

# STEEPLE ECHOES

MARCH 2024

*A Monthly Newsletter  
of Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of Mount Horeb*



EVANGELICAL  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*of Mount Horeb*

*A family in faith,  
reaching out to share God's love  
with all people*

# *WELCOME*

## **ELC of MOUNT HOREB**

*We welcome all to ELC. Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.*

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT ELC**

Holy Communion Celebrated 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at all services.

**SATURDAY: 5:00 pm-** (in Chapel) Modified Traditional Worship

**SUNDAY 9:00 am** Blended Service

Pre-recorded online worship available:

**[www.elcmthoreb.org/home/worship/sermon-archive/](http://www.elcmthoreb.org/home/worship/sermon-archive/)**

or listen to Sunday service "live" on your phone 855-514-2017

**MORNING DEVOTIONS** by Pastor John on the ELC Facebook page at 8am Monday through Saturday

## **ELC'S STAFF**

**Pastor** John Twiton

**Intern** Zach Smirris

**Accompanists:** Ruth Heinecke, Barb Underwood

**Agape Preschool Director:** Amy Kellesvig

**Bell Choir Director:** Kristin Willcutt

**Custodian:** Brian Johnson

**Junior Choir Director:** Barb Underwood

**Music Team Leader:** Barb and Chris Underwood

**Office Manager:** Nancy Voss

**Organist/Senior Choir Director:** Diane Dangerfield

**Youth Director:** Brenda Martin

# A Note from PASTOR JOHN

## “Foolishness”

A few weeks ago, we read this verse from Paul’s letter to the Corinthians: “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God” (1 Corinthians 1:18).

This verse still speaks a strong word today. As we move toward the great celebration of the resurrection on Easter day at the end of this month, it is striking that much of our society still cannot grasp the hope of life that can sustain us regardless of our circumstances and earthly accomplishments. The Easter hope, that the power of God is stronger than anything in the world, seems absurd to them. We live each day in the hope, the glory of Easter, because to us it is life itself.

The world does not seem to know what to do with this message. Christmas has largely been co-opted by shopping and giving mania that overtakes the season. And, after all, who can resist the stories of shepherds, angels, friendly beasts, and the babe in the manger.

But the days leading up to Easter, with the betrayal of Jesus, the denial of the disciples, the blood-thirsty crowd, and the viciousness of crucifixion, seems all too real even in today’s world. We see and hear of such cruelties nearly every day, and they seem to be unending, and unstoppable. Yet we declare with all our voices that the pain, cruelty, and ways of death cannot have the final word.

Moreover, they are defeated not by a powerful army, or a strike of lightning from on high, but are defeated by the power of God’s love in Jesus. That love which is willing to give its all for us, for the ones God loves. So, let’s engage in the foolishness which sings songs in graveyards, which proclaims that love is stronger than hate, life is stronger than death, and joy will always be God’s last word!

God’s Peace,



# Pastoral Intern – ZACH SMIRRIS

## Spring Cleaning

***“Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!”***

***~~ John 2:15-16~~***

As I write this, I have no way of actually knowing what the weather will be like when this newsletter comes out, but I find the best habits form when we do them no matter what the outside world thinks. Right now, it is warm and the birds have been convinced that Spring has come early. Last month the groundhogs agreed, and so the weather is cooperating.

A ‘fun’ spring habit of mine is Spring Cleaning. Not the dusting or tidying, which my house tries to do weekly, but a spiritual and meaningful cleaning. What are the things that I haven’t touched in months, can they be tossed? What habits have I collected needlessly, and what resolutions from New Year’s lie forgotten in the back of the closet?

We come to Christ in constant need of cleansing. From our sins, from the world, we feel a need to dust ourselves off and be restored to Christ on a weekly basis. But what about the stubborn stains? The routines that we’ve picked up in the last several weeks aren’t nearly as helpful as we think they are. The things we do that hurt but not doing them scares us more than the pain.

With Spring coming, I invite you to step aside and let Jesus do your true Spring Cleaning. Let Him take the old things out and free space for Him, the Spirit, and the Father. You might feel better with the extra room, and there’s less dust to collect. Go in peace, my friends, and know that God loves you.

God’s peace be with you all, my friends.

