



Sunday and Beyond



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service
At East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
Tuesday, November 22, 2011

East Koshkonong Lutheran Church is hosting this year's Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 22 at 7 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity for us to worship together with our neighboring and fellow Christians as we join together in Thanksgiving to God for all the blessings we have received.

Those who want to sing an anthem with the choir are invited to be at church @ 6:30 p.m. to practice

Adopt a Turkey for the Food Pantry!!

With the holiday season just around the corner, it's a good time to remember our local friends that may not be able to enjoy a holiday meal. The Cambridge Food Pantry is sponsoring the Turkey Basket-Adopt a Turkey program for Thanksgiving. For \$25.00 you can sponsor a basket containing a 12-15 lb. turkey, fresh potatoes, celery, onion, squash, apples and oranges, canned cranberry sauce, jar of gravy, a box of stuffing mix and a pie. I have committed our church to adopting 20 turkeys. I would love to 'run out of turkeys' and be able to request at least 10 more from the coordinator of the pantry! The last date to sponsor a turkey will be Sunday, November 6. Please consider helping if you are able. I will be in church each Sunday and collect the envelopes for return to the Food Pantry. Please contact me with questions. Barb Klemp – 608-423-4392.



East Koshkonong
Lutheran Church

November 2011
Newsletter



November 6
All Saints Sunday.

On this day we remember with lighted candles those who have completed their baptismal journey. If you desire to remember a loved one who has died this past year please contact the church office before November 3rd.

All Saints Sunday celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. With thanksgiving we remember all the faithful departed, especially those most dear to us who have died. The day's readings are filled with rich images of the eternal life promised to all the saints. The holy meal is a foretaste of that great and promised feast where death or pain will be no more. Even in the midst of loss and grief God wipes away the tears from our eyes and makes all things new.



Pastor's Message Interim Pastor Jim Schwarz

We spend a great deal of time and energy maintaining our identities. We want to be sure that who we really are remains certain and secure in the various areas of our lives—family, work, school, community, church.

In this respect we face a challenge nowadays. Because of modern technology our identities have become widely known to government agencies, health care providers, advertisers, political parties, and many others. Such recognition is often good and necessary. At the same time we may feel more threatened than ever before that our identities will be lost. Has this “information age” become too depersonalized? How can anyone else keep track of my personal needs and identity in such a massive catalog of data?



Furthermore, these days there is the growing threat of identity theft. We have heard horror stories from people who have struggled for years to reclaim identities lost through credit card use, on-line transactions, stolen mail, or other such avenues. It has become imperative to protect our social security numbers, account numbers, and personal property against this danger.

Our family, business, social, recreational, and religious activities have all been affected. We shred mail and other documents at work and at home. When we travel abroad our passports are tucked close to our bodies rather than in pockets or purses. We are careful about what information we give out when signing up for something. We are wary about entering into new relationships.

At the same time social networking opportunities online keep beckoning and even pressuring people to be connected. What will happen if I do not keep in touch? Will I be isolated, left behind, rejected, neglected, forgotten? Would it be irresponsible of me not to respond or get involved? Our confidence and sense of self-worth may even be threatened.

I feel that we have reached a point at which our children need to be reassured that it is all right to seek privacy and not share everything about themselves in a public way in order to be accepted and successful. It is important to allow space and time for personal moments alone and for nurturing our inmost selves.

As we face the challenge of maintaining our identity while facing the risk of losing it, God's word is a source of hope. For example, consider this verse from Isaiah 43:

“Thus says the Lord . . .

Do not fear; for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.”

God does not forget who we are. Remember the promise that we repeat with each baptism: “You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.” In Christ, God has secured our identity for eternity. Therefore, we can live this life boldly as an adventure in his name. Jesus even asserted that we can lose our life for his sake and the gospel but end up finding it. (Mark 8) Such a promise is important to keep in mind also when planning for the future of our congregations.

In Christ,

Pastor Jim Schwarz



From Miranda Hinrichs

Greetings sisters and brothers in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! It seems like just days ago that we were engaged in life and ministry together, and yet there have been many beginnings and times of sending since I was with you in July. Know that you are loved and that I miss you.

