



# Cross Beams

## May 2020

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

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

english  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



### Happy Mother's Day!

Thank you to all moms as they take on different roles these days. This May as we celebrate *Mother's Day*, pray for all of the mothers who are navigating new territory themselves and helping their children through this time.





*"I lift my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." ~Psalm 121*

Grace & peace dear siblings in Christ!

How are you doing today? It's hard to believe we've been living this "social distancing" way of life for going on seven weeks now! I want to update you on just a couple of things that we as a church are doing in this time.

— We applied for and were approved for the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) through the Small Business Administration. These funds will cover two months of our payroll plus our utility expenses and if used for those purposes, will not have to be paid back. We are grateful that these funds will help us to keep all of our staff on the payroll in the near term and hopefully make up for any lost offering income during the stay-at-home order. I am also grateful for everyone's ongoing financial support in this time allowing our ministry to continue, even if in a different manner than we are used to seeing.

—Council has appointed a special task force, representing the various ministries of our church, to look into best practices for us to resume ministry in our church building when it is safe to do so. This group will be answering questions like:

*"How should we do communion?"*

*"How do we keep households six feet apart in the pews?"*

*"How do we meet our budget if the fair stand does not happen this year?"*

*"How do we clean and sanitize DURING Sunday morning services?"*

*"When do we resume coffee and treat hospitality?"*

*"How do we can we safely support the needs of the community?"*

Know we are working hard every day to figure out how best to do ministry in the midst of a pandemic, how to safely resume in-person ministry as local and federal guidelines allow, and doing what we can to keep our ministry financially stable!

These continue to be stressful times for us all. As this pandemic continues to impact our lives, often in negative ways, please let your church family know if there are ways we might be able to assist you! I'm praying for each of you and I'd like to leave you with the Serenity Prayer, which I came across again in my devotions this week.

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,  
Courage to change the things which should be changed,  
and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.  
Living one day at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,  
Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it,  
Trusting that You will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will,  
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,  
And supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.  
~Attributed to Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)

God bless you all abundantly,

*Pastor Jeff*



## CHRISTIKON STOCK SALES



Due to COVID-19 restrictions, many of our planned fundraisers for our 6th-12th grader's trip to Christikon Bible Camp in Montana this summer are no longer possible. If you are able, we would greatly appreciate your purchase of "Stock" to support our trip. Please mail donations to English Lutheran and write "stock sales" in the memo of your check, or give electronically and send an email to [office@englishlutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@englishlutheranchurch.org) letting us know the Stock Sale was the intent of your e-Giving.

**Thank you for supporting this faith-building experience!**



### DONATE \$20 AND RECEIVE:

1. At least 2 cards/postcards from a youth going to Christikon.
2. Our sincere gratitude!
3. Joy knowing you helped a child go to Christikon (Bible Camp)!

### DONATE \$30 OR MORE AND RECEIVE ALL THE ABOVE, PLUS:

4. A special invite to a "THANK YOU" Ice Cream Social Event after the trip

## STOCK SALE "EXTRA GENEROSITY INCENTIVES"

IF this fundraiser raises \$350+ by May 10,  
**Pastor Jeff will get a pie in the face during worship.**

IF this fundraiser raises \$1000+ by May 10  
**Pastor Jeff will shave his head during worship**

IF this fundraiser raises \$1500+ by May 17  
**Pastor Jeff will jump in a lake and have an ice bucket dumped on his head to make sure it's cold enough!**

**(If all the above targets are reached, he'll do all three!)**

# CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES & FINANCIAL UPDATE



## April Council

- † ELC Covid-19 Response—We will continue to do our best following the guidelines provided to us.
- † A committee consisting of one or two members of the council, and one member from each of the committees- Worship/Music, Youth/Children/Family, Stewardship, Pastor Jeff and Julie Baggenstoss to discuss and form guidelines for returning to in-person worship activities of the church.
- † The Finance Committee has chosen CCF Bank as our new bank for church business- accounts have been set up.
- † The PPP Loan/Grant was approved . There are guidelines to follow that state we may receive as a grant instead of a loan if they are followed.
- † General funds seem to be ok so far.
- † 100th ANNIVERSARY - Don't make permanent plans at this time until restrictions are lifted. We will keep the 100th anniversary on the council agenda for future discussion.
- † Property Committee: The Youth House was discussed. Pastor Jeff stated the property committee does not wish to be responsible for renting it. Pastor reported that the AC needs repair and it needs roofing and siding. Also painting and carpet cleaning. Eric Van Nocker will look into cost of hiring a rental agent. Tearing it down was mentioned.

