



Sundays and Beyond

February 2023

East Koshkonong Lutheran Church

Pastor's Message

Friends in Christ,

It's February, which I'll be honest with you all is probably my least favorite month because between the brutally cold weather and the lack of sunlight it always feels like it lasts forever, even though it's actually the shortest month of the year. One of the few things that I do enjoy about the month of February is that it's Black History Month. Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by people of African American descent and a time for recognizing the central role of BIPOC throughout the history of the U.S. and the world. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Many other countries around the world also devote a month to celebrating black history.

I sometimes hear people express concern about Black History Month, claiming that it's degrading other ethnicities to have a month that focuses on the history of one specific ethnicity. However, I never hear people use that same kind of argument for other things to which we bring awareness. For example, I've never heard someone say, "breast cancer awareness month is degrading to the importance of other forms of cancer" because that isn't true, in the same way that it's also not true that Black History Month is degrading to other ethnicities. I also sometimes hear people ask, "why there isn't a white history month?" The answer is because most history books in the U.S. public schools already do a wonderful job of lifting up the important accomplishments of white people throughout our history. However, these history books haven't always done a good enough job of lifting up the important accomplishments of BIPOC. For example, many Americans can name the accomplishments of important historical figures who were white such as Abraham Lincoln, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Mark Twain. However, many Americans have more difficulty identifying the accomplishments of important BIPOC historical figures such as Frederick Douglass, W. E. B. Du Bois, and Maya Angelou. Black History Month recognizes these discrepancies and invites us to have important conversations around how we can work toward a more just and peaceful society. So, my question for us to consider is how might we together as the Church participate in this work and these discussions? Let us to continue to discern those important things together.

Shalom to you in Christ,

Pastor Eric.



EKLC Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 20 – 6:00 PM (Friendship Hall)

Call to Order 6:13

Attending: Pastor Eric, Tom, Don, Nathan, Hal, Kristen, and Oren. Not present: Denise

Agenda changes/additions: NA

Devotions: Advent is a time of waiting. We shared things that we are waiting for, like meeting Tom's grandbaby!

Review and Approval of Financials Kristen moves to accept, seconded by Tom. Motion passes.

Review of Budget: Will send updated with minutes. Motion to approve budget Don: Seconded by Kristen. Motion approved. Don to do budget road show sometime after church in the next month or so. Don to contact Curt about church property updates conversation.

Investment fund: Kristen moves to stop taking money out of the Investment fund for missions, and instead move \$900/month from the Youth director line to Missions until \$0. Don Seconds. Motion passes.

Review and Approval of all committee reports received Motion to approve: Don Seconded: Oren. Motion passes

Review and Approval of Minutes from last Council meeting. Motion to approve: Don Seconded: Nathan. Motion passes

Old Business:

Thank You's – Erica, Denise, and Heidi – Chris for Christmas caroling. Kristen to write.

Unsung Hero - Pastor is doing great work. He's offered many extra services and has kids doing cool work in the community.

Camera System Update

The camera resets after adjustments. Hopefully adding a power supply will fix the problem.

Education Wing

Going to put a question on the annual meeting about creating a committee to work on accessibility at upper church and architectural designs for education wing.

Looking for a volunteer to lead youth gathering to New Orleans in 2024. Work with multiple churches on logistics and fund raising.


Looking for a parent of a high schooler. Pastor to bring up at education meeting.

Thoughts and ideas to get more people back to services.

Lots of new services and opportunities to worship

We need to be more welcoming to new folks. People come back to people, not a building.

Other Business

Fam  berg Phillips want to give a memorial bench to the church.

We need to figure out where to put this when it arrives in the spring. Thinking somewhere in the cemetery.

New Business:

New Refrigerator for friendship hall. Tom makes motion to spend not more than \$1000 of undesignated memorials for a new refrigerator: Oren, Second. Motion passes

Planning for the Annual Meeting.

Date set for 2/12/23

Committee Reports due by 1/2/2023

Tom to use last year's meeting as a template for agenda

New Committee and Council members for next year. Nominating committee is Jamie, Jason, Chris, Sonia. Looking for volunteers!

Council

Investment committee

Aagot Borge

Synod Assembly

Personnel committee

Next meeting:

Jan 17th @ 6pm? Bobbie to create a Zoom for Oren who will be in sunny Florida

Adjourn – Kristen. Don seconds. Motion passes.

Close with Lord's Prayer

February Council Meeting:
TBA

2022 COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Tom Locchetta
VICE-PRESIDENT: Nathan Stach
SECRETARY: Kristen Lien
TREASURER: Don Amundson
COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Oren Hammes
Denise Rockney
Hal Schuh

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

Treasurer's Report

December 2022 Contribution: \$24,558.61
December 2021 Contribution: \$34,723.55
December 2022 Expense: \$17,065.76
December 2021 Expense: \$17,932.20

YTD 2022 Contribution: \$242,475.06
YTD 2021 Contribution: \$266,875.00
YTD 2022 Expense: \$231,290.39
YTD 2021 Expense: \$167,983.07



one-time donation.