I wanted to write you in order to send my greetings and in order to give you an update. I went through the ELCA Assignment at the end of September, and I have been assigned to Region 5 (WI, IL, and IA) and to the Northern Illinois Synod (this does not include Chicago). My first call will most likely be in that synod; which means we will be “neighbors” in mission and ministry in the Region. I met Bishop Wollersheim and his staff last Monday, and I will be working with them to find a recommended congregation with whom to begin the call process. There is a sense of grieving in not being assigned to MN or WI, but I am also excited for the opportunities for meaningful ministry ahead. Many of the devotions and Scriptures that I have been reading in the last months have been about the call and sending of God, which has been a great encouragement.

I spent three and half weeks in Hawaii in August with my friend Kerry, and we stayed with my friend John and his housemates at their ministry house. It was a restful time of enjoying the beauty of God’s creation with hikes and ocean sunsets. It was also a time of diving into community and ministry with the ministry house and the church they are connected to. What an encouragement to hear and see testimonies of love in action, healing, and welcome. Their newest housemate, who we helped to move and welcome, has been homeless the last seven years; yet her testimony of God’s faithfulness was inspiring. Christ is at work in powerful ways in communities as we study the Word of God together and seek to love one another in real ways... whether in Cambridge or Honolulu. It is Christ’s work, and it is Christ who connects us.

This fall I am living in Saint Paul with my sister Hilary, substitute teaching and connecting with family and friends here. I have even trained with the taekwondo team here a few days.

East Koshkonong continues to be in my prayers, as you dive deep into Sunday School, Confirmation, Pin and Sew, the joys and burdens of the harvest, and as you seek the Holy Spirit’s guidance and peace in the midst of the call process. I am excited for you and for what is ahead. May the Lord strengthen you and encourage you as you follow Jesus together in this time of discernment and visioning.

Thank you again for partnering with me this last year. You have helped equip me for pastoral ministry, and you have helped to affirm that call. It was a formative year of journeying together which will continue to impact my leadership and ministry. Thank you for your friendship. I look forward to the ways our paths might connect in the future. I will keep you informed as the call process progresses, and I look forward to inviting you to my ordination!

With Love,

Your sister in Christ Miranda



*Praying with and for
my friends at EKLC in
Cambridge*

~ Miranda Hinrichs



September Council Report

Present: Pastor Jim Schwarz, Karen Hayes, Bonnie Ehrke, Jaime Lewellin, Holly Loomis, Paul Kaare
Not Present: Peggy Luther, Kurt Klemp, Kristen Lien, Steve Wagner, Elizabeth Kaashagen

NOTE: A quorum was not present. The meeting will be continued with discussion only.

September 20, 2011. Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by Bonnie Ehrke.

Opening Devotions: Pastor Jim read from "Living in God's Amazing Grace". He also requested that we remember and pray for Cynthia Burnside, wife of Bishop Burnside, who is ill and suffering.

Paul Kaare was present to discuss the damage to the Parsonage on Labor Day weekend. A large mature tree fell on the house doing damage to the gutter and roof. Paul had a CD of pictures that he presented to council to show the damage. Alliant Energy was called, and responded, immediately. Paul patched the roof temporarily. Church Mutual was contacted and provided copies of all pictures. They require a written quote. Paul will obtain these quotes and provide them to the adjuster.

Paul also brought to our attention the sad and untimely death of the Simplicity Riding mower. Cary Rucks uses this for hauling and clean up. Cary has requested that the replacement have a snowblower attachment. Paul will check with Midstate on the availability of any used equipment as well as continue to monitor Craig's List and other local newspapers. Julie will also put a notice in the Newsletter. In addition, Bonnie will speak with the Cemetery committee regarding the equipment they own to see if this is something that could be shared. Council will have to agree on a budget for the new mower at the October meeting.

Holly Loomis reviewed with Council the contents of the Safe Deposit box. This contained 4 CD's, Legal agreements, inventory list and a video.

Via email, Peggy indicated that she will extend an invitation to Pastor and Ann Marie Schowalter. We are initially looking at October 9th or November 13th. Council will serve coffee hour if no one else is signed up.

