Our Faith in Focus: 2020 VISION Sundays and Beyond

June 2020 East Koshkonong Lutheran Church ELCA

From the Pastor's Desk - Pastor Brenda Lovick

Email: pastor.brendalovick@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 608-616-5085



Dear Friends at East Koshkonong,

I am so grateful to you for the support you've given our ministry during this time. We have a wonderful congregation, and we are reaching people all around the country and the world with

the ways we are sharing virtual worship through Facebook and YouTube. We are in the process of putting policies and expectations in place and preparing the building for getting ready to gather for worship again. We don't have a date yet for when that will happen, but if the date comes quickly, we will be ready.

We do have a new website! If you are able, I invite you to check out <u>www.eastkoshkonong.org</u>. If anyone has questions about our church, you can confidently send them to our website for accurate information. We will continue to update it with pictures and other information, but our website visitors should have information that would wet their appetites enough to want to know more.

More exciting news to share is that we have four great candidates for bishop! It is yet to be determined when our synod assembly will be happening, but we have bishop candidates to learn about. I have been working with the synod office to facilitate the bishop election. We will have forums to watch soon to learn more about the candidates. You can find out information about the candidates on the synod website at <u>www.scsw-elca.org</u>. My spiritual director has had me reflecting on this passage, Jeremiah 6:16: *The Lord proclaims: Stop at the crossroads and look around; ask for the ancient paths. Where is the good way? Then walk in it and find a resting place for yourselves.*

Where is the good way in all of this? This is a hard question to answer. But I invite you into the same scripture, sit with it, quiet yourself and your heart to ask God what is right for the Body of Christ.

The story in Acts 16:6-15 is also something to reflect on. Paul listened to God and changed his course's direction because he heard God leading him in a different way. Paul thought his course was right, but God had different plans. And beautiful ministry came out of God's direction! I think we need to reflect on this and quiet our minds and the world's noise around us to carefully discern God's direction for us.

I have been opening Wednesdays as my "office hours" day. You can join me for lunch over the phone or over video from 12-1 pm, or you can join me for evening office hours 5-7 pm. If you'd like to connect during this time, please reach out to me by call or text at 608-616-5085, or by email at <u>pastor.brendalovick@gmail.com</u>, or by Facebook message.

God's peace and blessing to you all - stay safe and healthy - follow the guidelines for social distancing. The more we pay attention to these things, I hope the sooner we can meet in person!

In Christ,

Anston Auda

Pastor Brenda Lovick

FUTURE OF IN-PERSON WORSHIP AT EKLC

As we approach the end of the Safer at Home order in Dane County next week, many questions and concerns still exist. We are keeping the best interest of our membership and communities in mind by continuing to suspend in person services at EKLC.

We all look forward to the time when we can safely gather again for worship, however, it will look very different in the immediate future. Restrictions will be based on recommendations from public health officials. Please remember, we are an older, more vulnerable congregation. Health and safety during this pandemic are our first and foremost concern as a faith community. When the time comes that it is deemed safe by the public health department and Church Council, there will be some changes for our in-person worship. We ask your prayers, patience, and understanding as we implement these health precautions against the COVID-19 virus:

- 1. Physical distancing will be maintained. Some pews will be roped off, you may not be able to sit in your normal spot. Please sit with family household members only.
- 2. Attendees should plan to wear masks.
- 3. Hymnals, bibles, pens etc. will be removed from the pews.
- 4. There will be no singing, passing of the peace or Communion.
- 5. The offering plate will not be passed, it will be located in the narthex.
- 6. No congregating in the Friendship Hall before or after worship, no food.
- 7. Everyone will be required to sanitize their hands before and after worship.
- 8. Everyone is expected to arrive, sit, worship, and then leave immediately following worship.
- 9. We will disinfect the sanctuary, doors, bathrooms, and other spaces we use.

Pastor Brenda will continue online services on Sundays, and Prayers for our people on Tuesday. We are discussing various ideas of how to gather together in the future while remaining safe. We are researching the possibility of having a "drive in" service in June sometime, where members could stay in their cars and tune in to Pastor Brenda preaching outside at church – Stay Tuned!

We will continue to monitor the situation over the coming weeks, and are looking forward to the time when it is safe for groups of 50 to gather. This is more feasible to attempt worship than restricting to 25 or fewer.

We will communicate plans as quickly as we can on all platforms. We ask you to communicate with church friends who do not use the internet or computer – this is the most important things we can do right now! Stay in touch with them and keep them informed so they are not left out!

