024 ELC Budget. Council reviewed the budget, compared 2023 budget/actual, discussed some noted increases (insurance) in addition to areas to review more thoroughly and consider before we approve the budget at our January Council meeting.

The Committee Reports are due. Reminders have been sent, reports have been received and we noted how we appreciate all the work our volunteers accomplish.

The Council was asked to provide the Nominating Committee with potential interested Council volunteers. Melba Smith, Gary Brown and Eric Van Nocker complete their four-year term in January. Volunteer reach out to Melba Smith.

Melba is the Council Member representative to the Nominating Committee.

Reports

- a. Treasurer's/Finance report provided and discussed. A motion was made to approve the Finance/Treasurer Report. MSC
- b. Pastor Pete submitted a written report, see attached. Pastor shared the importance of communication. Sydney Durfee is leaving us to obtain her Master's Degree. Her last day is December 21. Tammy Rieck is our new Communications Coordinator. Ava Maxwell is our new Finance Administrator. All the best to Sydney and we are looking forward to working with Tammy and Ava in their new roles. The Christmas Pageant and the Pastor Pete hosted breakfast was great holiday cheer and much enjoyed.
- c. Property, previously discussed.
- d. Children, Youth & Family. Kingdom Kids and Sunday School is planned through the year.
- e. Stewardship. Melba Smith leads this Committee.
- f. Endowment Committee. The Endowment Fund has been working with the Memorial and Gifts Committee about moving undesignated Memorial and Gifts funding to the Endowment Fund. This was done once before in 2020 when Memorial and Gifts moved \$2,000 to the Endowment Fund. Committee Chair, Warren Johnson, checked with Memorial and Gifts Committee members and they are in agreement that at this time we could move \$5,000 in undesignated funds from Memorial and Gifts to Endowment. This would go into the Endowment general funds account which gives us the most latitude to support Endowment funding requests.
- g. Worship and Music. Our ELC Choir Cantata was awesome. High praise from all who attended. Thank you all for your time and sharing your gift.
- h. Memorial & Gifts.
- i. Nominating Committee. Seeking nominations for 2024-25 Council Members.

Church Council will meet next on January 16, 2024. Council closed the meeting.

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8am Men's Breakfast	2	3
4 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	5	6	7 3:30pm Kingdom Kids 5:30pm Feed My Starving Children	8 8am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm Conf. Assembly Meeting via Zoom	9	10 10 am Pat Hanson Visitation 11 am Pat Hanson Memorial Service 12 pm Memorial Luncheon
11 9:00 am Worship Souper Bowl Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	12	13 6:30pm Finance Meeting	14 ASH WEDNESDAY 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Lenten Supper 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	15 8am Men's Breakfast 6:30 Endowment Comm. Meeting	16 Deadline for Newsletter Articles	17
18 9:00 am Worship 9:00 am Matteson Baptism 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	19	20 6:30 Church Council Meeting	21 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Lenten Supper 7:00 pm Midweek Lenten Service 7:30 pm Confirmation Mentoring	22 8am Men's Breakfast	23	24
25 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	26	27	28 6:00 pm Lenten Supper 7:00 pm Midweek Lenten Service 7:30 pm Confirmation	29 8am Men's Breakfast		



English Lutheran Church
229 West Main Street
Ellsworth, Wisconsin
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Church website:
www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Find us on Facebook!
EnglishLutheranEllsworth

Staff

Pastor Pete Warren

pastorpete@englishlutheranchurch.org
218-760-6974

Denise Anderson: Administrative Assistant

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Office: 715-273-4617

Julie Baggenstoss: Custodian

Music Director: Missy Kowalchuk

music@englishlutheranchurch.org

Finance Administrator & Accompanist: Ava Maxwell

finance@englishlutheranchurch.org



Healing:

Grady Moquin
Elaine Hines
Mallorie Daleiden
Phyllis Kinneman
Liz Krohn
Mikey Krohn
Tucker Thoen
Larry Larabee
Dean Mewes
Judy Nunn

Military service:

Johnathan Bergman
Josh Bechel

Congregation Council

President:

Vice President:

Treasurer:

Secretary: Greta Larson

Denise Hager

Jill Hague

Lynette Winger

Dennis Swanson

Paul Tonsager

Mark Groen

Office Hours

Our office hours are:

Monday-Thursday

9:00 am to 3:00 pm



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 February~ Vicki Nelson

Long-term:

Steve Pieczykolan, Linda During's Brother-in-law
Lila Larson
Sherry York
Judy Morrow
Deb Pierce, Trina Groen's Mom ~ Alzheimer's
Tomi Erlandson ~ Seizures & Health
Marianne Melstrom
Mary Dee Prokop, Mother of Eileen Mewes
Wendy Wegerer
Janet Arndt
Rob Mathis
Jim Hines
Judi Nielsen