



Sundays and Beyond

March 2023

East Koshkonong Lutheran Church

Pastor's Message

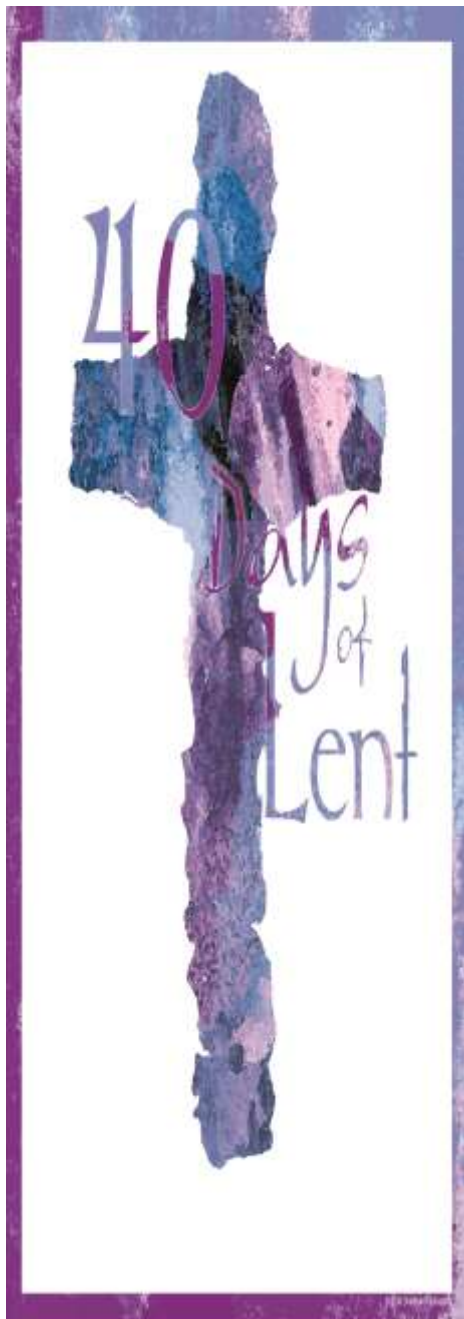
Friends in Christ,

What comes to mind when you hear the word justice? Often when we see this term being used in the news today it refers to a person or group of people receiving retribution for crimes that they have committed. While this is an important function of what justice means, justice also has an important function in the bible. According to my concordance, **some form of the word justice is used 1,576 times throughout the bible.** Wow, that is a lot, and that tells us that justice is a vital concept for our faith lives. However, **in the bible and the Christian faith justice means something very different from what the word is often used to describe today.**

The word justice in the bible comes from a Hebrew word which refers to **a condition in society in which everyone is given equality, dignity, and fairness.** In the bible God constantly calls all people to live into this understanding of justice by working together for a society where no one gets left behind. However, the people in the bible did not always faithfully live out this calling from God. Thus, unfortunately many people suffered from poverty and hungry, many widows and orphans were left un-cared for, and many people who were immigrants and refugees were not given a safe place to live. These injustices often resulted, at least in part, from the way that societies were structured during biblical times. What I mean by that is there were things that were part of the order of society during this time that helped create conditions where people suffered from injustices. These structures all worked to create a society that was not consistent with the vision of justice that God called the people to uphold. Thus, God was angry over these deep injustices and called the people to repent from these personal as well as communal sins and return to faithful living by recognizing and working to change them.

These teachings about what justice means and how we are called to live into it still have meaning for the Church today. Sadly, this world has some of the same problems and injustices which existed during the time period of the bible. There are still people who are immigrants and refugees who cannot find safety for themselves and their families. There are people still today who are poor or hungry who continue to suffer from economic exploitation. We also face issues of systemic racism and sexism today. Further, just as unfair social structures during the time of the bible created an environment conducive to injustice, so too we have social barriers that feed into the injustices that plague this world. For as many great thinkers have pointed out, there are structural barriers in our societies which work to create an environment that is not consistent with the biblical understanding of justice. The Christian faith names all of these things that feed into injustice as sins that God calls us together as communities to confess and repent from. Yet this is not easy because these injustices in the world today result from complex issues in our social structures and are far more sophisticated than just individual choices that we make. **Thus, as we continue our journey through this Lenten season, let continue to discern together how we are called to faithfully do this and how we can begin to live into God's vision of justice.**

Shalom to you in Christ,
Pastor Eric.



EKLC Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 17th – 6:00 PM (Friendship Hall)

Call to Order: 6:14 pm

Attending: Pastor Eric, Tom, Nathan, Don, Hal, Denise, Oren via zoom, and Lane

Agenda changes/additions

Devotions

Review and Approval of Financials: Motion to approve: Kristen; Seconded: Nathan Motion carries

Motion to give Ukraine money directly to Natasha for her family by: Kristen; Seconded: Denise Motion carries. Pastor to announce this is happening during worship.