It has been brought to the attention of the staff that some parents do not like certain information regarding their children published. The main item brought up was birthdays. For the time being, the birthdays have been removed from the calendar until Council can discuss further in October.

Pastor Jim plans to attend continuing education at Luther Seminary in October.

Pastor Jim requested our thoughts on if EKLC would be interested in hosting a Thanksgiving service on Tuesday, November 22nd for the Cambridge area. Council present was in favor. Additional votes to be gathered via email.

Confirmation will begin this week. As of now, there are 16 registrants.

We received a thank you letter from the Lindstroms. They wanted to extend their thanks for our support of their translation of the Mali people. The translators are available for visits. Dates will be requested from John and Amy.

Call Process Update. Things are moving. Carroll updated the congregation this past Sunday. Pastor attended the Interim Meeting and said he was notified that one nominee is now interviewing elsewhere due to delay.

Danielson Memorial. This account is earning interest. \$2,000 will be transferred for the Sunday School and \$1,100 will be transferred for ELCA Good Gifts. An additional \$500 was requested for the Library/Historical Rooms for miscellaneous items.

Sunday School Paint. Good news....this was found to not be mold but was actually calcium deposits. Kurt has been diligently working on cleaning and painting these rooms.

Military Roll of Honor. This board needs to be updated. Kurt will work to update with funds from the Danielson Memorial.

Information from Church Mutual regarding the new Concealed/Carry bill that has passed was shared. Insurance will not be affected by this new bill.

Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned.



John & Amy Lindstrom to share Good News at East Koshkonong

December 4, 2011, at 9:00 A.M. service

Come and hear what God has been doing through your prayers and financial partnership with the Malei people.

The Malei people first heard the Good News through German Lutheran missionaries in the 1940s. Large numbers of Malei people responded and Lutheran churches now meet in every Malei village. The Good News came to them in the Jabem language and since then Malei people have been waiting to have God's Word in their own language. On December 4, 2011 come celebrate the dedication of their New Testament which took place last December. East Koshkonong Lutheran Church has been partners with John and Amy Lindstrom since they first went to Papua New Guinea in 1991. John and Amy worked with Malei believers to enable them to translate God's Word into their own language. While helping Malei people learn to use their New Testaments, John and Amy have also begun work in two languages related to Malei and hope to see translations started in additional languages. John and Amy are currently on home assignment in Minnesota until they return to Papua New Guinea in June 2012.

Call Committee Update

In August, the Call Committee was presented with potential candidates from the Synod. The committee reviewed the resumes while formulating interview questions and logistics, and rating them for initial preference (we did this individually, and compiled them into a top-secret envelope to open once a pastor is called – just for fun!).

From there, we contacted all of them to let them know we were considering them. Shortly after that, each candidate was sent an impressive packet of materials about our church and area. Phone interviews were then arranged. Each candidate was interviewed via phone by the Call Committee in September. We revised our preferences again and one candidate was released from consideration.

Further arrangements were made to view each of the candidate's sermons in person. The last of these sermon visits was on Sunday, October 16th. Also, video and audio media of each of the candidates has been collected and reviewed by all Call Committee members. It is in the midst of the process of discernment for further interviewing that we continue. We will soon invite the selected candidates to our area for face-to-face interviews beginning late October. We'd like to thank the congregation for their prayerful support during this time and ask for your continued prayers as we continue the process.

Your Call Committee,

Sabra Jacobson
Dave Reese
Ann Nottestad
Yana Rawinski
Carroll Ehrke
David Repyak
Elizabeth Kaashagen



Dear East Koshkonong Family,

We'd like to take this opportunity to Thank All of you for opening your door and hearts to our family. Mike's passing has been difficult to come to grips with, yet through your generosity, kindness and outpouring of support, we are healing day by day. Your prayer, thoughts and the blessed gift of grace & love from our heavenly Father continues to comfort us. Thank you to each and everyone of you. What a sense of peace it was to bring Mike back home. ~ Love, Mary Sipe and Family

