



Cross Beams

April 2022



www.englishlutheranchurch.org

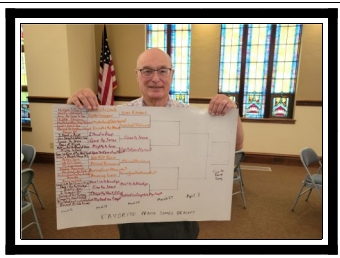
English Lutheran Church
Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.



**Easter
Baskets**



**Call
Committee**



**Hymn & Praise
Ballot**



In this Issue:

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday: April 10 ~ 8:30am & 10:00am

Maundy Thursday: April 14 ~ 7:00pm

Good Friday: April 15 ~ 7:00pm

Easter Sunday: April 17 ~ 8:30am & 10:00am

Call Committee Update

Synod Assembly

Pastor Schedule Change

Call for Volunteers

Confirmation & Sunday School Updates

Council Minutes & Finance Updates

Prayers

Bishop's Easter Message

Lutheran Pastor's Contract With YOU



In the 1994 mid-term election campaign, two leading Republicans (Newt Gingrich and Dick Armey) introduced an electoral campaign entitled “Contract with America.” The contract specified agendas for fiscal and legislative reforms which the Republicans would promote if given the majority of the Senate and House of Representatives. Guess what? The campaign brought about gains of 54 House seats and 9 Senate seats, resulting in a Republican majority for the first time in over 40 years. Whether you agree or disagree with the points of the contract, you have to say that the campaign was a great success. It tied congressional leadership to principles which are still a force in Washington DC today.

Allow me to use this idea to ask: what can you as a congregation expect from a rostered pastoral leader? Are there certain principles which you deserve to expect from a Lutheran pastor whom you will call to serve amongst you?

I will list two positive principles your new pastor has already agreed to uphold and two negative behaviors, which would disqualify him or her from service, should they be found in violation. First the positives. You have a right to expect good news from God's Word from your new pastor. Lutheran pastors are committed to preach both law and gospel. They work hard to proclaim what God expects from us (Law) and how Jesus forgives, frees and saves us (Gospel) from the consequences of our sin. Consider it a given. When you call a pastor to be amongst you, you can expect good news. The second expectation to which you have a right is compassion. Your pastor will care about you, your family, and your witness to Christ in the Ellsworth community. They will be asked this at the time they are installed: “Will you love, serve, and pray for God's people?” The pastor will answer: “I will, and I ask God to help me.” I have been associated with many pastors and deacons during my ministry. I can say this about all of them: They care about Jesus and about you and your spiritual welfare. They might not show it the way you might hope for, but nevertheless please be assured: We care and we want to bring you good news.

Now for two behaviors, which would disqualify your new pastor from continued service should they violate the trust you make in them. These are sexually inappropriate behavior and mismanagement of church or personal money. (Hint: we will be discussing lust and greed on March 30 and April 6 in Lenten Worship.) We are all tempted like any Christian in these two areas, but our church leaders work tirelessly to uphold the victims foremost should the clergy be found to abuse the trust you put in them to intervene in sensitive situations. You have a bishop and we have a denomination with a Zero Tolerance Policy. We as pastors and deacons make a commitment to renew our instruction in promoting and maintaining healthy boundaries in our parishes every three years.

So let's review the four principles of our contract with you as a congregation: a) gospel presence, b) compassion and caring, c) purity in living, and d) honesty in money matters.

God bless us all as we strive to be good pastors and good congregations!

Pastor Charlie Bunk
Interim Pastor

Hymn and Praise Song Brackets for Lent

We are down to the finale! We will vote this Sunday, April 3rd for our favorite hymn between "Jesus Christ is Ris'n Today" and "Borning Cry" and our favorite praise song, "Open the Eyes of My Heart" and "Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone."

Thank you to everyone who has participated so far in this challenge, it helps our music leaders to know which songs resonate most with the congregation.