Zach Smirris  
Pastoral Intern, ELC of Mt. Horeb  
internzach@elcmthoreb.org

# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

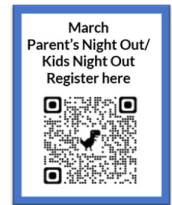
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 - 11 am (3 years old - 8th grade) -Join us for Bible stories, music, games, and snacks. We begin in the chapel. **No Sunday School on Easter Sunday, March 31st.**

1st COMMUNION RETREAT - Mar 2nd 9:30 am - 12:00 pm- Our 5th graders and their parents are invited to our First Communion Retreat in Fellowship Hall, to help prepare them for their 1st Communion. **SIGN UP** with the link: <https://forms.gle/WAMkabydTDSjwgdWA>

REMEMBRANCE OF THE LAST SUPPER - 5th graders will share a meal together March 28th, 6 pm, and celebrate their 1st Communion during the Maundy Thursday worship at 7 pm.

7th & 8th GRADE CONFIRMATION (Wednesdays during Lent) - Potluck at 6 pm. Students will be rotating each week to help with cleaning up after the potluck (6:30 pm) & usher for the worship time (6:45pm). Small groups also meet at 6:45 pm. Worship at 7 pm.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT/ GAMES & CRAFTS AT ELC - March 8th, 5:30 pm -8:00 pm at ELC: Our experienced high school youth will be offering a night of games, crafts, and treats for youth ages 3 years through 5th grade at ELC. **Donation:** \$10 per child and \$5 for additional children (family rate). Funds raised will support our youth to attend the Youth Gathering in New Orleans in 2024.



**Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend. Sign up with the link/QR code.** <https://forms.gle/ZCiMkTvQjQkNnQZh7>

FUSE NIGHTS (Youth Gathering Edition) - March 17th, 7 pm in the youth room. **Mandatory meeting for youth attending the Gathering.**

SPOT AVAILABLE FOR THE YOUTH GATHERING - We have an opening for a female youth (8th - 12th grade) to join our Mt Horeb group when we attend the Gathering this summer. We will be flying to New Orleans on July 15th and will return on July 20th. This is an opportunity of a lifetime! If interested, please contact Brenda.



# CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS cont.

## 2024 YOUTH SUMMER SCHEDULE

DAY CAMP/ VBS WEEK AT ELC - June 24-27

- VBS (9 am– 11:30 am) 3 yr. – Kindergarten

- DAY CAMP -New time (1pm-5 pm) 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/h6gPK4PEoK68UDWF6>

ELC  
VBS/DAY CAMP  
REGISTRATION



CONFIRMATION CAMP - July 28 - Aug 2, 7th & 8th graders will attend Confirmation Camp at Sugar Creek Bible Camp. Register online: <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/>

ELC is paying \$100 towards the registration fee for campers

Use the GHRID: ELCMTH to register.

GIVE/ LOVE/ SERVE (Local Service Days) - June 12th, July 10th, and Aug 6th Middle - High school youth are invited to our local service days, held throughout the summer. Many opportunities for youth to provide service in our community, new places and other past favorites. Silver Cord hours will be given to our high school students.

<https://forms.gle/DuANahSt4Nc3eiC19>

GIVE/LOVE/SERVE  
REGISTRATION  
(Service Days)



EXPLORER DAY AT SUGAR CREEK -July 31st, 9 am - 3 pm

(Children entering 1st - 5th grade in fall 2024)

Come for an exciting one-day adventure at Sugar Creek. Share in opportunities at camp - games, nature, crafts, Bible Study, singing and more! Register online: <http://wp.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org/>

USE GHRID: ELCMTH to register. Registration fee: \$25, payable to ELC.

REGISTER FOR SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP – Information about all 20+ Summer Programs and the link to enroll can be found at

[www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/summer-camp](http://www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org/summer-camp). ELC of Mt Horeb will help with camp costs, giving each camper \$100 towards their camping week. Call Sugar Creek to let them know you are registering with ELC or ask Brenda for a transfer code, which is needed for the discount. If additional scholarships are needed, please contact Brenda or Pastor John.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS *cont.*

CINNAMON ROLL MAKING - March 16th, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Youth (who are attending the Youth Gathering) will work together to make our delicious homemade cinnamon rolls for our Easter Breakfast.

### YOUTH FUNDRAISING:

**THANK YOU - CULVERS SHARE DAY:** Thank you to everyone who stopped in at Culvers in February for our Share Day. Culvers shares a portion of the sales will help us with our expenses to attend the Youth Gathering. Thank you for your support!

