

Sunday and Beyond



East Koshkonong

Lutheran Church

Gather • Be Glad • Grow • Go • With Grace

August 2026

Friends in Christ,

Years ago, The Institute for American Church Growth reached out to thousands of church members from all around the country and asked them why they joined a particular congregation. Over 70% of the respondents answered that it was because “a friend or relative invited me”. For some perspective on that number, the next highest response on this survey for why someone joined a congregation was that they “walked-in” for worship on their own one day, with only about 8% of those surveyed offering that response for why they joined a congregation. Since the time of this study, others have been done seeking to find the reason why someone joined a congregation, and in all of them the number one response is that someone they know who was a member of that congregation invited them. Throughout my experience as a Rostered Leader, I’ve also found the conclusions of these studies to be fairly accurate, as many members who’ve joined the congregations at which I’ve served have done so at the friendly invitation of someone that they knew. Now all of that being said, denominational tracking over the years has discovered that on average ELCA church members invite someone they know to come to worship only about once every 20 years, or just once every two decades. Keep in mind that statistic isn’t about how often people have tried giving a theological sales pitch or asked someone really personal faith questions, it’s simply how often have ELCA church members invited someone they know to come to worship. Let me be clear that I’m in no way bringing all of this up to make anyone feel guilty or to cause anybody panic, and I hope that’s not how anyone responds to my words here. Rather, I bring all of this up, to show the power that a simple friendly invitation has, and with that to ask you to consider who you know that you could invite to come and experience the good news of Jesus Christ?

Shalom to you in Christ,

Pastor Eric.

Pastor Eric will be out of the office
on vacation August 31–September 6.
There will be **NO Wednesday night**
service on Wednesday September 2.



Invite a Neighbor to Church

EKLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 23, 2026

Meeting called to order by President Kurt Klemp at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Kurt Klemp, Kreg Gruben, Cal Reuterskiold, Denise Rockney via phone, Anders Amundson, Diane Ash, Amy Hensel, Pastor Eric Hanson, Financial Secretary Judy Lund.

Devotion: Pastor Eric shared his appreciation of being able to experience Lutherdale with the confirmation kids and led us in prayer blessing the congregation and all involved in the experience.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNCIL MINUTES:

Financials: Benevolence checks were written out in April; no memorial offerings for the month of May. A very generous donation in the amount of \$8000 was made for future landscaping needs for the lower church was deposited in May – thank you to our generous donors!

Denise made a motion to approve financial reports, seconded by Diane, and carried.

May Council Minutes: Approved.

Pastor's Report: Upper church worship services will continue on the first Sunday of each month during the summer (July 5, August 2, September 6); September 13 will be an outdoor service for Rally Sunday; Lutherdale confirmation camp was June 15-19; confirmation Sunday is planned for October 4.

Motion to approve May minutes and Pastor's report made by Diane, seconded by Kreg, and carried.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

1. Landscaping: With the recent donation to help with landscaping, we are brainstorming ideas for low-maintenance plants/shrubs to fill in where the previous were removed – any landscaping ideas are welcome!
2. Handrails & Lighting: We plan to get a handrail up along in the east entrance of the lower church where there is the most foot traffic. While lighting the walkways isn't a pressing issue during the summer months, we would like to make sure there is adequate lighting for evening services and events.
3. Church Sign: The EKLC sign has been primed, painted, framed and put back up in the front of the church. Thank you, Diane and Joe Ash!!
4. Road Signs: 3 new beautiful roadside signs have been put up by the family of Harriet Eikland to help direct people to EKLC.
5. Parsonage Lease/Insurance Updates: The insurance premiums increased 6% this year, which covers all church properties, including the parsonage. We continue to keep in mind that there are likely many major expenses for the parsonage on the horizon (roof, furnace/ac, water heater) and we are trying to break-even with parsonage income versus expenses, especially as insurance and taxes continue to increase.
6. Thank You's: We've received thank you notes from Fort Atkinson Food Pantry, Edgerton Community Outreach, Lutheran Services in America, Navaj Lutheran Mission, Cambridge Food Pantry and Cambridge Area Resource Team, each expressing appreciation for our generous benevolence contributions.
7. Audit Committee: We have one volunteer but need one additional volunteer from the congregation to serve as an auditor on the church's audit committee. Audit committee typically meets once in the fall. If anyone is interested, please reach out to a council member.
8. Lutherdale Camp: 9 confirmation students attended Lutherdale Confirmation Camp from June 15-19 and it sounds like everyone had a great time. Keep an eye out for photos in the newsletter.
9. Birthday Celebration: The family and friends of Ruth Bovre will be hosting a birthday celebration during fellowship on Sunday, June 28 to celebrate Ruthie's 90th Birthday! Happy Birthday, Ruth!

