



March 2024 Cross Beams

www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24

9:00 AM Palm/Passion Sunday

10:00 AM Potluck Brunch

Maundy Thursday, March 28

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday/First Communion
Worship Service

Good Friday, March 29

7:00 PM Community Service at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Beldenville

Easter Sunday, March 31

8:30 AM Worship

10:00 AM Worship

Cinnamon Rolls and Coffee after each service



**Feed My Starving
Children**



What's Inside:

- † Pastor's Article
- † Church News
- † Youth News
- † Council Notes
- † Financial Update
- † Council Minutes
- † Prayer List
- † Church Calendar
- † Miscellaneous





Greetings,

How has your Lenten journey been so far? Are you keeping up with the promises that you made at the start of Lent? Or have you “fallen off the wagon?” How long did it take for you to go back to your old habits? How many of you had broken your promises by the end of the first week of Lent? “Tsk, tsk, shame, shame, everyone knows your name!” Is a taunt that a fellow cook used to say to us when we would make a mistake on someone’s order. You may think that it was said to shame us for making a mistake, but she said it in a playful manner. We all make mistakes sometimes and there is no shame in that. It is who we are as human beings.

On the bulletin board above my computer, I have a copy of “A Sacristy Prayer” by Martin Luther.

“Lord God, You have appointed me as a Bishop and Pastor in Your Church, but you see how unsuited I am to meet so great and difficult a task. If I had lacked Your help, I could have ruined everything long ago. Therefore, I call upon You: I wish to devote my mouth and my heart to you; I shall teach the people. I myself will learn and ponder diligently upon Your Word. Use me as Your instrument — but do not forsake me, for if ever I should be on my own, I would easily wreck it all.”

I received it as an ordination gift from a fellow pastor and it is to remind me that it’s not me, but God that is in charge of this show.

Martin Luther knew well of his shortcomings, that he was a broken and sinful human being and that without God, he could not do anything good or right. “If I had lacked Your help, I could have ruined everything long ago.” Oh, how that holds true for me. For many years, I tried to do it my own way and I left a path of destruction in my wake. I thought that I knew better than God and that I could do it all on my own, but it only left with me crushing defeat and hopelessness. I was lost and had no idea where to turn. Now, throughout the years, I had always had my faith, it had ebbed and flowed through the good and bad times. And it was in those darkest days, when my drinking was at its worst, my hope was at its lowest point, and I was deep in depression and the darkness was so overwhelming that I could finally see a tiny speck of light. I had fallen to my knees in despair and darkness that I was finally ready to see the light and listen to God’s call. I knew that it wasn’t coming from me, because I would have told myself to crack open a Miller Lite and drown out that voice. For some reason, I didn’t, and I look back on the fateful day in November with awe that I didn’t do that. That I had been called out of the darkness.

Now, that’s not to say that everything after that went perfectly, there have been and still are many trials and tribulations in life. I struggled with sobriety. I still struggle to be the husband that my wife needs, the father that Marcus needs, the son that my parents need, the brother that my siblings need, the pastor that you need. But I do know one thing, that God has been there, guiding me along the way and I constantly asked God, do not forsake me, for if I ever should be on my own again, I would easily wreck it all. In other words, Lord, don’t leave it up to me because I will make a bigger mess than a baby with his first cupcake. I sure am glad that God is on our side and by our side in this journey of life and enjoy your Lenten journey!

God bless you!

Pastor Pete



CHURCH NEWS

Women's Bible Study

Will be held Wednesday, March 13th at 9:30 a.m., in the Fireside room.
Your hostess is Vicki Nelson.

We all have storms in our lives. Hardships happen to everyone. How are we going to live our earthly lives?

Come and join us.
Nancy Ellefson



Palm Sunday Potluck Brunch

Sunday, March 24, 2024
After Church

Join us after church on Palm Sunday for a Potluck Brunch! Please sign up to bring in a dish to share and/or help setup, serve, and cleanup

First Communion Class

Saturday, March 23, 2024
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Why do we eat the body and drink the blood of Jesus? Is it really Jesus' body? Because it looks like bread to me. What happens when we go participate in communion on Sunday mornings? These are some of the things that we will cover in our First Communion Class. First Communion class is open to all kids whose parents feel that they are ready for communion. We will learn about communion, make communion bread and have a great time getting to know one another! Contact the church office to sign up for our First Communion Class! Lunch will be included, and we will make home-made pizzas.



