



Cross Beams

May 2023



www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.



Easter



Palm Sunday



Good Friday
Community Service



CPR & AED Class



Sharing & Caring
Hands Volunteers

What's Inside:

- † Church News
- † Upcoming Events
- Pastor Article
- Prayer List





Food and meals are common themes throughout the bible. It was at the mealtimes that Jesus would explain to the disciples the miracle that they had just witnessed. Food brought the community together. At the temple in Jerusalem people would offer sacrifices to pay for their sins and their offerings were animals, birds and flour... food! The temple priests would take a portion for themselves and then they would give away the rest of it to the poor. The big festivals were excuses for big parties! Food would bring people together, because we all need to eat to survive, we might as well enjoy each other's company.

But our meals have shifted over the last seventy years to quickness and convenience. We are so busy that all we have time for is to stop at the drive-thru or place an order for delivery. The grocery stores are jam packed with convenience foods that make preparing food quick and easy. Mealtimes have become, quick, easy, whenever we want, and LONELY. We need food to survive, but we need community to endure and enjoy life. Meals are a great way to bring people together and to create community.

I enjoy every time that we gather at English Lutheran to eat. It is a chance for me to sit down with a group of people and get to know them. Sharing a table with strangers is a way to expand our community because usually, we walk away knowing a little bit more about our table mates. And I am hoping that we will be able to do that more often. One of the things that I did at my last church was cook breakfast on Thursday mornings for the guys. Many of their wives would gather every Thursday afternoon to quilt and have coffee afterwards, so I thought that the guys could use something too. It ended up being a wonderful experience that many of us looked forward to each week. The food brought us together, but it was sitting around the table, talking about life that connected us. We covered every subject imaginable from hunting and fishing to farming to baseball and football and even politics. That was the eye opener for me, to sit and discuss politics with guys on the other side of the aisle. I had two guys that would butt heads every Thursday morning whenever the talk came to politics, but on Sunday mornings, they sat in the same pew. They were never going to agree on politics, but they had Jesus to unite them.

When Curt gave me a tour of the church before my interview, I got excited when I saw the griddle down in the kitchen. Cooking is one of my passions so I would like to get a men's breakfast going again. What I did was I would cook breakfast and the guys would chip in \$5.00 each to cover the cost of the groceries and then we would all help clean up afterwards. Some weeks, we would leave right after breakfast but most of the time, there were a few of us that would sit around a talk until 10:00 am, or until their wives would call them asking where they were.

So, here is my plan, on Thursday, June 1st, I will be at the church cooking breakfast for the guys. I will have it ready to go at 8:00 am. The menu will be fried eggs, bacon, hashbrowns and toast with coffee and orange juice, all for \$5.00. I'll also have a box of Quaker Instant Oatmeal available if you would prefer that. If it goes well, we can do it again next week and I'll vary the menu each time. We'll meet down in the kitchen and depending on how many people show up, we can eat in the fireside room or in the fellowship hall. Come and join me for breakfast on Thursday mornings at 8:00 am starting in June!

Pastor Pete

P.S. Ladies, don't worry I have something cooking for you too!

Vacation Bible Study

English Lutheran & Our Savior's Lutheran Churches are partnering to offer Vacation Bible School this summer at English Lutheran Church. It will be June 12-15 from noon to 3:30 pm, right after summer school gets done.

We will have a bus that will pick up kids from the school and drop them off at the church when summer school ends for the day. We will feed the kids lunch and then jump into our program.

Our theme this summer is Stellar: Shining Christ's Light.

The registration form can be found at: <https://vbapro.events/p/events/ellsworth2023>.

VBS is open to the community and free to attend!!



'The Chosen' Summer 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, starting June 7th. Pastor

Pete will provide coffee and cinnamon rolls the first week!

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.

Camp is an awesome experience and we hope that we can get as many of our youth to go as possible!

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.

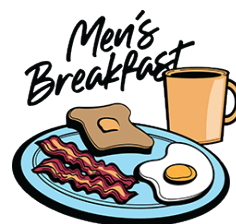


Men's Breakfast

Pastor Pete will be cooking breakfast on Thursday, June 1st for the guys.

We will gather in the church kitchen at 8:00 am for a breakfast of fried eggs, bacon, hashbrowns, toast, fruit with coffee and orange juice. Oatmeal will also be available.

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. Hopefully, this will be a weekly event with a rotating menu.



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. 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.



Thank you for your support!

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will be meeting on Wednesday, May 10 at 9:30 am.

Instead of at church, we will **meet at Preferred Senior Living**.

Coffee will be provided. Diane Wiskerchen will provide the treat.

This will be our final bible study of the series. We will begin again in the fall.



Sharing Shed

Please remember English Lutheran's Sharing Shed for your extra Spring/Summer clothing and other household extras. This is a great time to do some spring cleaning and share no longer needed items with our community.