Synod Assembly

Every Spring, the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin gathers to hear reports and envision our ministry together. This year, They assembly will take place on Saturday, April 30th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. Gerald and Linda Christensen and Pastor Bunk will be representing English Lutheran. They will be attending the event virtually on zoom.

The theme of the assembly this year is "Taking it to the Streets." We will hear about the importance of our churches to be in public ministries which promote well being in our communities, our state, and our nation.



Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, April 13th at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room.

Our study in this session will explore that future life and the hope that awaits us.

Our hope is in the promise for all those who love you, Lord.

The hostess this month will be Melba Smith.



Pastor Schedule Changes

When I began working at English Lutheran in November of 2021, I replaced a Tuesday morning golf league in Red Wing with my work in Ellsworth to engage in worship planning and visits with parishioners here. Now, 6 months later, the golf league is starting back up again!

I hope to change my scheduled office times to being at the church on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning April 25th.

I will be on vacation the week after Easter, so I will not be in the church. Please contact me if you have any questions!



-Pastor Charlie Bunk

Call For Volunteers

Since Pierce County remains in the green category, indicating a low rate of risk for COVID infections in our church, the council has approved a return to more interactive worship. This means we need more communion helpers to offer communion, volunteers who help with the passing of the peace, the passing of offering plates, ushers to welcome worshippers, readers, acolytes, and technical assistants to run the slideshow and stream the service.

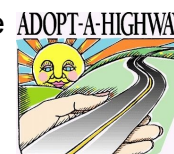
We will be gathering names of potential volunteers, and will be using that to schedule helpers for both the 8:30am and 10am upcoming worship services.



Adopt-A-Highway

Join us for *Adopt-A-Highway* on Saturday, April 23, 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 715-273-3846.



ELC Co-Ed Softball Team

We are looking for interested softball players to form a co-ed softball team for ages 12 and up. All skill levels are welcome. The league is hosted by Our Savior's Lutheran Church. All games are scheduled on Sunday through Wednesday starting in early June. The games are scheduled weekly at 7:00 pm and are all double-headers.

Our Savior's hosts a refreshment stand during the game (including pies) to fundraise to improve their facilities. All congregation members, the softball players along with their families are encouraged to attend!

If you are interested in joining, coaching, cheering, or participating in any capacity, please contact Greta Larson at bartels372@gmail.com or 612-418-4469.



Call Committee Update

The seven members of the Call Committee have been busy writing the description of English Lutheran Church and our community of Ellsworth to help give the leaders of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin a better idea of who might be a good fit for our next pastor.

They will submit the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) to the church council at the next meeting on April 19th. Once the council approves the MSP, it will be sent to the Synod, where a potential list of candidates will be formed. When this report is submitted, it would be a great time for you to share any names of a ELCA pastor whom you might know who would be interested in becoming our next pastor. Rev. Randy Olson of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin would like to visit our congregation to get his own impressions and help us on how we can welcome candidates who might consider partnering with us in ministry.

The members of the Call Committee are Chairperson Nancy Johnson, Secretary Kriste Lewis, Dixie Basch, Cindy Baird, Katie Groen, Curt Dumermuth, and Kayla Zimmer.



Ruby's Pantry

Ruby's Pantry is opening a new pantry location in Ellsworth, starting on April 2nd. It is hosted by Bethel Covenant Church and will be held the first Saturday of every month from 10:00am-11:30am.

Ruby's Pantry is available to anyone who is interested in extending their monthly grocery budget.

If you have any questions, their website is www.rubyspantry.org or their email is info@rubysheart.org.



Oktoberfest

Saturday 4.23.22 | **St. Francis School Gala** | **Social Hour 4-6 pm**
Buffet 6-8 pm

For more information, visit:
StFrancisEllsworth.org/Gala

Join us!

We invite friends, family, alumni, and staff to join us under das Bierzelt to celebrate and financially support St. Francis School during our 16th annual gala! Enjoy live German music, a biergarten, an authentic soft pretzel bar, and a German buffet. Try your luck at raffles, partake in a game of hammer-schlagen, and place your bids on the silent auction, class projects, fund-a-need, and premier auction. Prost!