Lenten Soup Suppers

We will continue to serve soup suppers during Lent, and need volunteers to bring soup and dessert! We will need enough soup to fill a roaster.

A sign up sheet is located in the back of the sanctuary. Please note what kind of soup you will be bringing.



March 6, 13, 20

Soup Supper begins at 6:00 p.m.

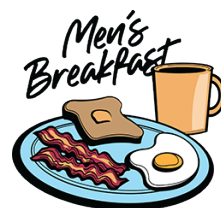
Worship begins at 7:00 p.m.

We look forward to seeing everyone.

Men's Breakfast

Pastor Pete is cooking breakfast on Thursday mornings for the guys. They will gather in the church kitchen at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast with a rotating menu, including fruit, coffee and orange juice.

The suggested donation is \$5.00 to help cover the cost of food.



Sharing Shed

Please remember English Lutheran's Sharing Shed for your extra or no longer needed items.

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

Thank you!

CHURCH NEWS

In Loving Memory

Kenneth Kinneman passed away February 7, 2024. A memorial service was held at English Lutheran Church, February 13, 2024.

Rob Mathis passed away February 12, 2024. A memorial service was held February 16, 2024 at English Lutheran Church.

Please send prayers to the friends and families who have lost their loved ones.

Holy Week Worship Services

Maundy Thursday/First Communion Service
Thursday, March 28, 2024
7:00 PM Here at English Lutheran Church

Community Good Friday Service
Friday, March 29, 2024
7:00 PM
At Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Beldenville, WI

Easter Morning Worship Services
Sunday, March 31, 2024
8:30 AM & 10:00 AM
Cinnamon rolls and coffee after each worship service.

thank you

Thanks to the 2023 out going Congregation Council Members for your dedication to English Lutheran Church:

Eric VanNocker
Melba Smith
Gary Brown

Holy Baptism



Hayes Leon Matteson became our brother in Christ through Holy Baptism on Sunday, February 18th at 9:00 a.m.

Hayes' parents are Jason and Madelyne Matteson. Hayes' sponsors are Kyle Weston and McKenzie Budrow.

We celebrate and welcome our newest member to the Body of Christ.

Welcome, Hayes!



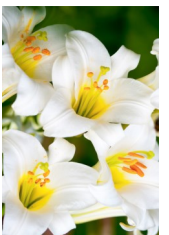
English Lutheran Church's
2024 Congregation Council
Members:

President - Greta Larson
Vice President - Mark Groen
Treasurer - Paul Tonsager
Secretary - Jill Hague and Denise Hager
Members-at-large - Dennis Swanson &
Lynette Winger

Easter Flowers have been ordered

The church received 42 orders of various Easter flowers and plants.

NOTE: The plants will be marked on the backside of the pot with the name of the purchaser.



English Lutheran Church Council Minutes January 16,
2024

Present: Pastor Pete, Melba Smith, Gary Brown, Lynette Winger, Denise Hager, and Greta Larson.

I. Opening

1. The Meeting was called to order by Melba Smith, Vice-President.
2. Our Mission Statement was read aloud by all.
3. Greta Larson led devotions.
4. A motion was made to approve the January agenda. – MSC
5. Approval of the December minutes – MSC

II. Old Business

1. Annual Meeting Planning. We reviewed the draft agenda, discussed the proposed content, and planned for the meeting.
2. Budget. We reviewed the updated budget in connection with the annual meeting. A motion was made to present the budget to the Congregation at the annual meeting. - MSC
3. Gary Brown created a PPT that discusses the timeline of events and discussions that led to considering the sale of the land as a discussion topic at the annual meeting. We will post and make the PPT available to anyone interested. We hope to have congregation members review the materials in advance, consider, and plan to discuss at the annual meeting.
4. Tammy Rieck shared the following:
I'd like to thank the ELC Council for the opportunity to explore the "Communications Coordinator" position. At this time I've decided the position is more than I care to tackle at this point in my life therefore I've made the decision to fully retire on February 15th. The Council is drafting a new position title and job description which will be posted online to find the right candidate for this position. If you know someone looking for a part-time position, please have them apply online, reach out to a council member or church office.