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

Option 2: Scan this QR code with your smartphone. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 3: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.

If you don't have online access for this giving option, you are welcome to fill out a form from the church office:

608-423-3017 or eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com

OFFERINGS ARE ALSO ALWAYS APPRECIATED BY MAILING TO:
EAST KOSHKONONG LUTHERAN CHURCH, 454 EAST CHURCH ROAD, CAMBRIDGE, WI 53523

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

*Annual Church Meeting
Sunday, February 12, 2023
at the conclusion of the 9
a.m. Worship Service*



**Annual
Church
Meeting**

February Greetings from the church basement :

Hopefully most of us are healthy. It's been a time of passing around illnesses. We will try to have a meeting on Thursday, February 2 for Pin and Sew from 8 to noon, with a break at 9:30 for coffee and business meeting. Joy Circle is taking care of duties this month. Thanks to them, and to Peace Circle for January duties. It's not a difficult task to take care of this work, but it does require a few people to pay attention and get things done.

Thanks to folks who have donated fabrics and squares for making quilts. If there is anyone out there who has a stash of fabrics and would like to make a quilt top, they can be any size squares or pieces, to measure around 60 by 80 inches, We'd love some help, and you are always invited to join us on these Pin and Sew adventures in the Upper Church basement. Weather permitting, we meet the First and Third Thursdays.

Thanks to the folks who bought the slow cooker for the dining room. We will be having simple soup suppers on Wednesday nights during lent, and we can use that new slow cooker. Thanks to those who helped serve the funeral last month. You are so much appreciated. Thanks to our loyal Meals on Wheels delivery folks for being so willing and so flexible. One of our area churches has opted out of the delivery schedule, so our turn will come up a bit sooner. Our next time will begin on March 27th. I will wait a bit to see if the needs for the scheduling have changed from the current two days a week.

Thanks to Bobbie for working on our Women of the ELCA yearly information booklet. The printer rearranged some of the pages when she ran the first few, so she will be fixing that and running a new print. probably after the work of the annual report gets finished. There will be copies in the Narthex at the lower church, and copies in the basement at the upper church for you to pick up. God bless you all.

Communicator Carolyn



I would like to say thank you to everyone at East Koshkonong for all of their phone calls, visits and cards over this past holiday season. I have appreciated each and every thing so much. Special thanks to Pastor Eric and Nancy. Phyllis Vergenz
Kurt & Barb Klemp



We extend our sympathy to the family of:
Anbjorg Kaashagen

EKLC Homebound Members

Melissa Anderson
279 Hwy A, Cambridge, WI 53523

Harriet Eikland ~ Home Again
308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523

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

Gary Johnson
1513 Raveen St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Arlen Lund~ 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

Wilma Furseth
1000 Ridge St 3B Stoughton, WI 53589

Betsy Calhoun
10702 W Hwy 14 Evansville, WI 53536

results

ANALYSIS OF THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE SURVEY

This survey was online for two weeks and paper copies were in the bulletins for two weeks. We only had 40 members fill out the survey so this may not be a complete view of our church. Also, some participants did not fill out every question.

76 percent do not have any problem coming to church because of other activities or obligations while 23 percent do.

37 percent find it easier to stay home and watch the service, while 62 percent come in person.

Everyone feels welcome.

As far as a desire for a Bible/Book study, about half of the survey participants would like to pursue this.

The question that asked about the desire to be more involved had only 5.88 percent that said yes.

No one seems to have many barriers as far as worship, in most cases, the time, day and lack of a nursery attendant have no effect.

Parents seem to enjoy and want more involvement with multi-generational activities and mentoring by older members.

The two essay questions are copied and are available in the Narthex



SUNDAY SCHOOL

1/8/2023	Sunday school	
1/15/2023	Sunday school	
1/22/2023	Sunday school	
1/29/2023	Sunday school	
2/5/2023	Kids sing during worship - host coffee hour & service project	Song = Deep & Wide
2/12/2023	Sunday school	
2/19/2023	Sunday school	
2/26/2023	Sunday school	
3/5/2023	Kids sing during worship - host coffee hour & service project	Song = I've got the Joy, Joy, Joy
3/12/2023	Sunday school	
3/19/2023	Sunday school	
3/26/2023	Sunday school	
4/2/2023	<i>No Class - Palm Sunday</i>	
4/9/2023	<i>No Class - Easter</i>	
4/16/2023	Youth Sunday Rehearsal	
4/23/2023	Youth Sunday Rehearsal	
4/30/2023	Youth Sunday Rehearsal	
5/7/2023	Youth Sunday	

Confirmation class Christmas caroling





It's Blue Jay Backpack Time!