Review and Approval of all committee reports received. Motion to approve: Denise; Seconded: Nathan. Motion carries

Review and Approval of Minutes from last Council meeting: Motion to approve: Don; Seconded: Tom Motion carries Will update to correct newsletter to the right Orren.

Old Business:

Thank You's – Nathan to write note to Lane and Johnny

Unsung Hero – Tom to write about Carolyn. Kristen to send info to Tom.

Camera System Update

UPS Power supply has been received.

Tom and Jason will work on installing and reprogramming the camera

Education Wing

Bonnie to talk at an upcoming Sunday service about the what and why of the projects (upper and lower church)

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

Denise to send out a question to youth to see who/how many are interested at end of the month.

New Refrigerator

Bobbie and Nathan to look this weekend. Have a few that fit budget and size

New Business:

Planning for the Annual Meeting.

Date set for 2/12/23

Reviewed Proposed Agenda (Attached to email)

Will get quorum number from Bobbie

Tom to announce meeting at worship and work with Bobbie on a mailer

Tom to write the vision 2023 for the mtg. Kristen to review

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

Council - Need one more person

Personnel committee – Need several people

Amazon Smile email from Hilary

Going to get some more information to see if we can figure out what to do. Tom to talk to Bobbie

Several facilities updates from Lane

Ceiling and lights in first floor education wing. Materials: \$1700 for ceiling and \$500 for light= \$2200

Water softener and water heater for kitchen. Water heater is limed up. To back flush water heater + purchase water softener = \$1310. Flush may not solve issue and may need to purchase a new water heater.

Remove urinal in upstairs men's bathroom: \$250

Don moves to do all of the above work, not to exceed \$5000 total, with money coming out of money market repairs line. Nathan seconded. Motion passes

Next meeting:

Next meeting will be set by next council after annual meeting

Adjourn: Don moves to adjourn; Tom seconds. Motion carries. 8:06

Close with Lord's Prayer

March Council Meeting:
Tuesday March 21 @ 6:00pm

2023 COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Denise Rockney

VICE-PRESIDENT: Oren Hammes

SECRETARY: Linda Hanson

TREASURER: Don Amundson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Nathan Stach

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

January 2023 Contribution: \$24,694.12

January 2023 Expense: \$29,191.57

January 2022 Contribution \$17,155.04

January 2022 Expense \$24,211.76

GIVE PLUS⁺
A VANCO COMPANY

You may make a secure offering/
donation to EKLC by following the di-
rections below. All donations are secured
through Vanco. Thank you for your gener-
ous 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 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

Thank you!

*My Family and I want to express our sin-
cere thank yous and appreciation to all of
the ladies who worked so many hours in
the kitchen and for the Congregations
prayer and memorials.*

*A Special thank you to Pastor Eric for his
visits and prayers.*

From the Family of Larry Gunnelson

We extend our sympathy to the
families of:

Betty Scheel and Harriet Eikland

News from the church basement

Are we sad to say goodbye to snowy February? Unfortunately much of that snow fell on the Thursdays when we had planned to Pin and Sew, so we are falling behind! We plan to meet on Thursday, March 2nd from 8 to noon, "Lord willing and the creeks don't rise"(or the snow fall!) Our helpers for the month are from Light Circle, thanks to them, and to Joy Circle for duties in February. Thank you to the many helping hands with the funerals this month, and to the daughters who showed up to help us out, too. It seems rude to say we had a good time at the funeral, but we get together for these events with friends and neighbors and are thankful for the opportunities. Our plan of using caterers for funeral lunches is working well. There have been several different food suppliers, and all have been very helpful. There will soon be an update on this subject in the funeral information for families.

We have the opportunity to gather for soup suppers before Lenten services in March. Perhaps we'll be meeting there. God bless you all.

Communicator Carolyn Lien





EKLC Homebound Members

Melissa Anderson
279 Hwy A, 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

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

Monday night visitors at East Koshkonong church have been the East Koshkonong/Busseyville Dartball Team. Their 2022-23 team includes Carroll Ehrke, Charlie Danielson, Larry Zartman, Josh McCarthy, Keith Marsden, Dave Reed, and Al Kjernes.

Other members in the Tobacco City Dartball League are seven churches in Edgerton, Milton, Janesville, and Fulton. They wish to thank the EKLC congregation for hosting seven sessions this year. It is a time of fellowship with other men in neighboring communities as well as some dartball and delicious treats.



Thank you!

Maybe you have noticed the beautiful quilted banner hanging from the front balcony and the new banner hanging from the balcony leaving the sanctuary. This was made from a retired parament. This is the beautiful handywork of Barb Klemp. Thanks to Barb Klemp for this contribution .