### VBS Canceled

As with many of our events, we will be canceling our Vacation Bible School this summer. *Luther Point Bible Camp* counselors have led this program for the past couple of years and they have made the decision not to send their counselors out for day camps this year. Also, summer school will not physically meet this year in June, which is where many kids come from for VBS. For those reasons and the safety of our kids and volunteers we have made the decision to cancel VBS this summer.



### Congrats Graduates!



We are working on plans to celebrate our graduates. Congratulations to all of our ELC graduates! If you have a graduating

high school senior and you have not yet been contacted by Trina in the office, please send us an email so we can be sure to include your graduate as well.

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

### Women's Bible Study

Because of the Corona Virus, women's bible study did not meet in April. Nor will we meet in May.

Hopefully, we will be able to resume in September.



### 2020 General Fund

Month	Actual Monthly Income	Actual Monthly Expense	Actual YTD Income	Actual YTD Expenses
January	15,199.64	18,437.01	15,199.64	18,437.01
February	12,812.80	45,778.25	28,012.44	64,215.24
March	16,968.91	16,637.73	44,981.35	80,852.99

### Cash Balances as of March 2020 month end:

Total = \$151,117.18

General Fund = \$16,739.05

Dedicated Fund = \$69,186.12

Thrivent = \$65,192.01

### Notes:

~ The general fund, year to date expenses for 2020 are higher due to \$28,000 being moved to Thrivent from this fund.

# PRAYERS

## *Special Prayers:*

Congratulations to Mandy & Frank Fleming on the birth of their daughter, Elsie Lou! All are doing great!

Prayers for the family of Vern & Nancy Ellefson, Nancy's sister, Muriel Jeffrey, died.

Prayers for the family of Curt & Judy Dumermuth, brother-in-law, Steve Staker, died.

