



# Cross Beams

## December 2021

*Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.*

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



### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

*Friday, December 24*

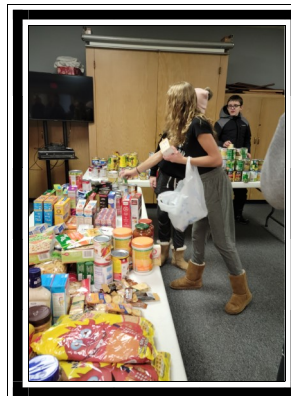
*2:00 pm*

*4:30 pm*



### Thanksgiving Baskets

Our Confirmation students  
going out into the  
community gathering food  
donations.



Sorting donated food  
for Thanksgiving  
Baskets!



JOY  
to the  
WORLD



## High Hopes for Christmas

This is my first greeting to you in this newsletter as the new interim pastor. I am Rev. Charlie Bunk. My wife Barbara and I moved to a home on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River between Maiden Rock and Stockholm, WI last February.

The church council agreed to hire me as 75% time pastor beginning in November. I will be working in Ellsworth from the church office, and visiting people on Tuesday and Wednesday each week. I will lead worship services and be available for teachings, Baptisms, home visits, and funerals on other days of the week as needed.

I pray God's same blessing for you as the angel Gabriel delivered to Zechariah and Elizabeth that first Christmas, "May you have joy and gladness as you rejoice at his birth!" (Luke 1:11).

Pastor Charlie Bunk  
Interim Pastor



## Pastor Search Update

The next step in the process of calling a new pastor will be to convene a Transition Task Force. The Task Force will be developing a document called the Ministry Site Profile. This is a description of our community, our congregation and what we are looking for in a new pastor. Our Synod will use the Ministry Site Profile to communicate with pastors who are interested in finding a new church to work at.



Our new interim pastor, Pastor Charlie Bunk, will be assisting the Transition Task Force in the process. Since he will need a little time to get settled in, and then launch right into Advent and Christmas, we have decided to wait until after the 1st of January before getting the Transition Task Force started. A Call Committee will start working once the Ministry Site Profile has been completed.

## Prayer Shawls

If you have a loved one who is going through a tough time and could use the comfort of being wrapped in prayers with a blanket/shawl, please take a prayer shawl for them.

We have a rack of prayer shawls outside the office door available for anyone at no cost, just take one.



## Mobile Giving Changes

The GivePlus app is being shut down. If you are currently giving on that app, please download Vanco Mobile to either continue your recurring donations or your one-time donations.



## Bake Sale

### Sweet Treats for a Sweet Purpose!

On Sunday, December 5th, Piper Van Nocker will be hosting a bake sale at the church to raise funds for Gillette Children's Hospital. Please come out and support!

On Saturday, December 4th, some of our members will be meeting at the church at 10 am to bake treats for Piper's sale. If you would prefer to bake at home and donate the treats to the sale on Sunday, that is welcomed as well! Please make sure to price your items.

Thank you for your support!



## Christmas Tree of Spirit

There are many within our community who are in need of help. Please consider joining our effort to share the spirit of generosity this Christmas season with others.

This year, English Lutheran will be collecting socks of all sizes (men, women and children). There will be baskets in the back of the church for collection. They will be distributed by the Pierce County Food Shelf.

We will also support the Afghan refugees at Fort McCoy.

Watch out for more information on this project, and for more ways to donate!

Thank you for sharing the Christmas message of generosity!



## Thank You Notes

### Thanksgiving Baskets-

Thank you to all who helped with the Thanksgiving Baskets through your time collecting food, packing boxes, and distributing boxes and your donations of food and funds.

Special thank you to the Community Missions Team for putting this whole project together!

Thank you to all our confirmation students who went out into the neighborhoods and collected food from houses.

We were able to provide Thanksgiving meals for over 45 families in our community this year!



## Hiring: Music Director!

Have a love for music? We are seeking a talented musician to lead our worship service music on Sunday mornings! The music director is responsible for selecting music in coordination with the pastor, organizing aspects of our music ministry, including communication, recruitment, scheduling of musicians, copyright reporting, etc. The ability to play the piano is required, and other instruments are a plus!

Salary and hours will vary depending on experience. We are open to having a few people fulfill this role and have a rotating schedule of musicians as well, if needed.

Please contact the church office at [office@enishglutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@enishglutheranchurch.org) or (715) 273-4617 to apply or if you have any questions!



## Women's Bible Study

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

We each bring a treat in order to put together a Christmas box for our shut ins. Jeanette Wright will provide the containers.

We will finish our Bible study on the Holy Spirit.

Since 2007, we have been providing sanitary products for girls in Kenya. The program called Freedom for Girls, provides sanitary pads, underwear, and educational information. More information can be found on the bulletin board.

\$6 will help one girl for an entire year. Address is below:

Pat Werner  
62110 Badger Ridge Rd  
Ferryville, WI 54628

- Nancy Ellefson



## We Need You!!

### Worship Service

We are in need of volunteers for our worship services, especially during Advent and our Christmas services! Please check the sign up sheet located at the back of the church.