Next Meeting: Monday, July 20 @ 6:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 6:46 p.m. made by Kreg, seconded by Cal, and carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

FOR CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT FAMILIES FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Monday August 10th 4:00pm-7:00pm
CES (Cambridge Elementary)
802 W Water Street Cambridge

No need to pre-register. Pull into circle and we will bring supplies out to you
contact Kristin Gowan for more info: 608.213.5819 | kgowan@cambridge.k12.wi.us



To donate:

cash or check are most helpful this year:
payable to cambridge school district

Bring to
School District Office
403 Blue Jay Way
608.423.4345 for hours

Most Needed Supplies:

high school-aged backpacks
scientific calculators (TI 30x)
graph composition notebooks
college-ruled spiral notebooks
sharpies markers
expo markers
post-it notes
jumbo glue sticks
scissors
Crayola colored pencils
Crayola markers

Supplies appreciated by Wednesday August 5th

drop off at these Cambridge locations:

School District Office
Cambridge Elementary
or call to arrange for pick up



HELPING OUR CAMBRIDGE STUDENTS START THE YEAR EQUIPPED TO SUCCEED!

FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST:

Hearty Soups, Manwich/Sloppy Joe, Cereal,
Coffee, Crackers, Cookies, Hamburger Helper,
Salad Dressing, Ketchup/Mustard, Cleaning
Supplies (dish soap, laundry soap), Personal Care
Items (Feminine products, shampoo, conditioner,
deodorant).

Donation bin is located outside of the lower-level
middle school/food pantry entrance and monetary
donations are gladly accepted via the Food Pantry
website

<https://cambridgecap.net/programs/nutrition/food-pantry/> or by mail to P.O. Box 54, Cambridge WI

Standard hours of operation (staffed times)
(608) 423-8142

- **Monday:** 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM & 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- **Tuesday:** Closed
- **Wednesday:** 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
(shopping hours) & 3:30 PM – 6:00 PM
(appointment-based service)
- **Thursday:** 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- **Friday–Sunday:** Closed



September 13, 2026

We're preparing for our rally Sunday on September 13; weather permitting, we'll have outdoor worship that morning. You can bring your own chairs, but we'll also have some chairs available to use as well. Our fun on the prairie event will take place after worship with fun activities and food for people of all ages.



A special Thanks to everyone for all the beautiful cards and gifts for my 90th birthday.

I appreciate all of them.

Thank You.

Ruth Bovre



Confirmation Room

We're in need of an extra sofa or love seat for the Confirmation Room. Please contact the office if you know or someone you know has one that you'd be willing to part with for this purpose.





EKLC Homebound Members

Melissa Anderson 279 Hwy A,
Cambridge, WI 53523

Bea Householder ~ Home Again 308 England
St., Cambridge, WI 53523

Mickey Farrar ~ Home Again 308 England St.,
Cambridge, WI 53523

Betty Gunnelson ~ Home Again 308 England
St., Cambridge, WI 53523

Wilma Furseth 305 Heritage Center, 400 N
Morris St, Stoughton, WI 53589

Betsy Calhoun 10702 W Hwy 14
Evansville, WI 53536

Joan Volenberg 2315 Hwy W Cambridge, WI
53523

Edward & Linda Melton 400 N Morris St,
Stoughton, WI 53589

Joan Kaare ~ Home Again 308 England St.,
Cambridge, WI 53523



*To the Family of
Hans Christensen*



News from the church basement:

Here we are at the end of summer already, and we have much to accomplish by September. Work has been ongoing, finding supplies and packing for Lutheran World Relief. We have 34 personal care kits packed and are starting on the school kits.

Quilts have been displayed on the pews upstairs for visitors and us to admire! Thanks to all who have contributed to this effort. Bonnie has entertained a couple busloads of visitors, with more to come in August.

Diane L., Kristen L., and I attended Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering in Des Moines, Iowa last month and enjoyed meeting friends new and old. Our Bible study leader was Reverend Sara Olson-Smith, from Davenport, who wrote one of our previous studies, and whom we enjoyed very much. We heard from many speakers and workshop leaders, and traded gifts with other delegates. We had bookmarks and pencils to trade and received many interesting little things in return. Thanks to all who covered our assignments while we were away.