St. Francis SCHOOL
Proceeds benefit St. Francis School.

March Council Meeting

- † ELC will donate unused costumes and old electronics to Ellsworth High School
- † ELC will join local church softball league
- † ELC will donate \$250 to the E3 Summer Fun Series at East End Park and/or host the E3 Summer Fun Series on June 16th, 2022.
- † Pastor Bunk sent update letter to congregation
- † Next meeting: April 19th.



Financial Update

February 28, 2021 Cash Balances:

General Fund = \$71,542.44
Dedicated Fund = \$95,985.23
Total = \$167,527.67
Thrivent = \$104,443.14

February General Fund:

Income = \$11,643.87
Expenses = \$14,098.30



Confirmation Updates:

- † We will join the Sunday School class to deliver the Easter Baskets on April 3, and have already helped assembling the baskets. Fun to have our children & youth ministries working together!
- † We are looking forward to joining our Sunday school friends again on Palm Sunday, April 10, for a celebratory procession!
- † We continue to work on the Apostle's Creed, however we took a short break to learn about Lent and Easter at the end of March.



Luther Point Bible Camp

Registration is open for Luther Point in Grantsburg, WI this summer! LPBC has camps for children in grade 1 through senior high.

There are many different specialized camps as well as traditional camp— horse camp, fishing camp, arts & music, grandparent & child, and family camps. There are also full week, half week, and day camp options.

For students in grades 9-12, you can apply for the Camp B.U.D.D.I.E.S program to attend camp for free and serve while you're there. Check out full opportunities on their website, lutherpoint.org.



Please note— we are a member congregation, so you will receive discounts and our church will help with your registration fees! Contact the office for details.

Summer Camp 2022

Registration is open!
Join us for a fun and Spirit-filled summer at Luther Point!

Sunday School Notes

We are so excited to deliver Easter Baskets to those in our congregation who are at home and to those in our nursing home and assisted living facilities in town. We assembled the baskets on Sunday, March 27 and will deliver them in the Bunnymobile bus on Sunday, April 3. Thanks to Julie Baggenstoss for driving the bus!

Funds are available to our students who would like to attend summer camp. Please contact the church office if your child is interested in attending a summer camp. Check out Luther Point Bible Camp!

EASTER MESSAGE—BISHOP LAURIE SKOW-ANDERSON



Easter Message from Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

April 2022

2 Corinthians 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Dear Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! This is the good news of Easter. By God's power death is reversed and Christ is raised from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything! Everything is made new.

Change is good news after two years of a pandemic, right? We are ready for a change. But are we really? Do we want everything to become new like we read in 2 Corinthians 5 or do we want the change to be a return to the old and familiar?

If Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything, then what has changed in your life? What difference does Jesus make in your life? What has Jesus made new?

† What difference does Jesus make to my 35 year old nephew whose brain tumor came back, faces radiation treatments and is struggling with his ex for visitation of their three year old son?

† What difference does Jesus mean to our siblings in Malawi who are often threatened by drought, flood and famine or to Ukrainians whose homes were destroyed by a Russian bomb?

† What difference does Jesus make to a stable congregation deciding what their next most faithful step might be or to a declining congregation wondering if their next most faithful step is to close?

As Lutherans we believe that we are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we go under the water as a sinner and we are resurrected with Christ, lifted out of the water, a saint. We are changed for sure and we are reborn children of God! Theologically that's beautiful, but in real life, what difference does Jesus make in your life?

As human beings, Christ's resurrection from the dead challenges us to live into that change. As broken sinful humans, whose lives are "messed or mangled" we live into Easter reality that Christ is present and daily working in our lives. Jesus challenges and changes us. Those of us who doubt our faith and question its relevance are challenged by Easter's promise to see and know God in the transformed lives around us.