### **BABY KIT DONATIONS NEEDED:**

Our youth and members of Rebecca Circle are teaming together to collect and assemble the baby kits which will be sent to Lutheran World Relief this fall. Everyone is welcome to donate items. Items should be in good condition, clean and in infant sizes no larger than 36 months. Each month, we will focus on one/two items, so we have many kits to make on August 6th, during our Service Days. There is a bin in Narthex for your donations.

**MARCH - Long or Short Sleeved gowns or sleepers and Baby Socks**

**APRIL - Jackets or Sweaters with or without hoods**

**MAY - Cotton, lightweight T-shirts**

**JUNE - Baby Caps & Bath-size bars of gentle soap (individually wrapped)**

**JULY - Hand towels (dark colors)**

***Each Baby Care Kit assembled for Lutheran World Relief contains four diapers. We are able to make some of those diapers from T-shirts. If you have T-shirts adult size Large or larger, we would appreciate receiving them to make diapers. You may drop them in the church office. If you have questions, please contact Ann Baumgartner at [abaumgartner1@charter.net](mailto:abaumgartner1@charter.net) or 608-576-8214. Thank you for your contribution.***

EASTER BREAKFAST - March 31st, 7 am - 9 am Come and enjoy our Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall, featuring homemade cinnamon rolls, egg bakes, fruit, juice/coffee. Free will donations will support our fundraising efforts for the Youth Gathering.

*Blessings & Peace,*

*Brenda Martin, Youth Ministries Director*

[brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org)

# AGAPE

Greetings from Agape Christian Preschool,

We are looking forward to more spring-like weather and lots of fun activities for the month of March. We will celebrate Dr. Seuss Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, and all things spring. I know a lot of fun and exciting adventures will take place!

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year will start on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, for our 3K program. The registration forms are available on our website [www.agapechristianpreschool.com](http://www.agapechristianpreschool.com) or you can pick them up in the Agape office during preschool hours. The collaborative 4K program with the MHASD is still accepting enrollment for the upcoming school year. 4K registration should be completed online at the school district website, found at [www.mounthorebschools.org](http://www.mounthorebschools.org) under the 4K section. If you have any family or friends looking for more information about our programs, please have them reach out to me anytime.

The Butter Braid Frozen Pastries will be delivered on Friday, March 1st. If you placed an order, I will reach out and coordinate a pick-up time. We will continue to use the money raised to improve the classroom environment and playground equipment. Thank you to those who donated or purchased butter braids. We could not do it without your support!

Blessings and appreciation,

Amy Kellesvig, Director  
Agape Christian Preschool



# COUNCIL NEWS

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our church council has decided it is time for a new Church Directory. May 1 thru 4 will be the dates the pictures are taken for the directory. You can help with this process by signing up now and scheduling your time for your picture.

To sign up:

1. Go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com)
2. Click on the box that says "photography appointment scheduling login"
3. Then enter church code **wi325** and password **photos** then press enter.
4. Then you can pick the day and time you want to have your picture taken. The available dates will show. Enter the required information.
5. Click the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family name.
6. Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your appointment.

**Note:** If you have more than six family members or are having a pet in your picture schedule two consecutive appointment times.

Please enter all the information to include phone number(s) and email address. We need that information for our church records.

If you want your picture in the church directory and cannot physically come to ELC, please contact Dave Baumgartner at 608-576-8798.

**If you don't have access to a computer and want to set up a time for your picture please contact Kathy O'Donnell at 608-437-4209. She will set you up for a time to have your picture taken and obtain necessary information.**

**Someone will be available to sign members up for their pictures after church services on these Sundays 3-17, 3-24, 4-7 and 4-14 and the Saturday night services on 3-16, 3-23, 4-6 and 4-13.**

Any other questions please contact Dave Baumgartner at 608-576-8798.

Thank You

# COUNCIL NEWS cont.

Greetings to you from our church council! As the liaison to our Inreach/Outreach Ministry I have the pleasure of being involved in activities that reach out to our church members and to our larger community. Activities include: cards and Agape-made crafts for homebound members at Christmas, Easter and autumn times; sending cards and gifts to military members; Lenten luncheons; organizing our Frolic parade entry, and welcoming new members.