III. New Business

1. Administrative Assistant Search. We are posting the position as a part-time administrative assistant. Experience in strongly preferred. Interested candidates should send resume to: Greta @ bartels372@gmail.com

IV. Reports

1. Treasurer's/Finance report provided and discussed. A motion was made to approve the Finance/Treasurer Report. MSC
2. Pastor Pete submitted a verbal report. Pastor shared the Christmas season was wonderful. The holiday services, music and kindness shared were appreciated by all. Pastor has been busy connecting with other Pastors in our community and hosted the group on January 16, 2024.
3. Property. Pastor and Gary Brown will continue to assist with the automatic door project.
4. Children, Youth & Family. The Committee is meeting later this month.
5. Stewardship. Melba Smith leads this Committee and will work with Lynette Wingler who will join her on the Committee through January 2025.
6. Endowment Committee. Received.
7. Worship and Music. The Committee is meeting next week to plan for Lent and Easter seasons.
8. Memorial & Gifts. Received.
9. Nominating Committee. Continues to seek nominations for 2024-25 Council Members.
10. Church Council will meet next on February 20, 2024.
11. Council closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Financial Update

January 31, 2024 Cash Balances

General Fund = \$113,878.72
Dedicated Fund = \$78,949.25
Total = \$192,827.97
Thrivent = \$101,849.34

January General Fund Balance

Income = \$17,732.86
Expenses = \$22,628.42

The next finance meeting is March 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School

Children ages 3 through 6th grade can join us on Sunday mornings following communion during the worship service for about 30 minutes. Times will be 9:45 to 10:15 a.m. Children will worship with their families and then when they go up for communion or a blessing with their families they will be dismissed with their teachers to classrooms. Class times will include some large group lesson time, large group activity, and music.

Important Dates:

Sunday School: March 3, 17, 24

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	4	5	6 6:00 pm Lenten Supper 7:00 pm Midweek Lenten Service	7 8am Men's Breakfast	8	9
10 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship	11	12 6:30pm Finance Meeting	13 9:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Lenten Supper	14 8am Men's Breakfast	15 Deadline for Newsletter Articles	16
17 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship	18	19 6:30 Church Council Meeting	20 6:00 pm Lenten Supper 7:00 pm Midweek Lenten Service	21 8am Men's Breakfast	22	23 10:00 am—2:00 PM First Communion Class
24 9:00 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Potluck Brunch downstairs	25	26	27	28 NO Breakfast 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday/ First Communion Worship Service	29 7:00 PM Community Good Friday Service @ Our Savior's Beldenville	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY!!! 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship						



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

Staff

Pastor Pete Warren

pastorpete@englishlutheranchurch.org
218-760-6974

Administrative Assistant: Denise Anderson

office@englishlutheranchurch.org
Office: 715-273-4617

Custodian: Julie Baggenstoss

Music Director: Missy Kowalchyk

music@englishlutheranchurch.org

Finance Administrator & Accompanist: Ava Maxwell

finance@englishlutheranchurch.org



Healing:

Grady Moquin
Elaine Hines
Mallorie Daleiden
Phyllis Kinneman
Liz Krohn
Mikey Krohn
Tucker Thoen
Larry Larabee
Dean Mewes
Judy Nunn

Military service:

Johnathan Bergman
Josh Bechel

For this
months ran-
dom act of
kindness, we
are asking that
you “pay it for-
ward” to some-
one you see.



Monday-Thursday
9:00 to 3:00



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.

The Deaconess for March is Vicki Nelson

Long-term:

Steve Pieczykolan, Linda During's Brother-in-law
Lila Larson
Sherry York
Judy Morrow
Deb Pierce, Trina Groen's Mom ~ Alzheimer's
Tomi Erlandson ~ Seizures & Health
Marianne Melstrom
Mary Dee Prokop, Mother of Eileen Mewes
Wendy Wegerer
Janet Arndt
Jim Hines