We can always use towels, sheets, kitchen items, and hygiene items. If the item is in good condition, it is likely that someone can use it. No large electronics or food please.

Drop off directly into the Sharing Shed, just outside the south door of the church.



Graduate Quilt Sunday

We will be honoring graduating high school seniors at English Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 21st.

Quilts will be given to each graduate during worship.

Congratulations to all who are graduating this Spring!



Noisy Offering

Our youth will be collecting a noisy offering on Sunday, May 7 during worship.

The money collected will be going to high school senior school fees for lunch and classes.

Make sure to bring your loose change and donate to a worthy cause! Thank you!



Thank You Notes

Missy & Ava-

I just wanted to send a note thanking you for singing at my mom's funeral. You and Ava were perfect, and I know my mom was smiling down. I can never thank you both enough. God Bless.

- Peggy Schumaker & family

Funeral Serving Ladies-

Thank you all so much for serving food at my mom's funeral. We are so thankful to all of you and mom would have been too. She loved you all so much. Again, thank you!

- Peggy & Dennis



Fidgets Available

There are fidgets located in the back of the sanctuary for anyone to use.

Please return them after the worship service.

Youth News

We are finishing up our Confirmation and Sunday school classes for the year and planning our final celebrations for mid-May. Confirmation final celebration will be Wednesday, May 10. The Sunday school children will celebrate on Sunday, May 7 during their class time.

The Sunday school children will be collecting a noisy offering on Sunday, May 7, during our offering time to benefit our high school senior class students who have outstanding balances for lunch or other class fees. Bring your change that say so the kids can hear it in their metal buckets. The kids will sing in worship on Sunday, May 14, Mother's Day, and will be handing out flowers before worship.

Thank you to our Sunday school teachers, Renee Van Nocker and Katie Groen! Thank you to all who have helped during the year including Kayla Zimmer, Denise Hager, Danielle Goodier, Emily Groen, Ethan Ladwig, Wyley Myers, and Joseph Lewis.

Thank you to all of our parent volunteers who provided supper for our confirmation group this year. Thank you to our confirmation youth leaders Pastor Bunk, Pastor Pete, Kayla Zimmer, Trina & Mark Groen, Phillip Truax, Morgan Barnhardt, Wade Kowalchyk.

We will be honoring our 8 high school seniors on Sunday, May 21, during the worship service, with graduate quilts made by our quilting group. Join us as we wish them well in the next part of their journey. We will celebrate with cake following the service.

Planning and signups are underway for our summer youth trip. It will be a camping trip to Glen Hills County Park in Glenwood City (about 40 minutes from Ellsworth) on Thursday, August 3—Sunday, August 6. There will be camping, hiking, canoeing/kayaking, swimming, fishing and games. We'll be camping in tents and making our own meals. Cost is \$25/student. This trip is open to students in grades 7 and up.

Just like last summer, we'd love to have a chance to catch up with our youth this summer, so we'll have a summer youth gathering at church in our yard area with (depending on weather!) a fire and some smores and supper. Join us on Wednesday, June 28 at 6:00 pm. We'll play games, eat, and chat.



April Council Meeting

- † Landscape Project Fundraiser– the project is going well and we have received over \$4,000 in donations.
- † Offering plates will be passed around in worship again.
- † Looking for people to help with the Stewardship committee.
- † Took action on transferring funds from the checking account to a money market fund.
- † *The next council meeting will be **May 16th at 6:30 pm.***

Financial Update

March 31, 2023 Cash Balances:

General Fund = \$102,951.92
Dedicated Fund = \$81,904.98
Total = \$184,856.90
Thrivent = \$92,534.84

March General Fund:

Income = \$14,092.42
Expenses = \$19,013.57



PRAYERS

Special Prayers:

Healing:

Rachel Proulx, niece of Julie Davis ~ Breast Cancer

Liz Krohn

Mikey Krohn

Judi Nielsen

Kim

Nathan Baar

Tucker Thoen

Heather

Morgan

Jerry Baggenstoss

Chris Luchsinger

Brian Duppong

Kenny Basch

Kelly Myer

Larry Larabee

Melba Smith

Long-term:

Lila Larson

Sherry York

Judy Morrow

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

Wendy Wegerer

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 May ~ Vi Wilhelm



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-Friday
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, and Pastor Pete will be working Tuesday-Friday.



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



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Email:
office@englishlutheranchurch.org



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May 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUN 30	MON May 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Choir Practice 	First Day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Conference meeting 	Cinco de Mayo	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Choir Practice 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Finance Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Worship at Preferred Senior 2:30pm Worship at Ellsworth Health 6pm Confirmation 	11	12	13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Choir Practice 	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm Church Council Meeting 	17	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for Newsletter Articles 	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Graduate Quilt Sunday 9am Worship 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Choir Practice 	22	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Ellsworth Baccalaureate Service 	25	26	27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Choir Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memorial Day 	30	31	