### Healing:

Rusty Crow

### Long-term:

Sherry York ~ Surgery

Debbie Kannel-Howard

Terry Wegerer, Brother of Darla Moquin

~ Stage 4 Lung Cancer

Jerry Place, Deanna Redding & Darren Place's Dad

~ Dementia

Gary Karlstad, son of Joyce Karlstad

~ Stage 4 Lung Cancer

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

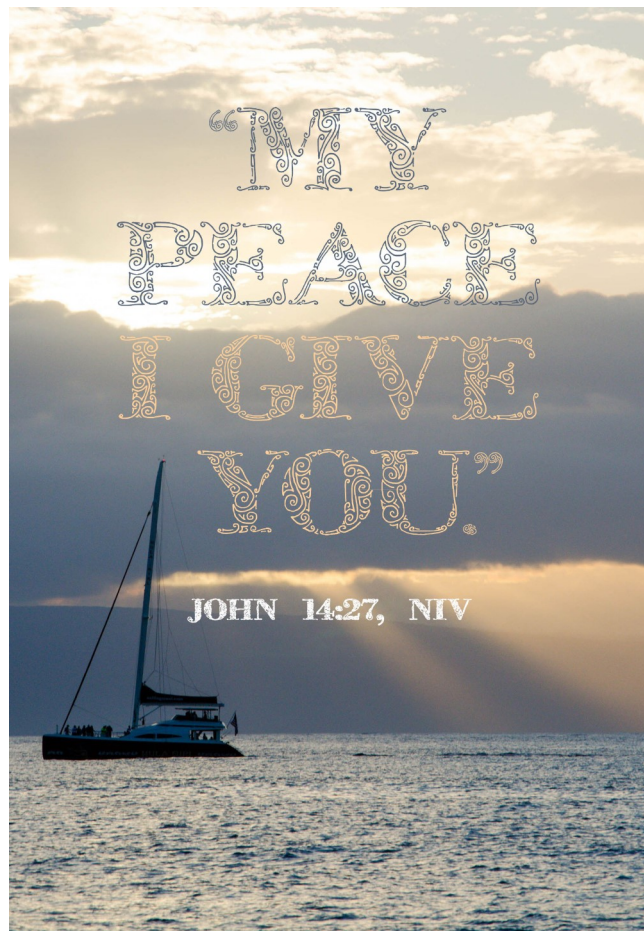
Tomi Erlandson ~ Seizures & Health

Dale & Marianne Melstrom

Mary Dee Prokop, Mother of Eileen Mewes

Wendy Wegerer ~ Health Issues

**Military service:** Cody Tschida & Johnathan Bergman



## **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 May  
~ Vi Wilhelm



## **In Memory**

**Muriel Jeffrey** died April 18, 2020. A memorial service will be held at a future date. Remember her family and friends in your prayers.





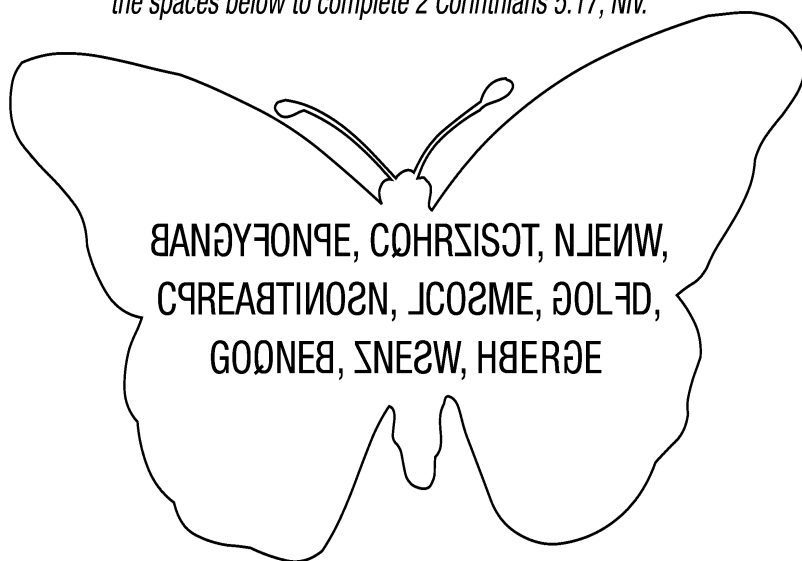
# Transformation**POWER**



Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly,  
God transforms us from old to new.



*Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.*



Therefore, if \_\_\_\_\_ is in \_\_\_\_\_,

the \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_:

The \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_,

the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_!

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: anyone, Christ, new, creation, come, old, gone, new, here

## Luther Point Bible Camp

The Schedule for Summer 2020 is out and registration is open. Be sure to check out the *Summer Discounts* section, including the *member church* discount.

Luther Point has waived all nonrefundable deposits. Sign up for camp today with no deposit.

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

Note that children in grades 6 and under can receive \$100 towards their camp fees from our Children's Endowment Fund. Contact the church office.



## Support our Local Small Businesses

Check out the Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce website "Our Community" page for an updated list of those small businesses in our area who are open for business now and the services/hours they are operating.

Time to rally.



Together, let's support local businesses,  
the bedrock of our community.  
Here's how...

## Journey House Campus Ministry

A campus ministry serving the *University of Wisconsin River Falls* and the *Chippewa Valley Technical College*.

*Journey House Campus Ministry*, serving students and staff at the *University of Wisconsin-River Falls, WI*, as well as those at the nearby *Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC)*, is conducting a search for a Campus Minister.

Journey House is a welcoming ecumenical ministry jointly supported by the *Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)*, the *United Methodist Church (UMC)* and the *Presbyterian Church*. Our unique model of ministry involves the Campus Minister providing oversight and doing campus and community outreach in tandem with a team of student Peer Leaders, who attend classes while living at the campus ministry house.

