

Sundays and Beyond

October 2023

East Koshkonong Lutheran
Church

ELCA



Friends in Christ,

At prior meetings, I have already informed both the worship committee and council of this important distinction I have for my ministry, but I wanted to take this opportunity to share it with you all, which is that I generally **don't** officiate weddings in which neither of the couple are members of the congregation. In the previous congregation I served we had way too many bad experiences officiating weddings where neither of the people were members. While I will spare you from sharing every single story and detail, I will highlight a few. Although I don't think any of you would know any of the people from these stories, I will leave names out in order to keep things confidential. The first story I'll share happened a few years ago, even though neither of the couple were church members one of them had grandparents that were active members and vouched for the couple. Unfortunately, after that ceremony was over and everyone had left, I discovered that both of our Sunday School rooms as well as our altar guild room had been, to put it mildly, trashed. Empty beverage containers and cigarette buds had been left all over, and there was even a giant bucket of ice that had been randomly left in the middle of one of the rooms. The carpets had also been dirtied pretty badly and there was a stench in the air of cologne, hair spray, smoke, and perfume that was so thick that it made breathing in those rooms rather difficult. Since we had worship and Sunday School the next morning, the rooms had to be cleaned and get some fresh air flowing through them, which all took quite a while and a lot of work. When worship began that next morning, we also discovered that our sound system wasn't working because it had somehow been short circuited by someone who must have messed around with it, so we had to get that fixed. On top of all of that, we also discovered that some of our altar pieces had been moved around without permission and some items were even missing. At another wedding with the previous congregation I served, neither of the couple were members but they were friends with some people who were active members and they also vouched for this couple, as had happened with the previous story. However, unfortunately after that ceremony there was a situation that happened in the parking lot where the police had to be called and the congregation could have been sued over that situation, which thankfully didn't happen. The congregation had policies aimed at preventing situations just like all of these from happening, but unfortunately those policies weren't followed, leading to very negative experiences for both myself and the congregation. Many of my colleagues have also shared stories even worse than mine about negative experiences which they and the congregations they serve have had with some of the weddings where neither of the couple were church members. I haven't had these same kinds of negative experiences in my ministry with the weddings that I've officiated where either one or both members of the couple were active members. In fact, those weddings have all been mostly very positive for myself and the congregations I've served. That's probably because active church members have a history with the congregation and an established relationship with me as their pastor and therefore are much more respectful of policies and are also more likely to make sure that those involved in their weddings and their guests respect them as well. On the other hand, I really haven't had many positive experiences in my ministry with the weddings I've officiated where neither one of the couple were church members, with policies and procedures not being followed and spaces not being respected. There's plenty of other venues where people who aren't church members can hold their wedding ceremonies and plenty of other people who can officiate them, i.e. judges, court commissioners, ect. In fact, there's programs on the internet that anyone can do which will supply them with a license to legally officiate wedding ceremonies upon completion. So, after much prayer and discernment, I have come to realize that it is best for both myself and the congregations I serve not to officiate anymore wedding where neither of the couple are church members. That being said, I'd also like to share that both myself and the congregations I've served have had much more positive experiences officiating funerals and baptisms for people who aren't church members, and I remain open to serving people who aren't church members in that capacity and have found these to be wonderful opportunities to share the faith. My hope is that this all provides some clarity to you all as I continue serving as your pastor.

Shalom to you in Christ,
Pastor Eric.

Drinking From The Saucer

by John Paul Moore

I've never made a fortune,
And I'll never make one now
But it really doesn't matter
'Cause I'm happy anyhow

As I go along my journey
I'm reaping better than I've sowed
I'm drinking from the saucer
'Cause my cup has overflowed

I don't have a lot of riches,
And sometimes the going's tough
But with kin and friends to love me
I think I'm rich enough

I thank God for the blessings
That His mercy has bestowed
I'm drinking from the saucer
'Cause my cup has overflowed

He gives me strength and courage
When the way grows steep and rough
I'll not ask for other blessings for
I'm already blessed enough

May we never be too busy
To help bear another's load
Then we'll all be drinking from the saucer
When our cups have overflowed

EKLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 21, 2023 6:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 6:20 pm

Attendance: Denise Rockney, Hal Schuh, Linda Hanson, Pastor Eric, Oren Hammes

Absent: Don Amundson, Nate Stach

Also attending: Judy Lund

Agenda: The agenda was approved

Devotions: Pastor Eric.. "The Rock"

Financials: Motion to approve July financials – Oren

2nd – Hal

Motion carried

Discussion: Motion was made by Denise, 2nd by Linda, to move youth director wages to Missions/ other, since we no longer have youth director. Benevolence to come out of this account. Motion carried.