During this challenging time, let's keep identifying the blessings we have in our lives. Pray for all those combatting this virus, and for the time when we can all be together to worship again soon.

Your Church Council

June Council Meeting: June 15, 2020 6:30pm

2020 COUNCIL PRESIDENT: Chris Frodel **VICE-PRESIDENT:** Kristen Lien **SECRETARY:** Jason Schlieckau **TREASURER:** Tom Locchetta **COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Janelle Dunlavy Sonja Jacobson Hans Lein If you need to speak to a council member please call the church office to leave a message and they will return your call. Thank You.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Secretary: Judy Lund Treasurer: Holly Loomis

April income \$31,944.96 April expense \$28,359.08

YTD Income: \$87,241.07 YTD Expense: \$105,424.78

Presidents Message:

Hello EKLC Families - We sure have missed seeing all of you! This time has been very hard on many people, we are a social congregation that looks forward to our worship and fellowship together! Thank you to all the various members that have been reaching out to others via phone calls, notes, and emails – it is nice to see how we all can pull together during such a difficult situation.

Your Church Council has been navigating this situation and had several discussions on how we proceed in the near future. We review all the information, and rely on guidance from the ELCA Synod, the Wisconsin Council of Churches, and Federal, State, and County guidelines. Please read the section titled Future in Person Worship at EKLC for details.

We ask for your prayers as we thoughtfully navigate this situation. Please know we are making hard decisions in the best interest of all of our membership.

Faithfully,

Chris Frodel

Council President



You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below.

All donations are secured through Vanco.

Thank you for your generous offering in this way!

Online giving directions:

With all of these options, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

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





What have the youth been up to?

Our confirmation students ended the year with a fun scavenger hunt over Zoom! They had 10 minutes to gather as many items from a list we laid out for them, receiving a certain number of points for each item. Some of the items included, although not limited to: bible or old church bulletin, a food & drink that they MADE (they couldn't just pour a glass of milk, they had to make



chocolate milk, for example), an item that represented an extra-curricular activity they're involved in, and a unique item that they thought nobody else had in their house. They also had a to find other random items like a red shoestring, their toothbrush, birthday candles, a Christmas card, a Disney VHS, etc. It was a big hit, and probably something we will do again given the opportunity!



Our Sunday School teachers finished off the year with a Zoom call with their class. It was a great way to give closure & finalize the fabulous year they were having! Some teachers chose to participate in an adapted version of the scavenger hunt listed above, and others just took some time to talk with their "kids."

We definitely miss seeing one another face to face! But we also want all Sunday School and confirmation students to have a wonderful summer!

We would like to give some special recognition to one of our dedicated Sunday School teachers as she "retires." Shawn Schlieckau has seen her daughter, Shanna, through her Sunday School years here at EKLC, and now that Shanna will move on to confirmation next year, Shawn is moving on too. We are so grateful for her dedicated service to this program, and it definitely won't be the same without her! Thank you, Shawn!

Education Committee Meeting Dates

Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 7pm Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 7pm

News from the Church Basement:

No real news from the church basement again. Until we have word that our buildings will be open, we cannot plan for meetings. The schedule calls for us meeting for Pin and Sew on Thursday, June 4. Light circle is on the schedule for June.

The outing to the Fireside has been cancelled, and we are looking for someone to take over the responsibility for making and carrying out reservations for that in the ensuing years.

As always, thanks for all that you do, and especially to Pastor Brenda for all the online services which have been wonderful, and to the Council for looking out for all of us and our health and well being. Thanks to the shepherds for looking after the sheep!!!! Stay well. God Bless you.

Communicator Carolyn



Fireside Christian Fish Fry Cancelled. Due to the uncertainty of gathering events and our health, the EKLC Women of the ELCA have decided to cancel the July Fireside event.

CONGRATULATIONS 2020 GRADUATES!

EKLC would like to honor our graduates in our monthly newsletters this summer. If you, or your child, is graduating in 2020 please email the church office: eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com with

the graduates name, where they are graduating from

and their future plans. A picture would be great too! Please see the High School Graduate insert in this newsletter that honors Cody Georgeson, Kody Lewellin & Allison Lund.