The Alter Guild



NEVER STOP
PRAYING

ALWAYS
BELIEVE



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.)

Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary visitors toured our beautiful buildings at EKLC on Tuesday, February 7. Pastor Trent Saari, of Western Koshkonong Church, accompanied the group of professors and ten seminarians. They were especially interested in Pastor(s) Dietrichson, Preus, and Otteson since they were important part of old Norwegian Synod history.

Bethany Seminary is located in Mankato Minnesota. Professor T.R. Schmeling mentioned they attend a Conference in Mequon, WI every three years and they look forward to stopping at Western and East Koshkonong Church. Bonnie Ehrke and Judy Taylor were tour guides and enjoyed their questions and enthusiasm for the church history.

We ended the tour with a visit to the church monument on Ron Anderson's farm on Hwy A. The monument commemorates the first worship service conducted by Pastor J.W.C. Dietrichson in 1844.



A new KOSHKONONG sign was put up at EKLC Monday, February 13. It is located at the cemetery gate near the lower church building. The sign is given in memory of Tom and Irene Hensel by their children: Betsy Calhoun, Bonnie (Carroll) Ehrke, MaryAnn (Roger) Daniels, Sue (Tom) Nelson, Tom (Lisa) Hensel, Kathy (Jerry) Nelson, and Dan (Sheryl) Hensel. Materials were donated and welded by Kathy's husband Jerry Nelson; installed by Tom Hensel Jr., and EKLC property committee members.

Tom Hensel Sr. served on the Cemetery Board for several years in the late 1970-80s. Before he died in August 1993 he had asked friend and neighbor David Wolf to repair/create/weld a KOSHKONONG sign for the cemetery. That sign still stands today at the other cemetery gate near the upper church building.



Worship Helpers for March 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)

3/5 ~ Holly Loomis

3/12 ~ Gloria Fruit

3/19 ~ Vicki Schuh

3/26 ~ Carolyn Lien

Lay Readers~ (Contact Person: Bobbie Stach)

3/5 ~ Carolyn Lien

3/12 ~ Elizabeth Kaashagen

3/19 ~ Barb Klempe

3/26 ~ Beverly Lien

Acolytes ~ (Contact: Bobbie Stach / Pastor Eric)

3/5 ~ Zack Durkee

3/8 ~ Tara Bettenhausen (Lenten)

3/12 ~ Morgan Rockney

3/15 ~ Kaylee Lund (Lenten)

3/19 ~ Taylor Berge

3/22 ~ Tanner Furseth (Lenten)

3/26 ~ Jill Thompson

3/29 ~ Kyle Durkee (Lenten)

Greeters~ (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

3/5 ~ Peggy Luther

3/12 ~ Brian & Brittany Rosenthal

3/19 ~ Marilyn Gunderson

3/26 ~ Carole Kenseth

Ushers~ (Contact Person: Vicki Schuh)

3/5 ~ Furseth Family

3/12 ~ Don & Eileen Hoehn

3/19 ~ Bjorn & Elizabeth Kaashagen

3/26 ~ Kurt & Barb Klempe

Communion Set-up/Take-down~

(Contact Person: Marge Stach)

Altar Guild

Offering Counters~

(Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

3/5 ~ Brenda Schroeder and Leila Carl

3/12 ~ Jean Lehr and Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel

3/19 ~ Joy Graffin and Gloria Fruit

3/26 ~ Brenda Schroeder and Leila Carl

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

3/5 ~ Sunday School

3/12 ~ VOLUNTEER NEEDED

3/19 ~ VOLUNTEER NEEDED

3/26 ~ VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Church Lock up~

(Contact Person: Holly Loomis)

3/5 ~ Carolyn Lien

3/12 ~ Gloria Fruit

3/19 ~ Holly Loomis

3/26 ~ Vicki Schuh

Bring in your Piggly Wiggly Receipts!

The CAMBRIDGE Piggly Wiggly donates a percentage of Piggly Wiggly dollars to EKLC from your receipts collected in the Church

March 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 5:30 pm Worship 6:15pm Soup Sup- per 7:00pm Lenten Service	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 meet- ing	8 5:30 pm Worship 6:15 pm Soup Sup- per 7:00 pm Lenten Service	9	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 8:00am Choir practice 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship 10:00 Sunday School	13	14 9:00am Staff Meeting	15 5:30 pm Worship 6:15 pm Soup Sup- per 7:00 pm Lenten Service	16	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship 10:00S Sunday School	20 Newsletter deadline	21 9:00am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Council Meeting	22 5:30 pm Worship 6:15 pm Soup Sup- per 7:00 pm Lenten Service	23	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	29 5:30 pm Worship 6:15 pm Soup Sup- per 7:00 pm Lenten Service	30 Newsletter Assembly	31 OFFICE CLOSED	

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