



June 2024 Cross Beams

www.englishlutheranchurch.org

Our Vision: A Christ-centered, serving community.



May Basket Delivery



Red for Pentecost



Confirmation Fun



Graduates & Quilts



Hardin Boettcher Baptism



Mother's Day Flowers and Song

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Children's Message



Greetings,

It was about this time, 27 years ago that I was getting ready for my first summer on staff at Luther Point Bible Camp. I was so excited!! Camp had been part of my life for the previous 10 years and now, I was finally going to get to work there. I was going to be a counselor. I was finally going to be one of those young adults that I had looked up to each summer. The staff at bible camp were mostly college students, but in honesty, there had been a few people in their mid-20s that refused to grow up and were still working at camp. But I was finally old enough to be a counselor and I was excited. I can remember the nervous anticipation as I loaded my stuff into my mom's minivan, and she drove me down to camp for the summer. It was exciting!

I do not remember much about the drive down to camp, but I still remember vividly, my mom turning the car from Highway 70 and onto County Highway M and I was suddenly gripped with fear. It dawned on me that I was going to be working at bible camp, but I could not do that. I was an awful sinner! The counselors that I had met through the years had been angels and now here was I, a misbegotten sinner who was about to work at camp. I was going to be such a fraud. There is no way that I could work at bible camp!!

I quickly discovered that those counselors were not angels. They were not perfect; they were not even close to being perfectly behaved angels and I hate to admit it, but I fit right in with them. Turns out, they were just like me, college aged, young adults who made a lot of mistakes. We made lots of poor choices that college kids make, but through it all, God still used us to spread his Word to the campers through us.

When I began that summer, my goal was to be one of those counselors who worked at Luther Point Bible Camp for four summers in a row, until I graduated and went and got a real job. It didn't quite work out that way. I ended up working at 3 other bible camps and all together, between 1997 and 2013, I spent 11 summers working at bible camps. The last seven were over the space of 12 years and that was at Luther Park in Danbury, WI. I loved it up there, but last summer, I got to return to Luther Point in the summer for the first time in over 20 years and it was just like coming home. The camp had changed a lot since 1999, but it was still Luther Point, and the memories came flooding back. Luther Point was the first place that I felt like I truly belonged somewhere and that I could be myself.

I hope that someday, we can get all our youth from ELC to go to Luther Point Bible Camp. That might be a pipe dream, but LPBC is a holy place. It was one of the first places that I felt God's presence in my life, in my heart, and in my soul. It was where I found a community that I truly belonged in. And I want our kids and youth to be able to experience that.

To that end, we are again sponsoring kids to go to Luther Point. We ask that you pay \$50, and we will cover the rest. If there is a kid in your life that needs to go to camp and can go to camp, please talk to me and we will get them registered. I will do what I can to get our kids to camp. Luther Point was a mountain top experience for me, as a camper and as staff, so let's send our kids to camp and hopefully they can have that mountain top experience too! Let's send them to camp and hopefully they will feel God's presence in their lives! Let's go to camp.

Incidentally, LPBC is hosting a Family Camp on July 14-19, and my family is going. Talk to me if you want to hear more about family camp as an option for your whole family!



Cheese Curd Festival Volunteers

The Cheese Curd Festival is June 21-22, 2024. The church will receive \$10 for every hour you volunteer if you designate English Lutheran Church as your participating non-profit organization.

Sign up at: <https://signup.com/go/SYOqtUM>

Fair Stand Sign-up

Summer is right around the corner! Volunteers are needed to work in the *English Lutheran Church* fair stand for the *Pierce County Fair* in August. You can work in the kitchen, dining room working front counter, or be a fryer.

Sign-up forms are located in the back of the church or contact the office to get your name in for this great fellowship opportunity! Join in the fun!



Fundraiser

Holy Baptism

Hardin Lee Boettcher became our brother in Christ through Holy Baptism on Sunday, May 5th at 9:00 a.m.

Hardin's parents are Taylor and Andrea Boettcher. Hardin's Sponsors are Lauren Klaustermeier, Mitch and Karissa Hanson

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

Welcome, Hardin!