We are starting up **greeters** on Sunday morning again. Please consider singing up to be a greeter! It is very important to welcome people – both those who are members and also people who are visiting. Look for a **greeter sign-up sheet** in the narthex or contact the church office so we can get you signed up. Being a greeter is fun and means being at church thirty minutes before service to get your name tag on and then stand near one of the doors to welcome those coming into our church building. It is very important that we are welcoming to all who walk through our doors.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the Inreach/Outreach Ministry or anything else for church council.

God's blessings to you,  
Barb Underwood

## TREASURER'S REPORT

We received several very generous individual donations in January, over and above the usual baseline. These gifts have restored a margin of safety to the general fund. At the end of the month, we had \$32,472 in assets against \$1,592 in liabilities for a balance of \$30,879. And although it's not reflected in the January totals, an additional \$5,000 gift in February will be used for a much-needed renovation of the lighting in the sanctuary. Thank you to everyone who's helped steady the ship.

January expenses from the designated funds include \$1,381 for the internship program, \$1008 for music, and \$334 for landscaping. Designated include includes \$4312 for youth, \$300 for the kitchen, \$35 for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, \$20 each for Sunday school and the internship program, and \$103 unspecified.

Respectfully submitted by Ben Brothers, February 19, 2024

# TREASURER'S REPORT cont.

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>	1/31/24	12/31/23	12/31/22
General Fund	\$ 30,879	\$ 9,486	\$ 18,205
Mortgage Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,566
Building Capital Fund	\$ 15,858	\$ 10,271	\$ 23,201
Designated Funds	\$ 111,868	\$ 109,292	\$ 134,727
Mortgage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (41,933)
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 158,605	\$ 129,049	\$ 138,766

<b>CASH FLOW</b>	January 2024	2023
General Fund Income	\$ 52,872	\$ 349,814
General Fund Expenses		
Personnel	\$ 21,749	\$ 240,044
Mission and Outreach	\$ 1,917	\$ 26,209
Congregational Life	\$ 1,111	\$ 17,633
Facilities and Administration	\$ 6,701	\$ 74,646
Total General Fund Expenses	\$ 31,479	\$ 358,532
<b>Net General Fund Gain (Loss)</b>	\$ 21,393	\$ (8,718)
Other Income		
Benevolence	\$ 2,074	\$ 13,681
Building Capital Fund	\$ 5,588	\$ 11,455
Designated Funds	\$ 4,790	\$ 16,776
Mortgage Fund	\$ -	\$ 38,214
Total Other Income	\$ 12,452	\$ 80,126
Other Expenses		
Benevolence	\$ 1,561	\$ 9,773
Building Capital Expenses	\$ -	\$ 24,386
Designated Fund Expenses	\$ 2,727	\$ 46,120
Mortgage Repayment	\$ -	\$ 38,491
Total Other Expenses	\$ 4,288	\$ 118,769
Net Gain (Loss) from Other Expenses	\$ 8,164	\$ (38,643)
<b>NET GAIN (LOSS)</b>	\$ 29,557	\$ (47,361)

# BENEVOLENCE

## Planting a seed of spirituality through summer youth activities

At the time of writing this article for the newsletter, we're just wrapping a 58-degree in February and staring ahead into a week where the mercury will push 70. Nothing like record high temperatures to turn your thoughts toward summer ... and toward all the activities that are planned for kids in our congregation and their friends in the community.

From Vacation Bible School and day camp for our youngest kids, to service opportunities for middle schoolers and high schoolers, to Confirmation Camp, to the couple dozen teenagers we'll be sending to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, there is no shortage of fun in store.

Did you know that donations cover many of the costs of these activities?

Because of that, every March since the inception of the Benevolence Program a dozen years ago, we've collected contributions that expand our youth programming and make our offerings more accessible, through lowered enrollment costs and camperships.

For kids who come to ELC often, these activities let them see church in a new light and inspire greater appreciation for spirituality. For many other children, this might be a rare exposure to what we have to offer, and plant a seed of interest that can last a lifetime.

In both cases, our investment pays tremendous dividends.

Your Benevolence donations throughout March will be allocated entirely toward activities and events for kids in our congregation and community.

# BENEVOLENCE cont.

## *You can contribute by:*

- **Mail:** Send a check to ELC and note "Benevolence" in the memo
- **Online:** Visit the ELC website and click "Give"
- **Digitally:** Download the *VANCO MOBIL FAITH ENGAGEMENT APP*, or text "Benevolence" to 608-400-0183 with the amount you wish to give.