Dear East Koshkonong Church,

Thank you to everyone for supporting me and joining with me for celebrating the day in which I was Ordained. Throughout the years of preparing for ministry, I have been blessed by the prayers and love that have been shown to me. I am grateful to have been a part of this wonderful faith community. I am truly thankful for all saints who have been instruments of God's call within my life. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as I begin the service of Word and Sacrament ministry. ~ Pastor Nathan Strong

Meals on Wheels

Many THANKS to all the caring volunteers who delivered Meals on Wheels this past year on behalf of East Koshkonong.! For the recent 2 weeks in Sept. and October I wish to thank Glee and Earl Ellickson, Bea Householder, Marge Stach, Bonnie Ehrke, Diane Luginbuhl, Harriet Eiland, Judy Rusch and myself. What beautiful weather we had for a short drive to help where needed to folks waiting for their noon meal. They Thank you too! I don't have the schedule for 2012 as yet. I am guessing you will need a winter coat , but hopefully not your snow tires!

~Wilma Furseth



Cambridge Elementary School Needs

In this time of budget cuts and downsizing we are looking at various ways we can be of help in our local communities. Many area schools are accepting items for use in the classrooms.

Cambridge Elementary School is accepting the following items:

- **Disinfectant wipes**
- **Kleenex (boxes for classrooms)**
- **Expo markers and/or erasers, multi packs/colors**
- **Crayola, jumbo size crayon for beginning students**
- **Crayola, any water colors**



There will be a collection box in the narthex for the local schools. If you are in another school district, check with your district office to find out what their needs may be.

-Bonnie Ehrke



EKLC Homebound Members

- Alvin Hammen** ~ Carrington House ~ 1221 E. Main St., Stoughton, WI 53589
Verna Vethe ~ Willowbrook Nursing Home ~ 901 Mulberry St., Lake Mills, WI 53551
Agnes Goodrich ~ Wellington Meadows ~ 525 N. Memorial Dr. #3, Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
Earl Ellickson ~ 415 Jarlsberg Lane, Cambridge, WI 53523
LeRoy Egge ~ Our House ~ 201 W. Madison St., Cambridge, WI 53523
Roxanne Wildes ~ 120 E. Adams St.– Rockdale, Cambridge, WI 53523
Gloria Salov ~ 2103 Pleasant Dr., Cambridge, WI 53523
Meta Hoel ~ 631 Kensington Square, Stoughton, WI 53589
Agnes Teske ~ 981 Park St., Oregon, WI 53575
Hazel Tellefson ~ Fairhaven ~ 435 W. Starin, Whitewater, WI 53190
Carol Barfknecht ~ 741 CTH A, Edgerton, WI 53534
Art Johnson ~ Extend A Care ~ 313 Stoughton Rd., Edgerton, WI 53534
Roger Olstad ~ 1040 Bliven Rd., Edgerton, WI 53534
Erna Rude ~ N2081 Rockdale Road, Edgerton, WI 53534
George Staff ~ 1379 Hwy 73, Edgerton, WI 53534

Updating Veteran Display

We would like to update the Veterans Board and invite you help us with the name(s) of your family members. Please contact Kurt Klemp 423-4392 or the Church Office 423-3017 if you or a family member should be included, or if you would like to assist with this project.



Women's Christmas Brunch

Ladies Brunch

Women of East Koshkonong, you are invited to a Brunch to start off the Christmas season, on Saturday, December 3 at 9:30 AM. The theme is Christmas Traditions, and you are invited to bring a favorite or antique Christmas decoration or idea, or a story of a family Christmas tradition. We will enjoy brunch together, then share our stories and display our decorations or ornaments, and sing some of the traditional Christmas carols. All East Koshkonong women are invited to attend and share the event.



WELCA report for October - God's work - Our hands

Women of the ELCA

Thanks to many families at East Koshkonong, the women sent 72 school kits; 8 sewing kits; 11 health kits; 35 lbs of soap; 9 blankets and 79 quilts to be loaded on a box car for Lutheran World Relief on October 8. The Women of the Church (WELCA) held their monthly meeting on October 6 at the upper church and continued working on more quilts to send next fall to LWR.