Relapse Prevention Group

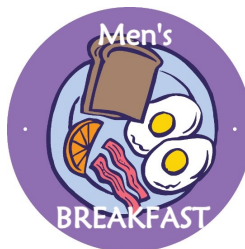
A New Recovery Meeting in the Ellsworth Area at English Lutheran Church on Thursday nights at 6:00 p.m.

Sharing Shed

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

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

Thank you!



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

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



English Lutheran will partner with several local churches to offer Vacation Bible School this summer at English Lutheran Church. VBS will be held June 10-13 from 12:00 p.m. (right after summer school) to 3:30 p.m.

We will have a bus pick up kids from summer school and drop them off at ELC. VBS will kick off with lunch for the kids and then dive into our program.

Our theme this summer is Scuba: Diving into Friendship with God. VBS is open to the community and free to attend!!

To registration go to:

<https://vbspro.events/p/ellsworthvbs2024>



ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

APRIL 16, 2024

Present: Pastor Pete, Greta Larson, Mark Groen, Dennis Swanson, Lynette Winger, Denise Hager, and Jill Hague

Meeting called to order by President Greta Larson at 6:30 p.m.

The mission statement was read by all.

Devotions were read by Pastor Pete.

Motion was made by Paul Tonsager to approve tonight's agenda and 2nd by Jill Hague.

Motion was made by Paul Tonsager to approve the March minutes as amended and 2nd by Lynette Winger.

Reports:

Finance/Treasurer Report was provided and discussed. A correction to the interest rate was made. Motion made by Mark Groen to approve report and 2nd by Jill Hague.

Pastors report was made and discussed. Easter services were deemed a success with good attendance at both services. Search for an Administrative Secretary is in process with no real candidates at this time. The office is being manned on a temporary basis. Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The property report was given by Mark Groen. The cameras have been installed and the new led lights have been purchased and will be installed soon.

Worship committee - no meeting

Children Youth and Family report given by Denise Hager. One more Kingdom Kids will be in May. The VBS is set for the 2nd week of June. Flyers will be provided to the Elementary school to be sent out to local parents. The bus will pick up students after summer school like last year. VBS will be done with other area churches.

Stewardship - no meeting

Endowment - no meeting

Memorial and gifts - no meeting

New Business

Pastor will meet with sales rep for our Copy Machine that is too old for parts to be available. The possibility of purchasing a new machine will be explored.

Interest in purchasing ELC t-shirts. Will check with Brush Strokes about prices and a design.

Paul Tonsager has started work on the Fair Stand with exploring the increased costs of meat this year.

The Senior Center is losing their location and have expressed interest in sharing our space. Discussion on how this may affect our programs. To be further discussed before an offer is considered.

Old Business

A new curb and gutter to be installed in the front of the church this year. There is a proposal for work on Piety Street. Mentioned that someone may want to attend the Village Board to see how that may affect us. We continue to take comments regarding the interest from the congregation to sell the vacant property adjacent to our parking lot.

Grubby Sunday will be April 21st after Service with lunch provided by Pastor Pete. The outdoor stage should be moved from its present location to the old youth house location.

Next meeting to be May 21, 2024.

Paul Tonsager made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was 2nd by Lynette Winger.

The council closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer, and we adjourned.

Submitted by Jill Hague

NOTE: If you want to share your opinion and thoughts on selling our property adjacent to the parking lot, please contact a Council Member.

HELLO FRIEND COMMUNITY MEAL

Random Acts of Kindness would love to invite you to come as you are for a meal free of charge. Stay and hang out while you enjoy your meal or take it to go. This month enjoy live music by Duane and the Saxy Ladies during your meal.



MEAL DATE:
JUNE 18
Served 5:00PM to
6:30PM

**St. Paul's United
Church of Christ**
W5706 Hwy 72, Ellsworth WI
54011



Psalm 121:1-2 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.

We bring you news of the death of Reverend Harlen Menk. Following Ordination, Reverend Menk served Long Lake Lutheran of Sarona and Trinity Lutheran of Birchwood. He also served English Lutheran Church in Ellsworth, Wisconsin for 25 years before retiring in 2010. A service will be held at United Lutheran Church in Red Wing, MN on June 29th at 11:00 a.m.