EKLC Homebound Members

Lois Zerkle ~ Fairhaven Senior Services 435 W. Starin Rd., Whitewater, WI 53190 Irene Hensel ~ Fairhaven Senior Services 435 W. Starin Rd., Room 441C; Whitewater, WI 53190 Melissa Anderson ~ Home 279 Hwy A, Cambridge, WI 53523 Joanne Gyland ~ Home Again 308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523 Judy Jacobson ~ Home Again 308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523 Shirley Johnson ~ Home Again 308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523 Betty Scheel ~ Home Again 308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523 Phyllis Vergenz ~ Our House 201 W. Madison, Cambridge, WI 53523 Joan Volenberg ~ Home 2315 Hwy W., Cambridge, WI 53523 Janette Klemp ~ Home 400 Mildred Ave, Edgerton, WI 53534 Roger Olstad ~ Home 1040 Bliven Rd., Edgerton, WI 53534 Lila Spike ~ Swift Haven 124 N. Henry St. Apt. #103, Edgerton, WI 53534



Would you like a daily devotional mailed to you?

The *Portals of Prayer* and *Christ in Our Home* that have been available in the Church Narthex can now be mailed to you! Just call or email the church office and leave a message letting me know which devotional (or both) you'd like me to mail to you. Phone:608-423-3017 or email: eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Continues to be by Facebook Live-Stream and YouTube through June on Sunday Mornings at 9:00am. You can view the services any time after the live event by searching our Facebook page and YouTube.

Summer Worship and Study Series: Our summer sermon series (June 7-September 6) will focus heavily on the book of Romans, and Pastor Brenda will be using this book as a guide for our conversation: *Lutheran Questions, Lutheran Answers* by Martin Marty.

ISBN-13: 978-0806653501 If you'd like to order the book to follow along with Pastor, you are welcome to order it from Amazon, or Barnes and Noble, or wherever you purchase your books. This purchase is not necessary for the sermon series, but you are welcome to get it and follow along.

Sunday Readings ~

- 6/7 ~ Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton is providing a sermon for Trinity Sunday. Look for an email with link next week.
- 6/14 ~ Chapter 1: Lutheran History and Heritage Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8
- 6/21 ~ Chapter 7: The Holy Spirit; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11
- 6/28 ~ Chapter 9: Worship; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Romans 6:12-23

Musician ~ (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

6/14 ~ TBD 6/21 ~ Andrew Severson 6/28 ~ TBD

Phone Calls, Conference Calls and Video meetings can happen at any time. If there are youth that want to meet together, adults who want to connect about resources or studies or committee meetings or just talking to each other, we can schedule private meetings via Zoom (Zoom can be by video or phone) at any time. Private meetings with Zoom are safer and secure than public meetings as you've been hearing in the news. We are fortunate that we can connect with each other in this way.

Prayers for our People June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Michael Wiersma Shelby Wildes James & Bette Wileman	Stuart, Debbie & Caleb Wipperfurth Veronica Wipperfurth Jerry & Connie Wolf	Steven & Heidi Woodstock Nicholas Woodstock Andy, Lindsay & Rosalie Zacharias	Emily Zahn Lena Zahn Scott & Jackie Zahn	Lois Zerkle Cheryl & Curt Abel Don, Natasha, Anders & Anna Amundson	Belva Anderson Jason, Ashly, Oliv- ia & Kayla Ander- son Ron, Shawn & Melissa Anderson	Verdal Anderson Kirk Anderson Lindsay, Meta (Wescott) & Colt Baker
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Steve Bakken Richard Barfknecht Steve Barfknecht	Aryel Beck Joe & Alanna Beck Tammy Beilke	Nick, Erin, Taylor & Blake Berge Kathy Bergholz Chris Biermeier Jon, Mollie & Anson Biermeier	James Birkrem Kris Blaesing Ruth Bovre	Rachel Bronson Rick Bronson Jim & Lynn Budinetz	Betsy Calhoun Scott Calhoun Jeffrey, Shelley, Connor & Brooke Calhoun	Tom & Leila Carl Brian, Tracey, Braxden & Amilya Carlson Paul, Danelle, Tyler & Parker Carlson
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Terry, Karen & Paul Chadwick David & Sharon Chapman Andy Christensen	Jenna Christensen Sean & Susan Currie Spencer Currie	Sydney Currie Bobby, Lisa & Danielle Dahl Raymond Dalby	Spencer DeForest Steven DeForest Sara Depies	Duane & Linda Dieckhoff Katie Dieckhoff Rebekah, Jim, Kyle, Zachary, Lukas & Kerstin Durkee	Shelly Eagen Carroll & Bonnie Ehrke Leif & Erin Ehrke Mikaela Ehrke	Torleif Ehrke Elisa Eikland Harriet Eikland
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Jeff Eikland & Michelle Hoppman Jim Eikland Roy & Mary Beth Ellickson	Ruby Ellickson Kitty Epperson Eric, Brittany & Kelby Evenson	Roger, Coral & Autumn Evenson Taylor Evenson Mickey Farrar	Jill Fitzpatrick Scott, Chris & Mia Frodel Erika Froeming & Callen Kiehn	Gary & Gloria Fruit Bailey Furseth Noah Furseth	Henry, Ashley, Isaiah (Long) & Tanner Furseth Robert & Jane Furseth	Todd & Leah Furseth Wilma Furseth Chad, Cindy & Cody Georgeson
28	29	30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4
Jocie Georgeson Dennis & Joy Graffin Kevin Graffin	Jennifer, Eden & Willow Graffin Kayla, Christopher & Corrine Griffin Philip & Linda Gullickson	Marilyn Gunderson Trevor Gunderson Richard & Irene Gunderson	Adam Gunnelson Amelia Gunnelson Brian & Carol Gunnelson	Larry & Betty Gunnelson Joanne Gyland Oren & Patty Hammes	Curt & Linda Hanson Karen Hayes Dan & Sheryl Hen- sel	Amy Hensel Molly Hensel Irene Hensel