On behalf of Benevolence,

Adam Mertz

[adammerz2@gmail.com](mailto:adammerz2@gmail.com)

# BENEVOLENCE

## 2024 Missions

**January:** Divine Savior, our sister church in Puerto Rico - \$2074

**February:** Compassion International

**March:** ELC youth programming

**April:** Reconciliation in Christ (RIC)

**May:** Neighbors Helping Neighbors

**June:** Solace Hospice, a new service for people of lesser means

**July:** ELCA international charity TBD, based on need

**August:** Felicia's Closet, helping domestic abuse victims rebound

**September:** Saba, International

**October:** Madison Area Jail Ministry

**November:** Accessible local health care: Our Lady of Hope and  
Community Connections

**December:** Young Adults in Global Mission

## PROPERTY

### NEW REFRIGERATOR DELIVERED February 15<sup>th</sup>!!

***A HUGE thank you to all the funeral helpers - this activity is what paid for the replacement.***

If you're not aware, the "Ladies & Gentlemen" are paid for the work that is done for each funeral. The funds go into the Kitchen Fund, and monies in that fund were used to pay in full (\$3,225.01) the new refrigerator.

Thank you to everyone from Amy Sinner who sets up the Signup Genius for the helpers, to all the team members (men and women) who take care of set up, food preparation, serving and cleanup. It's a well-oiled machine, and without it, the work wouldn't be as great as it is.

Stop in the kitchen and be pleased you've been a big part of this important replacement.

## SOCIAL ACTION

We can never say it enough. ***THANK YOU!!***

The Sewing Group is pleased to report finishing 75 quilts for Lutheran World Relief. The goal is to ship 150 on September 14<sup>th</sup>. We are well on the way thanks to many generous donations of fabric, sheets, and blankets. **Thank You!!!**



# SPIRITUAL GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP

## A note of thanks from Neighbors Helping Neighbors - Clothes Closet



Dear Members of Evangelical Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Board and our Clothes Closet shoppers, thank you for your church's support. Under the guidance of Amy Sinner, volunteers working in January put in over 80 hours of service. This made it possible for 157 shoppers to receive basic clothing and bedding which they are in need of.

We appreciate each of you for your generosity of time to serve this ministry. We can't imagine what we would do without you and the 11 partner churches. They dedicate many hours sorting donations, folding and shelving clothing and cleaning the facility. Please extend our thanks to Amy and those in your congregation who helped the facility.

We continually have a need for seasonal clothing and bedding and ask that you keep us in mind when cleaning your closets.

We are blessed and give thanks for your time and prayers.

Amy Gordon  
Neighbors Helping Neighbors Clothes Closet Coordinator

# TECHNOLOGY

**\*\*Volunteer Opportunity: Join Our Church Tech Team! \*\***

Are you tech-savvy and looking for a meaningful way to contribute to our church community? Don't worry you don't have to be, we can teach you! We invite you to join our tech team and help us create present engaging worship experiences during our services.

Role: As a tech booth volunteer, you'll have the opportunity to operate audio, video, and streaming equipment to support our services. Your role will be crucial in ensuring that our message reaches our congregation effectively. Our livestream is watched live by 15 to 20 viewers per weekend.

## **Responsibilities:**

- Operating sound mixing boards
- Controlling video presentations
- Operate Streaming Computers
- Troubleshooting technical issues as they arise

## **Requirements:**

- Basic understanding of audio and visual equipment is helpful but not necessary. (training will be provided)
- Willingness to learn and adapt
- Availability to serve during Sunday Services one to two times per month.

## **Benefits:**

- Opportunity to use your technical skills and or develop some for a meaningful cause
- Connection with our church community and fellow volunteers

If you're interested in serving in our tech booth or have any questions, please reach out to Andy Mullendore or Bruce Meister ([technology@elcmthoreb.org](mailto:technology@elcmthoreb.org)). We look forward to having you on our team and creating impactful worship experiences together!

Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve with us.