Youth and family ministries to pay for bounce house for Family Fun Day.

\$490 in Ukraine donations to be passed on to Natasha. Motion by Oren, 2nd by Denise. Motion carried.

*Requests have been sent to committee heads for budget projections for 2024. Budget requests to be returned by **9/15/2023** so proposals can go the council for review.

Review of committee reports:

Reports received: Pastors report, Worship committee report

Motion to approve reports – Denise

2nd – Oren

Motion carried

Discussion: Revised Child Protection Policy was reviewed. Motion to approve by Linda, 2nd by Oren. Motion carried.

We have collected enough noisy offering for World Hunger for a water well and farm animals.

Review and approval of minutes from last council meeting:

Motion to approve – Oren

2nd – Hal

Motion carried

Old Business

1. Thank you's

Thank you to the many people who helped and participated with Community Fun Day. Thank you to be in newsletter.

2. Camera system update – Oren

We are waiting for Frontier to release our phone number. Check to see if we could switch internet while waiting for phone change. Waiting to see how the Spectrum internet service affects internet speed.

3. Development Group

Meeting to discuss needs.

4. We now have two quotes to review for blacktop sealing.

5. New Orleans Mission Trip, 2024

A pie auction will be held in October as fund raiser for the Mission trip.

New Business

1. Community Fun Day (A Little Fun on the Prairie) on August 12th was a great day!

2. EKLC will host the Community Café on September 7 from 4:30- 6:30 in Cambridge.

3. Rally Sunday – September 10

Outside service

Baptismal reunion of those baptized within the last 5 years (to be recognized)

Council to be sworn in

World Hunger highlights

Rally Day olympics

Motion to adjourn – Oren

2nd -Hal

Motion carried

8:45pm

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Next Council meeting: Monday

September 18 6pm

EKLC will once again be participating with area churches in collecting items for Thanksgiving food baskets. This year, our congregation will be collecting 200 cans of cream of mushroom soup (any brand). The need for 100 baskets is anticipated. There will be a labeled container in the narthex for collection beginning September 24, 2023 through October 29, 2023. Thank you in advance for helping all to have a Thanksgiving meal.



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 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

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 Narthex.

September Council Meeting:
Monday September 18th @ 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

August 2023 Income: \$19,559.80

Expense: \$18,799.30

August 2022 Income: \$19,335.86

Expense: \$17,266.29

YTD 2023 Income: \$174,619.38

Expense: \$200,243.33

YTD 2022 Income: \$154,251.73

Expense: \$154,837.93

Congratulations

Zach & Jocie Purnell

on their wedding

August 26, 2023

God Bless you

Jocie & Zach



SONS OF NORWAY

District 5

Sunday, October 29 the Sons of Norway (District 5) will be worshipping with us at EKLC. They are taking part in the Annual Destination Stoughton Weekend including tours and events connected to Norwegian heritage and culture. After worship we will view the lower building history displays, have a cup of coffee, tour and walk through cemetery road for a tour of the upper church building.

On the walk through the cemetery, we will stop to recognize the Site of the 1844 Log Church. This is a recent addition in marking the history of our congregation. The Log Church was the first place of worship for the pioneer families in the East Parish. J.W.C. Dietrichson was the Pastor in 1844 through 1850. In 1857 the Log Church was replaced with the larger Stone Church to accommodate the growing number of members.



Thank you, Thank you, thank you to everyone who helped me celebrate my birthday. It wasn't a surprise party but it turned out to be one that was a very fun and special day for me.

Buddy Lien



Please join us for a Pie Auction and Euchre Card party on Sunday, October 15th!

The Pie Auction will take place after church in Fellowship Hall, during coffee hour. Funds raised from this event will go towards Youth Ministry.

The Euchre Card party will follow.

We hope to see you all there!



News from the church basement.

I'm in Phoenix at the Women of the ELCA Gathering. This will be short! Our next meeting will be for Pin and Sew on Thursday, October 5 at 8 AM. Thanks to Light Circle for serving duties in September and Peace Circle for October. We shipped over 125 quilts, 114 school kits and 22 personal care kits. Many thanks to all who helped in any way to accomplish this, and especially the confirmation youth and parents who packed things for shipping. Thanks to our loyal Meals on Wheels delivery crew for another 2 weeks of help. Happy October to all.

Communicator Carolyn.