June 2020

From Pastor Brenda, regarding her schedule: I am available during office hours and by appointment. I am always available for pastoral emergencies - you may call me at 608-616-5085. Please remember that family and personal responsibilities are needed times also. Thank you!

Sun	Mon	Mon Tue Wed		Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	1 2 3		4	5	6
	Book Study Facebook Group 4:30pm Worship Com- mittee Conference Call	8:30am Zoom Staff Meeting 9:30am Prayers for our People Facebook Live-Stream 1:30pm Zoom Book Study: Outlaw Christian	10am Assembly Planning 12-1pm Virtual Lunch with Pastor Brenda 1:30pm Local Pastor Meeting 4pm Zoom Book Study: Mirror for the Soul 5-7pm Virtual Pastor Office Hours	10am Zoom Conference Meeting	Pastor's Day Off	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton is providing a sermon for Trinity Sun- day. Look for an email with link next week.	Book Study Facebook Group 4:30pm Worship Com- mittee Conference Call	8:30am Zoom Staff Meeting 9:30am Prayers for our People Facebook Live-Stream 1:30pm Zoom Book Study: Outlaw Christian 6:30pm CART board meeting	12-1pm Virtual Lunch with Pastor Brenda 1:30pm Local Pastor Meeting 4pm Zoom Book Study: Mirror for the Soul 5-7pm Virtual Pastor Office Hours 7pm Education Meeting	10am Zoom Conference Meeting	Pastor's Day Off	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9 am Online Worship	Book Study Facebook Group 4:30pm Worship Com- mittee Conference Call 5:30pm Property Com- mittee Meeting 6:30pm Church Council	8:30am Zoom Staff Meeting 9:30am Prayers for our People Facebook Live-Stream 11am Bishop Election Task Force	12-1pm Virtual Lunch with Pastor Brenda 1:30pm Local Pastor Meeting 4pm Zoom Book Study: Mirror for the Soul 5-7pm Virtual Pastor Office Hours	10am Zoom Conference Meeting	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Pastor's Day Off	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 am Online Worship	Book Study Facebook Group 4:30pm Worship Com- mittee Conference Call	8:30am Zoom Staff Meeting 9:30am Prayers for our People Facebook Live-Stream	12-1pm Virtual Lunch with Pastor Brenda 1:30pm Local Pastor Meeting 4pm Zoom Book Study: Mirror for the Soul 5-7pm Virtual Pastor Office Hours	10am Zoom Conference Meeting	Pastor's Day Off	
28	29	30				
9 am Online Worship	Book Study Facebook Group 4:30pm Worship Com- mittee Conference Call	8:30am Zoom Staff Meeting 9:30am Prayers for our People Facebook Live-Stream				

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Our Faith in Focus: 2020 VISION East Koshkonong Lutheran Church

454 East Church Road Cambridge, WI 53523

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED Tel: 608-423-3017 E-mail: eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com OFFICE HOURS Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. During this time most office hours are done remotely. Please know during office hours you can always reach the Church office by email . You may also leave a message on the church answering machine, it is being checked regularly during office

Norship with us Live on Facebook And YouTube 9:00am Sunday Mornings

MISSION TRIP UPDATES



INTERGENERATIONAL Mission Trip to Denver, CO

Our Denver mission team made the very difficult decision to cancel our trip to Denver because of traveling concerns due to COVID. We have decided to look at some local opportunities to serve in our more immediate area. We will keep you updated as we schedule those events! Thank you to all who donated towards our trip, your generosity is appreciated!