[A complete obituary may be found here.](#)

Random Acts of Kindness

Baskets are located by the front and back doors of the church for nonperishable food items. All items collected will be donated to the Pierce County Food Shelf.

Adopt-A-Highway

Thank you to all who volunteered on Saturday April 27 to clean up a section of County Road C. Great job!

Thanks

Softball Season

ELC Co-Ed Softball Season kicked off on May 21.



ELC will play on the following dates in June:

- June 4th v. Living Waters
- June 9th v. St. Mary's
- June 9th v. St. Francis
- June 24th v. Zion

The games are played at 7 p.m. at Our Savior's softball field on County Road N



Come out for the softball and stay for the pie.

Thank you from the Community Missions Group!



**Thanks
to Our
Volunteers!**

Thank you to all who provided baked treats and volunteered to cook and serve lunch at Sharing and Caring Hands on April 23.

We are pleased to announce that Julie Winger has accepted the position of Administrative Assistant for English Lutheran Church. Julie will start on June 3rd and comes to us with a strong administrative background. Please welcome Julie to English Lutheran.



June 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 9:00 Worship 10:00 am Fellowship | 3 | 4 7:00 pm ELC Softball (v. Living Waters) | 5 | 6 8am Men's Breakfast 6pm Relapse Prevention Recovery | 7 2024 Synod Assembly | 8 2024 Synod As- sembly 1:00 pm Youth Group Lock-in |
| 9 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship 11:00 am Set up for VBS 7 pm ELC Softball | 10 12:00 pm VBS | 11 12:00 pm VBS 6:30 Church Finance Meeting | 12 12:00 pm VBS | 13 8am Men's Breakfast 12:00 pm VBS 6pm Relapse Prevention Recovery | 14 | 15 |
| 16 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship | 17 | 18 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting | 19 7 pm ELC Softball (v. St. Francis) | 20 8am Men's Break- fast 6pm Relapse Prevention Recovery | 21 Deadline for Newsletter Articles | 22 |
| 23 9am Worship 10:00 Fellowship | 24 7pm ELC Softball (v. Zion) | 25 | 26 | 27 8am Men's Break- fast 6pm Relapse Prevention Recovery | 28 | 29 |
| 30 9am Worship 10:00 Fellowship | | | | | | |

Healing:

Nancy and Vern Ellefson
Gary Brown
Beverly Robertson
Addison Closs
Phyllis Kinneman
Tucker Thoen
Larry Larabee
Dean Mewes
Judy Nunn
Sophia Sokolik
Dennis Boettcher

Military service:

Josh Bechel,
Johnathan Bergman

Those who are grieving:

Family and friends of Pastor Harlen Menk

Long-term:

Elaine Hines
Steve Pieczykolan
Lila Larson
Sherry York
Judy Morrow
Deb Pierce
Tomi Erlandson
Marianne Melstrom
Mary Dee Prokop
Wendy Wegerer
Janet Arndt
Jim Hines



Financial Update

April 30, 2024 Cash Balances
General Fund = \$95,592.71
Dedicated Fund = \$78,231.38
Total = \$173,824.09
Thrivent = \$104,667.61
April General Fund Balance
Income = \$19,245.24
Expenses = \$19,048.20
The next finance meeting is June 11th at 6:30 p.m.



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

Office Hours

Our office hours are:
Monday-Thursday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm



Deaconess

The role of the Deaconess consists of sending thoughts, well wishes, and congratulations to members of our church to let them know we are thinking of them. Please notify the church office or any deaconess worker with any prayers.
The Deaconess for June is Jeanette Wright

Staff

Pastor Pete Warren

pastorpete@englishlutheranchurch.org
218-760-6974

Administrative Assistant: Currently Vacant

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

Custodian: Julie Baggenstoss

Music Director: Missy Kowalchuk

music@englishlutheranchurch.org

Finance Administrator & Accompanist: Ava Maxwell

finance@englishlutheranchurch.org