The women of the church have assembled a beautiful quilt from hand sewn squares of colorful flowers and matching fabric donated by Doris Griffin of Edgerton. This quilt will be displayed on Saturday, October 22 at the Edgerton Quilt Show. With the family's blessing, the quilt will be raffled off and the proceeds used to purchase supplies for future quilts.

Light Circle will be hostess for November 3rd WELCA meeting. We begin at 9am putting quilt tops, liners, and backs together. Hundreds of (used) sheets were donated by former EKLC member, Tom Leach. Sheets are used as liners for the LWR quilts. The women then tie the layers together to complete each quilt. A potluck lunch is served at noon followed by business meeting and Bible study.

At least one Circle representative is encouraged to attend the November 3 meeting as we will begin the organization of the 2012 WELCA booklet. All women of the church are invited to this meeting and the 'Pin & Sew'.

Church Basement Ladies Christmas

Church Basement Ladies - Away in the Basement

Saturday, December 10, 2011 • 7:30pm

Young Auditorium, University of Wisconsin in Whitewater

<http://www.uww.edu/youngauditorium/season/1112ladies.html>



General Public - \$33 - \$26 - \$20 Students - \$16.50 - \$13 - \$10

The all-new holiday show, *Away in the Basement: A Church Basement Ladies Christmas* is the third installment in the highly successful production of the musical comedy *Church Basement Ladies*. Known for their hilarious antics and subtle charm, they are once again called upon to step in and save the day! In the midst of holiday preparations and sprinklings of love in the air, the ladies in their witty, down-to-earth style are creating their own memories from Christmases past and present. Content to do things the way they have always been done yet pondering new ideas, the reality of everyday life hits home as they plan the Sunday School Christmas Program.

If you would be interested in going as a group from East Koshkonong Lutheran Church please contact the church office (608-423-3017). Call immediately as the 2pm show has already sold out! They will start selling tickets for a 7:30 show (ticket not available until this Friday, Oct. 28th), but they predict they will go fast!!

New Books at Your EKL Church Library

These books have been donated or are books received as part of EKLC membership in The National Church Library Association.

Branded (Sharing Jesus with a Consumer Culture) by Tim Sinclair (How do we market Jesus?)

God's Story (Finding Meaning for Your Life through Knowing God) by Anne Graham Lotz (The author invites you to join her in a rewarding search to know God so well through His story that His eternal person, His infinite power, His unlimited love, and His matchless glory give meaning to your life and joy to your heart and purpose to your step.)

Heaven is for Real by Todd Burpo with Lynn Vincent (A little boy's astounding story of his trip to heaven and back)

Learning by Karen Kingsbury (Lessons a Christian girl experiences in new environment)

Leaving by Karen Kingsbury (Teenage Christian girl leaving home for first time for new job in big city)

One Life (Jesus Calls - We Follow) by Scot McKnight (You've only got One Life. Here is how to live it for all it's worth.)



Worship Helpers for November 2011

Organists ~

Shelly Frank ~ 1st and 3rd Sundays
Judy Rusch ~ 2nd and 4th Sundays

Assistant Ministers~

11/6 ~ Arvid Mathison
11/13 ~ Karen Hayes
11/20 ~ Gloria Fruit
11/27 ~ Arvid Mathison

Acolytes ~

11/6 ~ Sydney Currie & Molly Hensel
11/13 ~ Veronica Wipperfurth and Taylor Evenson
11/20 ~ Bailey Furseth & Noah Furseth
11/27 ~ Katie Dieckhoff & Emily Zahn

Greeters~

11/6 ~ Ken Rockney
11/13 ~ Don & Eileen Hoehn
11/20 ~ Bonnie Ehrke
11/22 ~ Marge Stach
11/27 ~ Kurt & Barb Klemp

Ushers~

Light Circle

Lay Readers~

11/6 ~ Sonja Christensen
11/13 ~ Judy Rusch
11/20 ~ Carroll Ehrke
11/27 ~ Joy Graffin

Coffee Hour~

11/6 ~ Sunday School
11/13 ~ Jenny & Calvin Holden
11/20 ~ Natasha Amundson
11/27 ~ Light Circle

