



Cross Beams

July 2023



www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.



VBS

VBS was a huge success! The theme for this year was "Stellar: Shining Christ's Light!"



July

What's Inside:

- † Church News
- † Upcoming Events
- † Council Minutes

- Pastor Article
- Prayer List
- Financial Update



In the last chapter gospel of the John, Simon Peter and the other disciples are sitting around, wondering what they should do. By this point, Jesus has been crucified and resurrected back to life and has appeared to them twice. But each time, he leaves just as quickly as he has appeared. Peter decides that he is going to go fishing. Now this is not fishing like we would think of, where we hook up our boat to the truck and head to our favorite fishing hole to spend some time in nature. Peter is talking about going fishing as in going back to work, back to their pre-Jesus lives. Peter and his brother Andrew and James and John had been commercial fishermen. They would go out very early in the morning so that they could bring their catch to shore in the morning so that they could go to the market to sell the fish that they had caught. And this wasn't a nice leisurely cast and reel type either. They fished with big, heavy nets without any motors, so they had to manipulate them by hand. So, it was hard work, there was manual labor, early hours and you took the chance of your boat capsizing in a storm or not catching anything at all. It was a rough life. But that's what they knew, so they went back to it.

But a funny thing happened that morning as they were coming back to shore, they saw a stranger on land who said/asked them, "You haven't caught anything, have you?" "Nope!!" Jesus tells them to try the other side of the boat, and sure enough, they start filling their nets. It is at this point that realize that it is Jesus and Peter swims to shore. Jesus has a charcoal fire going and is making breakfast for them. I love the image of Jesus making a shore breakfast for the guys! "Bring some of those fish over here and we'll grill them up." I suppose that if they were in Wisconsin, they would have to fry them up.

The crux of this story is what happens after the meal. Jesus talks Peter aside and asks him three times, "Do You love me?" Every time, Peter answers "Yes" and each time, he is more and more hurt that Jesus would even ask him this. Here is the awesome thing, though: if we think back to the night when Jesus is arrested, Peter and another disciple follow them to the chief priest's home. They are allowed into the courtyard and three different people ask Peter if he is a disciple of Jesus and each time, Peter says "No." And here's the kicker, while they are in the courtyard, they are standing around a charcoal fire to keep warm. So, around a charcoal fire, Peter denies Jesus three times. After Jesus' resurrection and around a charcoal fire again, Jesus asks Peter, "Do you love me?" He is giving Peter a chance at redemption and Peter says whole-heartedly, "Yes!!" Just like Peter, we are given a chance at redemption and our sins are forgiven. Even though we deny Christ, Christ does not deny us. That is amazing news! That is awesome news! That is Gospel, which literally means Good News! It is good news to us that even when we are like Peter and we deny Jesus and sin against him, we are forgiven. Jesus loves us, forgives us and calls us his children. Always and forever.

Amen.

Pastor Pete

CHURCH NEWS

Pastor Pete July Schedule

Pastor Pete will be on vacation July 3rd-9th. He will be up at Luther Point the week of the 16th.

There will be no Bible study or Men's Breakfast those weeks in July!

Landscape Project Fundraiser

English Lutheran is currently raising money to pay for our landscaping project. The grounds around the church are in need of repair, and we want to make our property look better. The fundraising goal for this landscaping project is \$15,000! We are at \$8,371.32 raised! You can give a one-time donation or spread it out over time.



Please designate that your donation is for the landscaping project. We have envelopes in the back of the sanctuary that say, "Improvement Fund." There will be a special drop box for these donations.

'The Chosen' Bible Study

Pastor Pete will be leading a summer bible study on Wednesday mornings this summer based on the television series "The Chosen."

It tells the story of Jesus through the eyes of those who met him. Most episodes are about an hour and afterwards, we will discuss what we just watched.

Join us at 9:30 am in the Fireside room on Wednesday mornings. (No meeting the 5th & 19th)

Summer Fun Series

English Lutheran will be hosting the Summer Fun Series at East End Park on Thursday, August 17th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

We hosted it last year, and it was a great success!

Christina Kowalchuk will be singing again, and there will be food and games to play.

Come join ELC in a great night of community building! We look forward to seeing everyone!



ELC Softball Team

The ELC Co-Ed Softball season is here! All games will be at Our Saviors Lutheran Church ballfield.

Congregation members and their families are encouraged to attend!

Schedule: All games at 7:00pm!

- Tuesday, July 11 vs. Zion
- Wednesday, July 19 vs. St. Francis

Tournaments

Sunday, July 30

Sunday, August 6



Fair Stand Sign-Up

The Pierce County Fair is right around the corner!

