

Sundays and Beyond

March 2024
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
ELCA



Friends in Christ,

As you are reading these words we will be starting the month of March, and I think many are hoping that March will bring an early spring 😊. While we can hope, no one knows for sure what kind of weather March will bring, but one thing that March does certainly bring us is the season of Lent. From the conversations that I have had about Lent, it seems that many believe that Lent is just a somber season where we give something up that we enjoy making ourselves miserable for forty days. I know I heard things like that about Lent when I was growing up. However, in recent years I've learned that Lent is actually a beautiful season in the church year. During Lent

God offers us some great opportunities as a church and as Christians and I'd like to use the space in this news-letter page to explore some of the opportunities that we have during Lent.

Lent is a season that emphasizes many things. Two of them that I will be focusing on in this article are prayer and getting away from self-indulgence. Most Christians chose to give up something that they enjoy during Lent in order to turn away from our self-indulgence. However, I've discovered that taking up a faith practice during Lent is often more helpful for moving us beyond selfishness. For example, rather than giving up watching tv or eating sweets during Lent, you could instead set aside some extra time for doing things like reading scripture or praying every day. You could also try giving just a little bit more of your time, talents, and possessions to helping God's work. You could even practice spending extra time with family and friends during Lent.

Lent is also a season that emphasizes prayer. Prayer is important because it helps us get past our own opinions and desires by helping us to see how God is challenging us to be more faithful. As a congregation we must always be discerning God's will and what God is calling us to do as God's people in the church. We must also always be discerning how God is calling us to care for the needs of the world. We must also always be discerning how God is calling us to grow as a congregation and at the same time to remain faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Finally, we must also always be discerning how God is calling us to reach out and share the love of Christ. Prayer is a key component in helping us discern all of these things.

Prayer is also important for our lives. Prayer provides us with assurance of the mercy, forgiveness, love, and grace that God always freely gives to us in Jesus Christ. Prayer reminds us of all the promises that we have in Jesus Christ and that we have been claimed as God's children no matter what. Prayer also helps us to discern where we need healing in our lives and how we're called to reach out to others. Lent presents us with an opportunity to dive deeper into the world of prayer so we can continue to discover who God is calling us to be as disciples and together as the church.

I hope this shows you how Lent offers us some great opportunities as disciples. Through emphasis on prayer and getting past self-indulgence, Lent offers us some great ways that we can feed our faith and grow more deeply into God's people. God is always reaching out to us with love and grace, and this Lenten season we can dive into that love and grace together.

Shalom to you in Christ,
Pastor Eric

Recently East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Council voted to sponsor the Cambridge Food Pantry in purchasing a van that will be used for food pickups.



East Koshkonong will be participating with the Cambridge Food Pantry and other area churches in providing Easter Food Baskets for those experiencing food insecurity. This year, we are collecting 75 cans of *any brand* of fried onions. The last day for collection will be March 17, 2024. Food baskets will be distributed at the Food Pantry on March 20 and March 27. If you or anyone you know has a need for an Easter basket, please contact the Cambridge Food Pantry at 608-423-8142.

Alive Night

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

The South-Central Synod of Wisconsin is excited to offer a new youth ministry program—"Alive" Youth Night, a series of youth-focused events for middle and high school students and youth leaders from synod congregations. All congregations are invited to join from 5:30 p.m. – ~7:30 p.m. for an evening of dinner, games, icebreakers, fun, worship and music. East's current Confirmation class will be attending the next event and we also hope to have a group of our high school youth attend as well. Parents, please let Pastor Eric know if you have questions or if you have student interested in attending.

The next event will be Wednesday, April 24, 2024 @ Evangelical Lutheran (Mt. Horeb)

February Council Meeting:
Monday, March 18, following
Annual Meeting

Bring in your Piggly Wiggly Receipts!
The CAMBRIDGE Piggly Wiggly donates a
percentage of Piggly Wiggly dollars to
EKLC from your receipts collected in the
Church Narthex.



You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below. All donations are secured through Vanco. Thank you for your generous offering in this way! Online giving directions: With all of these options, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

Option 1: Go to www.eastkoshkonong.org and click on Donate. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 2: Scan this QR code with your smartphone. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 3: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.