The Tech Team



# PRAYER list

PLEASE PRAY FOR Warren Wilson, Tony (Farmer) Endres, Margaret Twiton, Paul & Lois Kerscher (Amy Thompson's parents), Paul Baum, Ingrid Hoerz, Dolores Kahl, Sara Kittleson, Terri Naylor (Dennis & Mary Lokken's daughter), Mary Greenlaw-Meyer (Vicky Rosenbaum's friend), John Scheele & family (Char Smith's Brother in Law) Linda Stoenner, Ken Rabideau (Helen Ladwig's Brother in Law), Nick O'Connell, Steve Mueller, Joyce Fargo, Alycen McKinney, Cara Mavis, Joan Schraepfer (Rita Schraepfer-Derke's Sister in Law), Todd Collins, Norm Hefty, Lincoln Kuhn, Brooklynn Kreul, Mary Jane Ellis (friend of Bonny Kellogg), Bonnie Bender, Ginger Quaderer (Diane Mueller's cousin), Delores Bryant, Makenzee Smith, Brock Howe, Jeannie U'Ren, Mike Olson, Grace Aavang, Carol Johnson.

**Our partner congregation** IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA DIVINO SALVADOR (Divine Savior Lutheran Church) in Cataño, P.R

## MEMORIAL HYMNAL

Given in Memory of:

***Connie Peterson***

Given By:

***Char Smith***

## MEMORIALS

Given in Memory of:

***Shirley Casterton***

***Sharon Hendrickson***

***Shirley Thompson***

Given By:

***Ann & Dave Baumgartner***

***Sharon Collins***

***Randall Thompson  
Norm & Rita Hefty  
Helen Kahl  
Betty Drape***

# MEMORIALS cont.

Given in Memory of:

*Dawn Kellesvig*

Given by:

*Gary & Marilyn Festge  
Elizabeth Field  
Mary & Wayne Knudson  
Chris & Barb Underwood  
Elaine Buening  
Elizabeth Flynn  
Ann & Dave Baumgartner  
Bob & Sharon Schiefelbein  
Bonny & Ron Kellogg  
Gordy & Margie Kahl  
Mark & Becky Mostrom  
Sharon Collins  
Ann & Phillip Dettwiler  
Roger & Jacquelyn Brown  
Mary Stamm  
Bernhard & Linda Magnuson  
Connie Floan  
Darlene Johnson  
Steve Johnson  
Theresa Hofstetter  
Gary & Sara Hellenbrand  
Paul & Ruth Heinecke  
Norm & Rita Hefty  
Mary & Walter Harden  
Joan Gilbertson  
Diane Bartz*

*Hefty Construction  
Julie Vasen  
Irv & Judy Steinhauer  
James Sirianni & Melissa Jennings  
Rita Schraepfer-Derke  
John & Vicky Rosenbaum  
Mitchell & Kari Poppen  
Deb Piquette  
Phillip & Karen Paulsen  
Kathy O'Donnell  
Steve & Diane Mueller  
Paul & Donna Miller  
Brad & Tara Miller  
Kendall & Sara Kittleson  
Tim & Amy Kalscheur  
Helen Kahl  
Virgil & Dawn Haag  
Sherry Webb  
Dennis & Deanna Gervasi  
Stephen & Debra Gauger  
Richard & Carol Engstad  
Diane Dreger  
Betty Drape  
Doug & Gail Dahlk  
Shawn & Sandra Cannon  
Dave Jones, Inc.*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

BABY CAPS MAKERS will meet **Tuesday March 5 and 19th, 9:30 am** in the Faith Room. Enter from the Main Street doors, as the back doors need to stay locked for the preschool. Unity Point Meriter is in need of many caps (get the specific pattern and guidelines from Ruth) and eyeglass cases. Cases can be made with any yarn and the pattern is very simple! Knit with us at ELC or at home.

Contact [ruthheinecke@gmail.com](mailto:ruthheinecke@gmail.com) with questions, or if you need patterns or yarn.

SARAH CIRCLE will meet **Tuesday, March 19th, 7 pm at church**. We will tie blankets for graduating high school seniors. Please bring sewing scissors, masking tape and a ruler if possible. Always welcoming new participants as well as those we haven't seen recently. Contact Connie Curran ([curranconnie@hotmail.com](mailto:curranconnie@hotmail.com)) with any questions about the study materials or meeting details.

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 at Homestead. We will be doing Chapter 7 from *Bad Girls of the Bible*. Rita H. will bring the treats, Sara and Linda W. will bring the beverage.



ELC SEWING GROUP We meet every Thursday morning from 9:00 a.m. to Noon in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to see how those beautiful quilts are made, please stop by.

We'll be happy to show you how it's done. We also invite anyone interested in joining our group for the fun of fellowship and working on this stewardship project. All equipment and supplies are provided so come as you are.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST/ BIBLE STUDY 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 6:30 am on Zoom.** Contact Pastor John for the link.