Our next Pin and Sew will occur on August 6, beginning at 8 AM with coffee break at 9:30 (very important), and we'll be finished by noon. We will be packing in early September with the help of the confirmation students and their parents. Thank you to all of them. It takes a village at East to tend to this important work.

Our schedule with Cambridge Meals on Wheels will begin on September 7, so that is on the front burner, also.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. God Bless you.

Communicator Carolyn





The Son's of Norway stopped by on July 15th when the temps were in upper 90's. They didn't let the heat dampen their enthusiasm to learn about the history of the Upper Church.

A lot of work went into preparing for this visit.

Thank you to all who help make this possible.

Next month we will be hosting a Luncheon for the Son's of Norway.



Worship Helpers for August

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

Assistant Minister -Contact Person - Joy Graffin

August 2 Kyle Durkee *Upper Church*

August 9 Trudy Spike

August 16 Holly Loomis

August 23 Carolyn Lien

August 30 Vicki Schuh

Lay Reader Contact Person - Holly Loomis

August 2 Holly Loomis * Upper Church*

August 9 Bobbie Rawinski

August 16 Jane Furseth

August 23 Joy Graffin

August 30 Anders Amundson

Acolytes Contact Person – Pastor Eric

August 2 Tess Marchant *Upper Church*

August 9 Lena Skjolaas

August 16 Josie Lund

August 23 Elyn Wierzba

August 30 Caitlin Terland

Greeters Contact Person – Judy Rusch

August 2 Kory & Diane Luginbuhl *Upper Church*

August 9 Peggy Luther

August 16 Buddy & Beverly Lien

August 23 Rosenthal Family

August 30 Kurt & Barb Klemp

Ushers Contact Person - Vicki Schuh

August 2 Ron & Nancy Knapwurst *Upper Church*

August 9 Lane & Judy Taylor

August 16 Curt & Linda Hanson

August 23 Amundson Family

August 30 Don & Eileen Hoehn

Offering Counters Contact Person – Joy Graffin

August 2 Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl, Diane Ash

August 9 Joy Graffin & Andy Christensen

August 16 Diane Ash, Cheryl & Eric Nuenthel

August 23 Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl, Jean Lehr

August 30 Joy Graffin & Andy Christensen

Coffee Hour – Sign-up in Kitchen

August 2-Upper Church

August 9

August 16

August 23 - Joy Circle

August 30

Church Council

COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Kurt Klemp

VICE-PRESIDENT: Denise Rockney

SECRETARY: Amy Hensel

TREASURER: Anders Amundson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Kreg Gruben, Diane Ash, Cal Reuterskiold

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

Next Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 18,2026

6:00p.m

Treasurer's Report

June 2026 Income \$22,568.68

June 2026 Expense \$32,088.61

June 2025 Income \$27,173.58

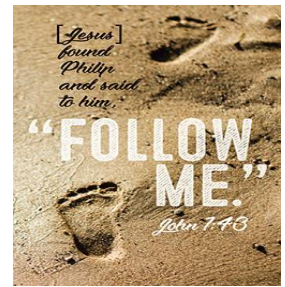
June 2025 Expense \$33,050.46

YTD 2026 Income \$163,233.86

YTD 2026 Expense \$190,590.96

YTD 2025 Income \$246,639.28

YTD 2025 Expense \$226,995.87



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Upper Church 9:00am Worship Service	3 Sons of Norway Tour 8-4	4	5 5:30 Worship Service	6 Pin & Sew 8:00 a.m.	7	8
9 9:00am Worship Service 9:40 Fellowship Worship Committee meeting after Worship Service	10	11	12 5:30 Worship Service	13	14	15
16 9:00am Worship Service 9:40 Fellowship	17 Newsletter Information Due	18 Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.	19 5:30 Worship Service Education Committee Meeting 6:30	20	21	22
23 9:00am Worship Service 9:40 Fellowship	24	25	26 5:30 Worship Service	27	28	29
30	31 Pastor on Vacation 8/31 — 9/6	Sept 1, 2026 1 st day Cambridge School 	Sept 2, 2026 NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	Sept 3, 2026	Sept 4, 2026	Sept 5, 2026

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.

Remember to like the videos and subscribe to the channel!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChUv6MDQV54yCWz60IGWezw>

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

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

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Wednesday
608-423-3017

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/UChUv6MDQV54yCWz60IGWezw>

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

GIVE PLUS

You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLCC 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**