We need help with ushers, readers, communion servers, and audio/visual help.

## In Memory

Joyce Geister died November 16, 2021. A memorial service was held at ELC on November 22 2021. Please remember Joyce's family and friends in your prayers.





## November Council Meeting

- † Melba Smith & Greta Larson to update advertisements for Music Director
- † Decision on Christmas Worship Services
- † Music Director update: continue search and research new advertising techniques for open position.
- † Discussion of future technology systems
- † Next meeting: December 21st



## Financial Update

### October 31, 2021 Cash Balances:

General Fund = \$73,127.55  
Dedicated Fund = \$92,882.94  
Total = \$166,010.49  
Thrivent = \$102,395.15

### October General Fund:

Income = \$33,142.03  
Expenses = \$11,363.83



\* includes \$20,000 transferred from the dedicated fair stand fund.

## No-Rehearsal Christmas Pageant

Neither Mary nor Joseph had a rehearsal before their trip to Bethlehem the first Christmas. So... neither will we this year! The Children, Youth, and Family team are preparing costumes to allow anyone, both adults and children, to participate in our Christmas Pageant on **Sunday, December 19**, at the 8:30 am and 10 am worship services!

Arrive a little early before the service so we can help you find the costume of your choice! There is only one reader and emcee position for speaking parts in the pageant. We need YOU to fill our sanctuary with angels, townspeople, shepherds, sheep, and cattle. There will be a prize for the oldest and youngest participant at each worship service. All are welcome, we look forward to seeing you there!



## Christmas Parties

On Sunday, December 12, the Children, Youth, and Family Team will be hosting a Christmas party for the Sunday School children! It will happen during the usual Sunday School time, during the 10 am service, and will have fun games and tasty food!

On Wednesday, December 15, Confirmation will have their Christmas party! It will take place during the normal meeting time, 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.



# PRAYERS

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## *Special Prayers:*

Prayers for the Hines family as Mark, who is Elaine and Jim's son has passed.

Prayers for the Hines family as Tom, who is Jim's brother has passed.

Prayers for the family of Mike Hince who passed, he is Darla Moquin's cousin.

Prayers for Julie Baggenstoss and Carol Melstrom as their mother, Joyce Geister, has passed.

### **Healing:**

Jerry Baggenstoss

Paul Huber

Greg Marks

Rachel Proulx, niece of Julie Davis ~ Breast Cancer

Deb Hohl ~ Pain

Liz Krohn

Mikey Krohn

Maisley Maxwell, granddaughter of Rob & Wendy

~Maxwell, daughter of Tyler and Alexis Maxwell

~in hospital PICU

### **Long-term:**

Lila Larson

Sherry York

Judy Morrow

Debbie Kannel-Howard

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

### **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 December ~ Vicki Nelson



English Lutheran Church  
229 West Main Street  
Ellsworth, Wisconsin  
Phone: 715-273-4617  
Church website:  
[www.englishlutheranchurch.org](http://www.englishlutheranchurch.org)

Find us on Facebook!  
EnglishLutheranEllsworth

## Congregation Council

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

## Staff

**Pastor Charlie Bunk– Interim Pastor**  
[pastor@englishlutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@englishlutheranchurch.org)

**Sydney Durfee- Communications Coordinator**

[office@englishlutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@englishlutheranchurch.org)  
Office: 715-273-4617

**Julie Baggenstoss- Custodian**

**Tristan Bale- Finance Coordinator**  
[finance@englishlutheranchurch.org](mailto:finance@englishlutheranchurch.org)  
715-273-4187

**Music Director: Hiring!**



## Office Hours

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

Stop in, call, or email. Sydney will in the office Monday-Thursday, and Tristan on Thursdays. Pastor Bunk will be in on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



## Our Mission:

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

## Worship Services

**Online ~ Sundays on Facebook**  
Livestream at 8:30 & 10:00

**In-Person ~ Sundays**  
Traditional - 8:30 am  
Contemporary - 10:00 am



## Cross Beams

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English Lutheran Church  
Ellsworth, Wisconsin.

Email:  
[office@englishlutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@englishlutheranchurch.org)



*Cross Beams*

# December 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> <li>10am Sunday School</li> <li>10am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> </ul>	29	30	Dec 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Confirmation</li> </ul>	2	3	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Bake Sale Help</li> </ul>
5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> <li>9:30am Bake Sale</li> <li>10am Sunday School</li> <li>10am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> </ul>	6	7	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Women's Bible Study</li> </ul>	9	10	11
12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> <li>10am Sunday School</li> <li>10am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> </ul>	13	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm Finance Meeting</li> </ul>	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Confirmation</li> </ul>	16	17 Deadline for Newsletter Articles	18
19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am No Rehearsal Christmas Page</li> <li>8:30am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> <li>10am Sunday School</li> <li>10am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> </ul>	20	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm Church Council Meeting</li> </ul>	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Day off for Christmas Day	25 Christmas Day
26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:30am DuFour Baptism</li> <li>8:30am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> <li>10am In-Person &amp; Online Worship</li> </ul>	27	28	29	30	31 Day off for New Year's Day New Year's Eve	Jan 1 New Year's Day