BETTER TOGETHER-Have you experienced the loss of a life partner and wish to connect with others who understand your situation? We have formed a new group "**Better Together**" and welcome you to join us. Our next gathering is scheduled for **Saturday March 2** at Biaggi's in Middleton. We will meet in the church parking lot at **11am** and carpool. Make a reservation by calling Kathy O'Donnell at (608)437-4209. This is intended to be a supportive group, allowing us to be "**Better Together**"

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS cont.**  
**YOUR DRIVE WAS FANTASTIC!!!**



**Blood Drive Results 117% of Goal**

**Donors Check in**        **87**  
**Total Blood Products** **82 (70 red blood units and 12 power red units)**  
**5 first time donors**    **Always great to see!**

And that means more life, more love, more memories for the most vulnerable patients in our community—those suffering unexpected trauma and chronic illness every day. It was a pleasure to partner with you and we're so happy to have you in our American Red Cross family.

**Thank you for all that you put into making your blood drive a success!**

**Diane Nichols**  
**Donor Recruitment Account Manager**

**American Red Cross Blood Services**  
4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Madison, WI 53705  
(608) 438-8543 (c)

**[Diane.Nichols@redcross.org](mailto:Diane.Nichols@redcross.org)**  
**[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | [facebook.com/RedCrossBlood](https://www.facebook.com/RedCrossBlood)**

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS cont.



### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

*“Following the Way of Jesus: a Lenten Holy Land Journey”*

**Bible Study after Sunday worship in the Fellowship hall.**

**You are invited to join in anytime.**

**March 3:** Belovedness in the Wilderness

Location: Jordan River

Scripture: 3:21-22, 4:1-13 with Rev. Fursan Zu'mot

**March 10:** A Counter Cultural Message

Location: Synagogue Church in Old City Nazareth

Scripture: 4:14, 16-30 with Rev. Ashraf Tannous

**March 17:** Things That Make Peace

Location: Jerusalem, Mt. Olives

Scripture: Luke 19:28-42 with Rev. Sally Azar

**March 24:** Journey to the Cross (Holy Week)

Location: Holy Sepulchre, Via Delrosa

Scripture: Luke 23:1-12, 26-56 with Rev. Rodney Saïd

# LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE



**11:00 a.m. Worship** - followed by lunch in fellowship hall

**7:00 p.m. Worship** – with meal at **6:00 p.m.** in fellowship hall

Ash Wednesday – February 14<sup>th</sup> – Genesis 11:27-12:1

***“God will make a way even when the way isn’t obvious”***

February 21<sup>st</sup> – Jonah 1:1-3 and Jonah 3:1-4

***“God will make a way even when we try to run away”***

February 28<sup>th</sup> - Exodus 14:10-14, 19-22

***“God will make a way even when the odds feel stacked against us”***

March 6<sup>th</sup> – 1 Kings 17:8-16

***“God will make a way when we feel like we have little to offer”***

March 13<sup>th</sup> – 0ç| ã ll←ℓ° □°

***“God will make a way, even when the time doesn’t seem right”***

March 20<sup>th</sup> Acts 16:6-15

***“God is making a way even when the way doesn’t seem clear”***

Maundy Thursday – March 28<sup>th</sup>

Good Friday - March 29<sup>th</sup> Community Service 1:00 pm  
at *United Methodist Church*

Easter March 31<sup>st</sup> 7:00 am and 9:00 am

Easter Breakfast - March 31<sup>st</sup>, 7 am - 9 am Come and enjoy our Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall, featuring homemade cinnamon rolls, egg bakes, fruit, juice/coffee. Free will donations will support our fundraising efforts for the Youth Gathering.



MONDAY-THURSDAY  
9 AM – NOON & 1 PM-4 PM  
FRIDAY 9 AM – NOON

STEEPLE ECHOES ARTICLES DUE BY  
Thursday, March 21st for the April issue.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED on Tuesday, March 26th  
to assemble the April newsletter. **Newcomers are  
welcome.** The assembly process usually takes about  
2 hours. Please, come and enjoy the fellowship



GREETERS Please help make ELC more welcoming. We would like to  
resume greeting in **March**. The sign-up sheet will be located in the  
Narthex on the bulletin board.