Friends we know that Jesus changes our weeping into laughing, our mourning into dancing, our despair into hope, our winter into spring and our death into life. Jesus changes things and makes all things new. We are challenged to see the transformations around us and in us. We are challenged to be the change, evidence of the transformation, for the world to see and know God through us.

¹Challenge: In 24 words or less, answer this question, "What difference does Jesus make in your life?"

²Inspired by the Hymn, *Christ has Risen While Earth Slumbers*, vs 4. All Creation Sings #938, ELW Supplement, Augsburg Fortress, 2020.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself,^[a] not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Kaleidoscope

PRAYERS

Special Prayers:

Healing:

Rachel Proulx, niece of Julie Davis ~ Breast Cancer

Liz Krohn

Mikey Krohn

Maisley Maxwell, granddaughter of Rob & Wendy

~Maxwell, daughter of Tyler and Alexis Maxwell

Judi Nielsen

Vicki Nelson

Holly DuFour

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



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 March ~ Jeanette Wright

EASTER LILIES & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

*Thank you to the following for the beautiful
Easter lilies in the sanctuary.*

Diane Wiskerchen

Sharon & Joel Schulze

Doug & Judy Fahrendorff

Lee & Jeanette Wright

Dorthea Olson

Mark & Mary Sokolik

Jerry & Julie Baggenstoss

Vicki Nelson

Greta, Doug, Reese & Sidney

Nancy Johnson

Claudia Schmidt

Tammy Brenner

Tammy Brenner

Melba Smith

Vern & Nancy Ellefson

In memory of Larry, Edward, Duane

In memory of Sharon's sister, Dianne

In memory of Josh Winger

In honor of our family

In memory of Clint Olson

In memory of those gone before us

In memory of our parents

In honor of my great grandsons

In memory of Sallee Larson

In honor of Erin, Matt, David, Anna, Andrew, & Julia

In memory of Mom & Dad

In memory of Mom (Nancy Lytle)

In honor of Janelle, Kevin, Aric and families

In memory of Heather Hantsbarger

In memory of Muriel Jeffrey & Randy Ellefson

**this list includes everyone who has ordered a lily before March 30. If you ordered after it will be in the bulletin on Easter.*

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 10, 7:00pm

Online & In-Person



Good Friday Worship

Friday, April 15, 7:00pm

Online & In-Person



Maundy Thursday Worship

Thursday, April 14, 7:00pm

Online & In-Person



Easter Services

Sunday, April 17, 8:30am &
10:00am

Online & In-Person





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 Charlie Bunk– Interim Pastor
pastor@englishlutheranchurch.org
605-467-9973

Sydney Durfee- Communications Coordinator
office@englishlutheranchurch.org
Office: 715-273-4617

Julie Baggenstoss- Custodian

Tristan Bale- Finance Coordinator
finance@englishlutheranchurch.org
715-273-4187

Music Director: Missy Kowalchuk
music@englishlutheranchurch.org



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 Tuesdays & Thursdays. Pastor Bunk will be in on Mondays & Wednesdays.



Worship Services

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

In-Person ~ Sundays
Traditional - 8:30 am
Contemporary - 10:00 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
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Email:
office@englishlutheranchurch.org



Cross Beams

April 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am In-Person & Online Wi 10am Sunday School 10am In-Person & Online Wor 11am Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Call Committee Meeting 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Choir Practice 6pm Confirmation 7pm Lent Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Feed My Starving Childre 		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am In-Person & Online Wi 10am Sunday School 10am In-Person & Online Wor 11am Choir Practice 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Choir Practice 7pm Lent Worship 			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am In-Person & Online Wi 10am Sunday School 10am In-Person & Online Wor 11am Choir Practice 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Finance Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Maundy Thursday Worsh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for Newsletter Article 7pm Good Friday Worship 	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Sunday 8:30am In-Person & Online Wi 10am Sunday School 2 more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Monday Tax Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Church Council Meeti 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Adopt A Highway
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am In-Person & Online Wi 10am Sunday School 10am In-Person & Online Wor 11am Choir Practice 						