Volunteers are needed to work in the *English Lutheran Church* fair stand for the *Pierce County Fair* in August.

You can work in the kitchen, dining room, or be a fryer.

Sign-up forms are located in the back of the church or contact the office to get your name in for this great fellowship opportunity! Join in the fun!

The fair runs from August 10th-13th.

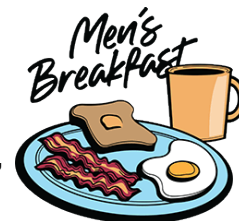


Men's Breakfast

Pastor Pete will be cooking breakfast on Thursday mornings for the guys. (No meeting the 6th or 20th)

We will gather in the church kitchen at 8:00 am for a breakfast with a rotating menu and fruit with coffee and orange juice.

The suggested donation is \$5.00 to help cover the cost of food. After we are done eating, we will pitch in to clean up.



Youth News

VBS-

Vacation Bible School at English Lutheran was a huge success! We partnered with Our Savior's Lutheran Church. The theme for this year was Stellar: Shining Christ's Light!

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped plan, decorate, and lead! We look forward to having VBS again next summer. Check out pictures and videos on the English Lutheran Facebook page.



Summer Youth Trip -

Please join us for a camping trip to Glen Hills Park in Glenwood City on August 3-6. This is for students grades 7-12. Please feel free to bring a friend! We will be camping, fishing, hiking, swimming, playing games, and worshipping.

A link to register for the camping trip is on the ELC website. The cost to you will only be \$25. Please reach out to Kayla Zimmer, CYF Team Member, if you have any questions. More information will be coming once we close registration for those that sign up to participate. We look forward to seeing you there!



Luther Point Bible Camp-

We are bringing kids to Luther Point July 16-21 for 4-6 graders and middle school students. 3-4 graders can experience a half week of camp, Sunday to Tuesday, July 16-18. There is also a grandparent/grandchild camp going on the first half of that week as well.

The church will cover most of the registration fee, you just need to pay \$50 and bring canteen money.

Pastor Pete and Kim will also be at camp that week with Marcus and Gemma, so you will have a couple of familiar faces to see as well.

To register, go to www.lutherpoint.org and click on the summer camp page to find the registration form. Enter coupon code: **English23** to let them know that you are with English Lutheran.



June Council Meeting

- † Landscape Project Fundraiser– the project is going well and we have received over \$8,000 in donations.
- † Grubby Sunday was a success. Plan is to do one biannually.
- † Pastor Pete will relocate office into the room across the church office.
- † No council meeting in July.
- † *The next council meeting will be **August 15th at 6:30 pm.***



Financial Update

May 31, 2023 Cash Balances:

General Fund = \$104,975.36
Dedicated Fund = \$83,731.09
Total = \$188,706.45
Thrivent = \$95,570.95

May General Fund:

Income = \$24,893.15
Expenses = \$17,895.22



PRAYERS

Special Prayers:

Healing:

Rachel Proulx, niece of Julie Davis ~ Breast Cancer

Liz Krohn

Mikey Krohn

Judi Nielsen

Nathan Baar

Tucker Thoen

Jerry Baggenstoss

Kenny Basch

Larry Larabee

Dean Mewes

Judy Nunn

Long-term:

Lila Larson

Sherry York

Judy Morrow

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

Wendy Wegerer

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 July ~ Mary Sokolik



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: Eric Van Nocker
Vice President: Melba Smith
Treasurer: Gary Brown
Secretary: Greta Larson
Denise Hager
Jill Hague
Lynette Winger
Dennis Swanson

Staff

Pastor Pete Warren
pastorpete@englishlutheranchurch.org
218-760-6974

**Sydney Durfee- Communications
Coordinator & Finance Administrator**
office@englishlutheranchurch.org
finance@englishlutheranchurch.org
Office: 715-273-4617

Julie Baggenstoss- Custodian

Music Director: Missy Kowalchuk
music@englishlutheranchurch.org

Accompanist: Ava Maxwell



Office Hours

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

Stop in, call, or email. Sydney will be working from home Monday's and in the office Tuesday-Thursday.



Our Mission:

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

Worship Services

Online ~ Sundays on Facebook
Livestream at **9:00 am**

In-Person ~ Sundays 9:00 am



Cross Beams

Published monthly by:
English Lutheran Church
Ellsworth, Wisconsin.

Email:
office@englishlutheranchurch.org



Cross Beams

Cross Beams - July