If you don't have online access for this giving option, you are welcome to fill out a form from the church office: 608-423-3017 or eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com
OFFERINGS ARE ALSO ALWAYS APPRECIATED BY
MAILING TO: EAST KOSHKONONG LUTHERAN
CHURCH, 454 EAST CHURCH ROAD, CAMBRIDGE,
WI 53523

2024 COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Denise Rockney

VICE-PRESIDENT: Oren Hammes

SECRETARY: Linda Hanson

TREASURER: Ron Knapwurst

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Amy Hensel, Peggy Luther, Hal Schuh

*If you need to speak to a council member
please call the church office to leave a
message and they will return your call.*

Treasurer's Report

January 2024 Income: \$22,531.73

Expense: \$35,812.90

January 2023 Income: \$21,751.69

Expense: \$28,636.62

YTD 2024 Income: \$22,531.73

Expense: \$35,812.90

YTD 2023 Income: \$21,751.69

Expense: \$28,636.62

We have sound amplifying devices available in the usher stand in the narthex. Instructions for use are in the basket with the devices, as well as saniwipes for wiping off the ear bud after use. Please turn off the device after use to conserve the batteries. Thank you!

Dear Members of East Koshkonong Church,

Thank you so much for your generous support of the Cambridge Food Pantry. I feel so blessed to be able to work with such a caring and generous group of people. You all inspire me to work harder and to continue to give to this community, even on days when that is not so easy to do 😊. I am truly grateful.

Thank you!
Kerry



Deepest sympathies to the families of Larry Peterson and Sara Depies.



Maundy Thursday Worship March 28 7 PM

Good Friday Worship March 29 3 PM

Easter worship March 31

Upper Church Sunrise Service 6:30 AM

Lower Church 9 AM

Lenten soup suppers continue until March 20th. Supper begins at 6:30pm and worship begins at 7pm.

Pastor Eric and Pastor Jennifer provide ashes on the go for Ash Wednesday.



Blue Jay Backpack Time is Coming Soon!



EKLC will once again be participating in the Blue Jay Backpack program through the Cambridge Food Pantry. We will be collecting foods to provide meals for students during Easter break at the end of March. Please watch for additional details and a list of the items needed in the next couple of weeks!



News from the Church basement--

Happy March! Lent began early, and we'll see Easter by the end of the month. Thanks to the Altar Guild and circle folks who take such good care of us and our sanctuary - setting up and clearing up after communion, providing flowers, and generally making sure things are running smoothly. Joy circle was serving us in February, and Light Circle takes the duties in March. We take these things for granted, and are truly grateful for the folks who take the lead here. Thanks also to those who take care of our buildings and grounds. Thanks to the Meals on Wheels delivery folks, for keeping that going, and to all who are participating in the food pantry needs for this month. Thanks to those who helped serve the funeral last month. It truly takes a village!!! Soup suppers are moving along, and thank you to those who are providing those meals, and to the Worship committee for doing the serving.

Work continues in the church basement, and as always, we are gratefully accepting fabrics and quilt tops and workers for Pin and Sew mornings. We are usually there on the first and third Thursday mornings, and appreciate company! Our next Pin and Sew will be on Thursday, March 7 with a regular meeting of the Women of East taking place with coffee served about 9:30 AM. There's always room at the table for more.

Easter Blessings to you all. Communicator Carolyn

The Church is looking for help on Sundays after worship to help count the offering money. If you are interested, please contact the church office or Joy Graffin.

EKLC Homebound Members

Melissa Anderson

279 Hwy A, Cambridge, WI 53523

Bea Householder ~ Home Again

308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523

Gary Johnson ~ Home Again

308 England St, Cambridge, WI 53523

Arlen Lund~ Home Again

308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523

Wilma Furseth

1000 Ridge St 3B Stoughton, WI 53589

Betsy Calhoun

10702 W Hwy 14 Evansville, WI 53536

Belva Anderson

201 W Madison St Cambridge, WI 53523

Joan Volenberg

2315 Hwy W Cambridge, WI 53523

Edward & Linda Melton

1316 Vennevoll Dr Stoughton, WI
53589

Recipe Books Still Available

We had a very good response to our recipe book sale this year. We still have about 15 books left.

If you are interested in purchasing a book, please contact Marilyn Gunderson (423-3876). The cost is \$15.00. If you write a check for payment, please write it to WELCA.

Worship Helpers for March 2024

In-Person and Virtual Worship Every Sunday at 9:00am with communion

If you are unable to serve on a date you are scheduled please make every effort to find a replacement. If you have any questions or concerns please communicate with the appropriate contact person.

Thank you!