EKLC Homebound Members

Melissa Anderson
279 Hwy A, Cambridge, WI 53523

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

Gary Johnson ~ Home Again
308 England St, Cambridge, WI 53523

Arlen Lund ~ Home Again
308 England St., Cambridge, WI 53523

Wilma Furseth
1000 Ridge St 3B Stoughton, WI 53589

Betsy Calhoun
10702 W Hwy 14 Evansville, WI 53536

Belva Anderson
201 W Madison St Cambridge, WI 53523

Joan Volenberg
2315 Hwy W Cambridge, WI 53523

Edward & Linda Melton
1316 Vennevoll Dr Stoughton, WI 53589

AED Refresher Class

The EKLC Health Ministry will be hosting an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) refresher class after church on Sunday, Nov. 12th in Friendship Hall.

This will be your opportunity to have some hands on practice with our AED, along with some user- friendly information.

No previous medical experience is necessary! We encourage anyone interested to attend.

*Our Condolences to the Families of
Roger Evenson and David Graffin*



Worship Helpers for October 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)

10/1 ~ Gloria Fruit

10/8 ~ Carolyn Lien

10/15 ~ Vicki Schuh

10/22 ~ Gloria Fruit

10/29 ~ Holly Loomis

Lay Readers~ (Contact Person: Bobbie Stach)

10/1 ~ Kristen Lien

10/8 ~ Beverly Lien

10/15 ~ Trudy Spike

10/22 ~ Don Amundson

10/29 ~ Joy Graffin

Acolytes ~ (Contact: Bobbie Stach / Pastor Eric)

10/1 ~ Payton Mancheski

10/8 ~ Zack Durkee

10/15 ~ Rylie Mancheski

10/22 ~ Casey Travis

10/29 ~ Morgan Rockney

Greeters~ (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

10/1 ~ Carolyn Lien

10/8 ~ Lane & Judy Taylor

10/15 ~ Ken Rude

10/22 ~ Scott & Chris Frodel

10/29 ~ Holly Loomis

Ushers~ (Contact Person: Vicki Schuh)

10/1 ~ Hal & Vicki Schuh

10/8 ~ Zahn Family

10/15 ~ Holly Loomis & Peggy Luther

10/22 ~ Dennis Lund Family

10/29 ~ Jane Furseth & Diane Luginbuhl

Communion Set-up/Take-down~

(Contact Person: Marge Stach)

Altar Guild

Offering Counters~

(Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

10/1 ~ Brenda Schroeder & Leila Carl

10/8 ~ Gloria Fruit & Cheryl Nuenthel

10/15 ~ Joy Graffin & Gloria Fruit

10/22 ~ Jean Lehr & Leila Carl

10/29 ~ Jean Lehr & Cheryl Nuenthel

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

10/1 ~ Sunday School

10/8 ~ Karen Hays & Gloria Fruit

10/15 ~ Peace Circle

10/22 ~ Worship Committee

10/29 ~ Cindy Georgeson & Jocie Purnell

Church Lock up~

(Contact Person: Holly Loomis)

10/1 ~ Holly Loomis

10/8 ~ Gloria Fruit

10/15 ~ Vicki Schuh

10/22 ~ Carolyn Lien

10/29 ~ Holly Loomis

October 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Worship meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30 Worship 6:30 Confirmation</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Pin & Sew</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00am Staff Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:30 Worship 6:30 Confirmation</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship Pie Auction</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Education Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:30 Worship 6:30 Confirmation</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pin & Sew Newsletter deadline</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship Confirmation Sunday</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00am Staff Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:30 Worship 6:30 Confirmation</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee fellowship</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00am Staff Meeting</p>				

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

WORSHIP WITH US

AT 9:00AM

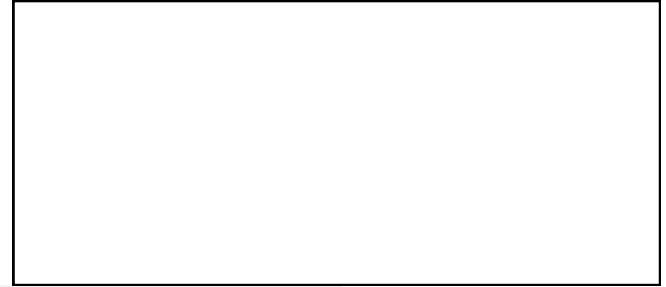
SUNDAY MORNINGS

- ⇒ IN-PERSON
- ⇒ YOUTUBE
- ⇒ FACEBOOK

In person at 5:30pm Wednesdays

TO WATCH WORSHIP ON YOUTUBE or FACEBOOK:

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



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/UChUv6MDQV54yCWz6oIGWezw>

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