Communion Set-up/Take-down~

11/6 ~ Light Circle, Befriender Sunday
11/13 ~ Light Circle
11/20 ~ Judy Taylor & Bonnie Ehrke
11/27 ~ Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel

Communion Assistants~

11/6 ~ Judy Taylor & Carroll Ehrke
11/13 ~ Ken Rockney & Joan Kaare
11/20 ~ Kathy Bergholz & Don Hoehn
11/27 ~ Karen Hayes & Carolyn Lien

Nursery Attendants~

11/6 ~ Sabra Jacobson & Brenda Schroeder
11/13 ~ Sonja Christensen
11/20 ~ Natasha Amundson
11/27 ~ Gina Reese

Offering Counters~

11/6 ~ Joy Graffin & Lois Zerkle
11/13 ~ Jean Carlson & Eric and Cheryl Nuenthel
11/20 ~ Carroll Ehrke & Gloria Fruit
11/27 ~ Brenda Schroeder & Leila Carl

Thank you!

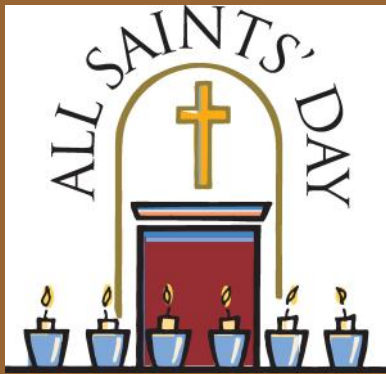
Thanks are due to Bonnie Ehrke, Joan Kaare, and Julie, along with help from other volunteers, for the restoration and updating of the photo display of confirmation classes at EKLC. The display stand is presently in the narthex for members to view.



★ Thank you!
★ for your help! ★



NOVEMBER 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6:00pm Confirmation Session	3 9am Pin & Sew 12pm Potluck 1pm WELCA Meeting 1:30pm Bible Study	4 6:00pm Ehrke/Thompson Wedding Rehearsal	5 2:00pm Erica Ehrke/Ben Thompson Wedding
6 All Saints' Day 9am Worship Installation of Sunday School Teachers 10:15am Coffee hour hosted by Sunday School	7 7pm Dartball League @ Albion Prairie	8 9am Peace Circle @ Carolyn Lien's home 5:30pm Worship Committee Meeting	9 6:00pm Confirmation Session	10	11	12
13 9am Worship Guests: Quintin & Ann Marie Schwaller 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee hour hosted by Jenny & Calvin Holden	14	15 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	16  6-8:30pm Confirmation Extravaganza @ The Alliant Energy Center Leaving Church @ 5:20	17 8:00am Men's Breakfast	18	19
20 9am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee hour hosted by Natasha Amundson	21	22  6:30pm Choir Practice 7pm Ecumenical Worship Service @ EKLC	23 Office Closed No Confirmation	24 Office Closed 	25 Office Closed	26
27 9am Worship 10:15am Coffee hour hosted by Light Circle No Sunday School	28	29	30 6:00pm Confirmation Session			



**Inside this
issue:**

Pastor Jim's Letter	2
From Miranda Hinrichs	3
Council	4
Council Report	5
John & Amy Lindstrom	6
Call Committee Update	6
Church News	7
Homebound Members	8
WELCA Christmas Brunch	8
WELCA Report	9
Church Library	9
November Worship Helpers	10
November Calendar	11

*Welcome Former EKLC Pastor Quintin Schowalter
Sunday, November 13, 2011*

Former Pastor Quintin Schowalter, and his wife, Ann Marie, will be guests of the congregation on Sunday, November 13th. We will have an opportunity to visit with them in the narthex prior to the worship service and afterwards at coffee in friendship hall.

Pastor Schowalter served East Koshkonong Lutheran Church 1979-1990.

Please join us as this will be a wonderful opportunity to spend some time with the Schowalters



East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
454 East Church Road
Cambridge, WI 53523

Phone: 608-423-3017
Fax: 608-423-7512
Email: eklc@bminet.com
www.eastkoshkonong.org

NON PROFIT
ORG.
U.S Postage Paid
Permit #4

**December Newsletter Deadline
is November 19th**