Organist~ Judy Rusch

Assisting Ministers~ (Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

3/3 ~ Carolyn Lien
3/10 ~ Holly Loomis
3/17 ~ Vicki Schuh
3/24 ~ Gloria Fruit
3/28 ~ (Maundy Thursday 7pm) Carolyn Lien
3/29 ~ (Good Friday TBD) No Assistant Needed
3/31 ~ (Easter) Upper Church 6:30am ~ Vicki Schuh
Lower Church gam ~ Carolyn Lien

Lay Readers~ (Contact Person:)

3/3 ~ Bobbie Rawinski
3/10 ~ Jane Furseth
3/17 ~ Anders Amundson
3/24 ~ Carolyn Lien
3/28 ~ (Maundy Thursday 7pm) Don Amundson
3/29 ~ (Good Friday 3pm) No Reader Needed
3/31 ~ (Easter) Upper Church 6:30am~ Trudy Spike
Lower Church gam ~ Holly Loomis

Acolytes ~ (Contact: Pastor Eric)

3/3 ~ Kyle Durkee
3/10 ~ Casey Travis
3/17 ~ Tanner Furseth
3/24 ~ Rylie Mancheski
3/28 ~ (Maundy Thursday 7pm) Morgan Rockney
3/29 ~ (Good Friday 3pm) No Acolyte Needed
3/31 ~ (Easter) Upper Church 6:30am ~ Kyle Durkee
Lower Church gam ~ Payton Mancheski

Greeters~ (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

3/3 ~ Gloria Fruit
3/10 ~ The Terland Family
3/17 ~ Karen Hayes
3/24 ~ Tom & Trudy Spike
3/28 ~ (Maundy Thursday 7pm) Don & Eileen Hoehn
3/29 ~ (Good Friday 3pm) Franklin & Beverly Lien
3/31 ~ (Easter) Upper Church ~ Marilyn Gunderson
Lower Church ~ Kurt & Barb Klemp

Ushers~ (Contact Person: Vicki Schuh)

3/3 ~ Carolyn Lien & Holly Loomis
3/10 ~ Bjorn & Elizabeth Kaashagen
3/17 ~ Ron & Nancy Knapwurst
3/24 ~ Amundson Family
3/28 ~ (Maundy Thursday 7pm) Curt & Barb Klemp
3/29 ~ (Good Friday 3pm) Buddy & Beverly Lien
3/31 ~ (Easter) Upper Church 6:30am ~ Jane Furseth &
Diane Luginbuhl
Lower Church gam ~ Henry Furseth Family

Communion Set-up/Take-down~

(Contact Person: Marge Stach)

Altar Guild

Offering Counters~ (Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

3/3 ~ Jean Lehr & Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel
3/10 ~ Joy Graffin & Gloria Fruit
3/17 ~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl & Diane Luginbuhl
3/24 ~ Jean Lehr & Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel
3/31 ~ (Easter) Joy Graffin & Gloria Fruit
(Volunteers are needed to lock up offering after Wednesday night Lenten services , Maundy Thursday at 7pm and Good Friday at 3pm. There will be a 6:30am service at Upper Church and gam at Lower Church. Will need a volunteer to lock up the 6:30am service offering.)

Coffee Hour~ (Contact: Sign-up in Kitchen)

3/3 ~ Sunday School
3/10 ~
3/17 ~
3/24 ~
3/31 ~ (Easter) Upper Church ~
Lower Church ~

Church Lock up~ (Contact Person: Holly Loomis)

3/3 ~ Carolyn Lien
3/10 ~ Holly Loomis
3/17 ~ Gloria Fruit
3/24 ~ Vicki Schuh
3/28 ~ (Maundy Thursday 7pm) Carolyn Lien
3/29 ~ (Good Friday 3pm) TBD
3/31 ~ (Easter) Upper Church 6:30am ~ Vicki Schuh
Lower Church gam ~ Carolyn Lien

March 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	4	5 10am The Chosen Bible Study 6:00pm Worship Committee Meeting	6 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm Lenten Supper 7:00pm Worship	7	8 Office Closed	9
10 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	11	12 6:00pm Education meeting	13 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm Lenten Supper 7:00pm Worship	14	15 Office Closed	16
17 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	18 6:00pm Council Meeting	19 10am The Chosen Bible Study	20 5:30pm Worship 6:15pm Lenten Supper 7:00pm Worship	21	22 Office Closed	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	25	26	27	28 Maundy Thursday 7:00pm Worship	29 Good Friday 3:00pm Worship	30
31 Easter 6:30am Worship Upper Church 9:00am Wor- ship Lower Church						

EKLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 15, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:06 pm

Attendance By Zoom: Denise Rockney, Hal Schuh, Linda Hanson, Oren Hammes, Don Amundson, Pastor Eric

Agenda: The agenda was approved.