# MARCH

## Birthdays

1	Abby Steinhauer	9	Jim Hadac	21	Disa Erickson
2	Chad Boettcher		Danny Muehlenkamp		Michael Friske
	Isabella Cross	10	Jennifer Larson		Catherine Ivey
	Jordan Freitag		Donna Skogen		Julie Schmitz
	Bridgett Killinger	11	Rebecca Kahl	22	Jacey Morin
					Brooks Kosa
	Berkley Segebrecht	12	Amy Kellesvig	24	Sara Fritz
	Sarah Zelle		Ingrid Parks		Gail Huseeth
3	Kiarra Eith	13	Karen McKay	25	Ryan Johnson
	Christopher Balbach		Ava Magnuson		Porter Kreul
	Amy High		Sharman Moen		Tucker Collins
	Rita Schraepfer-Derke		Kady Zupan-Walsh	26	Vaughn Ableman
	DiAnne Stamn	14	Bill Faltz		Cheryl Mortvedt
4	Lauren Eggers		Daryl Rothamer		Kayla Mullendore
	Zachary Eggers		Steven Stack		Steve Slocum
	Everly Pierick	15	Nicole Brown	27	Samantha Knudson
	Danielle Schulz		Quinn Killinger	28	Diane Farnsworth
5	Camille Samuelson	16	Ethan Fendrick		Bradley Miller
6	Kolleen Nesheim		Ken Schulenberg		Wendy Rasmussen
	Sabrina Sieg		Diane Twiton		Brayden Reeson
	Owen Stamn	17	Cyndi Eggers		Ella Reeson
	Bill Walsh		Paul Hogseth	29	Melissa Boettcher
	Sydney Wyss		Charlie Laabs		Nathan Mullendore
7	Ellie Hadac	18	Ashley Hall	30	Nyaah Schloesser
	Cody Hanson	19	Scarlett Cannon		Isaac Schloesser
	Betty Martinson	20	Ian Farrell		Jennifer Turk
	Rylie O'Connell		Cyndy Hamburg	31	Al Bartz
	Garrett Spellman				Duane Christoph
8	DeLayne Krentz				Paul Kellesvig
	Emily Watson				Nathan Seibel

**If we've missed you or a member of your family, or if we've listed your birthday incorrectly, please contact the church office.**



# WORSHIP ASSISTANCE

	<b>MARCH 2 &amp; 3</b>	<b>MARCH 9 &amp; 10</b>	<b>MARCH 16 &amp; 17</b>	<b>MARCH 23 &amp; 24</b>	<b>MARCH 30 &amp; 31</b>
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	<i>Sunday</i> Charley Collins Evie Wyse	<i>Sunday</i> Natalie Hogseth Hannah Schulenberg	<i>Sunday</i> Ellie Woolard Sarah Zelle	<i>Sunday</i> Alexander Olson Connor Heiting	<i>Sunday 7am</i> Claire Hurda Mara Parks <i>Sunday 9am</i> Hudson Kahl Oliver Kahl
<b>COMM ASSIST</b>	<i>Sunday</i> <b>available</b>	NC	<i>Sunday</i> <b>available</b>	NC	<i>Sunday 7am</i> <b>available</b> <i>Sunday 9am</i> <b>available</b>
<b>READERS</b>	<i>Saturday</i> Kate Hook <i>Sunday</i> Diane Bartz	<i>Saturday</i> Ann Baumgartner <i>Sunday</i> Barb Underwood	<i>Saturday</i> Bonny Kellogg <i>Sunday</i> Amy Sinner	<i>Saturday</i> <b>available</b> <i>Sunday</i> Jim Cook	<i>Saturday</i> <b>No Service</b> <i>Sunday 7am</i> <b>available</b> <i>Sunday 9am</i> <b>available</b>
<b>USHERS</b>	<i>Sunday</i> Mary & Wayne Knudson	<i>Sunday</i> Dennis Lokken Irv Steinhauer	<i>Sunday</i> Doug Nesheim Gerald Stamm	<i>Sunday</i> Carol & John Nielsen	<i>Sunday 7am</i> Betsy Baguhn Jody Morey <i>Sunday 9am</i> Jim & Shannon Hadac
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	<i>March-</i> Patti Anderson, Karen Bunke, Polly Field, Dawn Haag, Mary Knudson <i>April-</i> Mary Lokken, Teresa Schult, Diane Twiton, Kirsten Edwards				
<b>COUNCIL DUTIES</b>	<i>March</i> Amy Sinner <i>April</i> Barb Underwood				