This is a half-time salaried position, with duties and flexible hours closely aligned with the campus academic year and student schedules. The ideal candidate will possess a Bachelor degree or higher, and have skills suitable to building relationships and providing a welcoming ministry to young adults, including those who may be unchurched or of other faiths.

Interested applicants can find the full position description, including how to apply, under the "Home" tab on the Journey House web site,

<https://journeyhousecampusministry.org/>. They can also email a request for a position description to [journeyhousecampusministry@gmail.com](mailto:journeyhousecampusministry@gmail.com).

Deadline for applications is June 15. Anticipated start date is mid-August, pending COVID-19 related decisions by UW-River Falls and CVTC regarding resumption of on-campus classes and activities.



## Ellsworth Area Blood Drive

The *Red Cross* is urging donors who are feeling healthy and well to give at the drive scheduled for May 18th from 12 noon until 6 o'clock at *Zion Covenant Church* in Ellsworth located at 210 N Beulah Street. The supplies are low because of the virus and drive locations not being able to open. The *Red Cross* needs to maintain the blood supply for patients who rely on life saving transfusions. Many operations that were put on hold will soon be able to resume, so your donation is greatly needed.

Donors will have their temperature taken before they enter the drive, wear a mask, if you have one or one will be supplied, hand sanitizer and gloves will be available. Please bring your Rapid Pass with you-either paper copy or on your phone. [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) You will also need an ID.

Sign up now at [rcblood.org/appt](https://rcblood.org/appt). or call Pam at 715-273-0310 to make an appointment.



**American  
Red Cross**

Blood  
Services

## ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL GALA

The *St. Francis School Gala "Glory Days: St. Francis Through the Decades"* has been rescheduled to a virtual event that will take place on our website at [www.stfrancisellsworth.org/gala](https://www.stfrancisellsworth.org/gala) and the "St. Francis School – Ellsworth, WI" Facebook page from May 12 through May 16, 2020. Because the school depends on this fundraiser to fund vital programs, we are determined to keep this year's event alive! Please join us in supporting this critical fundraiser in any way possible, whether through financial contributions or by helping spread the word to others. All are invited to join us in celebrating *St. Francis School* and lifting spirits in a time when we all need it. Thank you very much for your support!



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

## Staff

### Pastor, Jeff Smith

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

**Custodian, Julie Baggenstoss**

**Music Director, Evan Mitchell**  
[music@englishlutheranchurch.org](mailto:music@englishlutheranchurch.org)

## Congregational Council

**President: Peter Carr**  
**Vice President: Dennis Boettcher**  
**Treasurer: Gary Brown**  
**Secretary: Julie Davis**  
**Jen Abbas**  
**Melba Smith**  
**Eric Van Nocker**

## Sunday Worship Times

10:00 a.m. Online Worship



• THIS, THAN TO LAY •

GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN

DOWN ONE'S LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.

... JOHN 15:13, NKJV ...

## Our Mission:

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

## Cross Beams

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# May 2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				May 1	2
3 ● 10am Online Worship	4 ● 10am Online Worship	5 ● 7pm Confirmation Online	6 ● 7pm Confirmation Online	7 ● 7pm Confirmation Online	8 ● 7pm Confirmation Online
9 ● 10am Online Worship	10 ● 10am Online Worship	11 ● 10am Online Worship	12 ● 10am Online Worship	13 ● 10am Online Worship	14 ● 10am Online Worship
15 ● 10am Online Worship	16 ● 10am Online Worship	17 ● 10am Online Worship	18 ● 10am Online Worship	19 ● 10am Online Worship	20 ● 10am Online Worship
21 ● 10am Online Worship	22 ● 10am Online Worship	23 ● 10am Online Worship	24 ● 10am Online Worship	25 ● 10am Online Worship	26 ● 10am Online Worship
27 ● 10am Online Worship	28 ● 10am Online Worship	29 ● 10am Online Worship	30 ● 10am Online Worship	31 ● 10am Online Worship	1 Jun ● 10am Online Worship

HAPPY Mother's Day