Devotions: Pastor. Martin Luther King Day: The Power of Love

Financials: Don moved to approve December financials as presented. 2nd by Linda. Motion Carried

Review of committee reports:

Reports received: Pastors report.

Motion to approve reports – Don. 2nd –Oren . Motion carried

Review and approval of minutes from last council meeting: Motion to approve –Oren.. 2nd –Don. Motion carried

Old Business

1. Thank you: Pastor sent thank you to Jamie in Iowa for her much appreciated help with secretarial duties: ie: bulletins, newsletters. Denise will follow up with another thank you.

2. No new members

3. Don spoke with confirmation class on January 10 about service on council.

4. Camera system update – Oren

Oren presented a proposal from Peak Systems for an upgrade to our audio and video systems. Our audio system is estimated to be 25 years old, so is in need of an upgrade. Quote includes installation, training, and 1 year warranty.

Don made a motion to approve the purchase of audio and video equipment per the proposal. 2nd by Oren. Discussion: We would like to have a demonstration of the video portion of the proposal. Oren made a motion to amend Don's motion to read "approval of the audio portion of the proposal and table the video at this time. The audio equipment will also include a standup microphone and a handheld microphone. 50% down and 50% upon completion. Don 2nd the amended motion. Motion carried. Oren will follow up and also request video demonstration.

5. Development Group

Upon request, Curt Hanson answered questions regarding bank financing available for the proposed upgrades to the Upper Church. Approved Marilyn Gunderson's request for a letter to the congregation and vote at annual meeting for the upgrades and improvements.

Denise will make an announcement at the annual meeting to readdress the development group working on needs for the lower church.

6. Maintenance

1. Black topping needs and quotes tabled for further discussion until March.

Continued on page 9....

Continued...

2. Hal sent a letter to Ace Construction from Dalton regarding needed repairs and maintenance to the lower church exterior. (Bell towers, windows, etc)
7. New Orleans Mission Trip, 2024
1 person has confirmed interest. Other options will be discussed at education meeting.
8. Ron Knapwurst (Trust Fund Committee) will present procedures for moving memorials from general fund to the trust fund.
9. Annual meeting – February 11, 2024
Deadline for reports is January 14.
Leader – Denise
Attendance – Jim Rockney
Microphone – Hal
Minutes – Don

New Business

1. Don will be available on February 4 at fellowship for questions and answers on budget.
2. Review Office Assistant job description
3. It is our 180th anniversary of the congregation this year. Ideas?
Syttende Mai parade? Separate committee. Ask for volunteers at annual meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Don. 2nd Oren
Adjourned 8:10 pm

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: February 11 following annual meeting

THE CHOSEN – A BIBLE STUDY

For the last several weeks a group of about a dozen people have been enjoying a Bible Study of The Chosen. It is a group of stories based on the Gospels, but portrayed by actors and enhanced with the addition of some fictional script. We meet at 10:00 am on Tuesdays (weather permitting). If you would like to join in, you can come anytime. All are welcome!



Thank you all for sharing your time and talents with us in Skaelen during month of January! I enjoyed seeing you and glad to have you "up here" for time together yesterday!
Blessings, Wilma

East Koshkonong Lutheran Church

454 East Church Road
Cambridge, WI 53523

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Tel: 608-423-3017

E-mail: eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.eastkoshkonong.org

WORSHIP WITH US

**AT 9:00AM
SUNDAY MORNINGS**

- ⇒ IN-PERSON
- ⇒ YOUTUBE
- ⇒ FACEBOOK

In person at 5:30pm Wednesdays

TO WATCH WORSHIP ON YOUTUBE or FACEBOOK:

YOUTUBE: Go to East Koshkonong Lutheran Church" or the email eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com.

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday

YOUTUBE: Go to East Koshkonong Lutheran Church" or the email eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com.

Remember to like the videos and subscribe to the channel! <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUv6MDQV54yCWz6oIGWezw>

FACEBOOK PAGE – Please "Like" us on East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Facebook!

In case of severe weather, you may contact the following resources to learn about cancellations at East Koshkonong

- church office @ 423-3017 (A message will be left on the office answering system as soon as a cancellation is made)
- web site, www.eastkoshkonong.org