EKLC will once again be participating in the Blue Jay Backpack program through the Cambridge Food Pantry. We will be collecting foods listed below to provide meals for 18-20 students during Easter break at the end of March. The backpacks to those in need will be distributed to students on March 24. You will find a collection tub located in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for helping make this program successful.

Food items should include substantial, healthy food items that students can easily prepare and eat to supplement meals that they aren't receiving through school during holiday and other extended breaks.

Here are some ideas: (feel free to add your own ideas also)

- Individual Fruit Cups

- Ramen Noodles

- Canned Soup

- Ravioli (prefer cans; may be any pasta meal in a can)

- Individual Grits or Oatmeal Packets

- Granola Bars

- Small Boxes of Cereal (individual servings)

- Mac-n-Cheese (microwavable, individual servings)

- Individually wrapped snacks (peanut butter crackers, cheez-its, pudding cups, cookies, etc.)

Worship Helpers for February 2023

In-Person and Virtual Worship Every Sunday at 9:00am with communion

If you are unable to serve on a date you are scheduled please make every effort to find a replacement. If you have any questions or concerns please communicate with the appropriate contact person.

Thank you!

Organist~

Judy Rusch

Assisting Ministers~ (Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

2/5 ~ Vicki Schuh

2/12 ~ Carolyn Lien

2/19 ~ Holly Loomis

2/22 ~ Carolyn Lien Ash Wednesday

2/29 ~ Vicki Schuh

Lay Readers~ (Contact Person: Bobbie Stach)

2/5 ~ Vicki Schuh

2/12 ~ Kristen Lien

2/19 ~ Don Amundson

2/26 ~ Jane Furseth

Acolytes ~ (Contact: Bobbie Stach / Pastor Eric)

2/5 ~ Zack Durkee

2/12 ~ Tanner Furseth

2/19 ~ Dani Dahl

2/26 ~ Rylie Mancheski

Greeters~ (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

2/5 ~ Karen Hayes

2/12 ~ Scott & Jackie Zahn

2/19 ~ Franklin & Beverly Lien

2/22 ~ Marge Stach Ash Wednesday

2/26 ~ Don & Eileen Hoehn

Ushers~ (Contact Person: Vicki Schuh)

2/5 ~ Frodel Family

2/12 ~ Lane & Judy Taylor

2/19 ~ Amundson Family

2/22 ~ Nathan Stach Family Ash Wednesday

2/26 ~ Jane Furseth & Barb Klemp

Communion Set-up/Take-down~

(Contact Person: Marge Stach)

Altar Guild

Offering Counters~

(Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

2/5 ~ Joy Graffin and Gloria Fruit

2/12 ~ Brenda Schroeder and Leila Carl

2/19 ~ Jean Lehr and Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel

2/22 ~ Nathan & Bobbie Stach Lock up only

2/26 ~ Joy Graffin and VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Coffee Hour~ (Contact: Sign-up in Kitchen)

2/5 ~ Sunday School

2/12 ~ Holly Loomis & Nancy Knapwurst

2/19 ~ Chris & Scott Frodel

2/22 ~ VOLUNTEER NEEDED

2/26 ~ VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Church Lock up~

(Contact Person: Holly Loomis)

2/5 ~ Gloria Fruit

2/12 ~ Holly Loomis

2/19 ~ Vicki Schuh

2/22 ~ Gloria Fruit Ash Wednesday

2/26 ~ Holly Loomis

Bring in your Piggly Wiggly Receipts!

The CAMBRIDGE Piggly Wiggly donates a percentage of Piggly Wiggly dollars to EKLC



February 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship 10:00 Sunday School	6	7 9:00am Staff Meeting 6:00 Worship meeting	8 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation	9	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 ANNUAL MEETING 8:00am Choir Practice 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship 10:00 Sunday school	13	14 9:00am Staff Meeting 9:00am Peace Circle	15 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation	16 Newsletter deadline	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship 10:00 Sunday School	20	21 9:00am Staff Meeting	22 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation 7:00pm Ash Worship	23 Newsletter Assembly	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 8:00am Choir Practice 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship 10:00 Sunday School	27	28 9:00am Staff Meeting				

East Koshkonong Lutheran Church

454 East Church Road
Cambridge, WI 53523

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Tel: 608-423-3017

E-mail: eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.eastkoshkonong.org

NON PROFIT ORG.

U.S Postage Paid

BULK RATE

Cambridge, WI

Permit #4



OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

YOUTUBE: Go to East Koshkonong Lutheran Church" or the email eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com.

Remember to like the videos and subscribe to the channel! <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChUv6MDQV54yCWz6olGWewz>

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

In case of severe weather, you may contact the following resources to learn about cancellations at East Koshkonong

- church office @ 423-3017 (A message will be left on the office answering system as soon as a cancellation is made)
- web site, www.eastkoshkonong.org