

# Sundays and Beyond

December 2023  
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church  
ELCA



Friends in Christ,

This is the time of year when people go around telling each other “happy new year”. I think people enjoy the sentiment of the “new year” because it’s a way of offering fresh start, it’s a chance to create something “new”. To celebrate and live into this “new year” people often make resolutions. Regardless of whether or not people are able to follow these resolutions, the intension behind them is always to improve people’s lives and to improve the world through doing something “new”.

The Bible also describes how God is doing something “new”. Specifically, the book of Revelation proclaims that there will be “a new heaven and a new earth” (21:1). Where God will dwell amongst humans, eliminating the power of pain and death (21:3-4). Doesn’t that sound like good news? It’s certainly much better than any new year’s resolutions I’ve ever heard. The good news continues, declaring that God is “making all things new” (21:5). In other words, God is actively working to bring about this vision of a new heaven and earth through and for “all things”. God isn’t making this “new heaven and new earth” only for the people who are Lutheran, nor only just for the people we like and agree with, or only just for people who live in the United States; the texts tells us it’s for “all things”! That means we all share a holy bond with everyone and everything throughout time and space because of God’s work toward this vision of “a new heaven and earth” for all of us. God alone can bring about this vision, but God still calls us all to put our faith in and participate in God’s work of building this “new heaven and earth”. How different do you think this world might look if we started trusting in this vision and working towards it so “all things” could be made “new”? In 2024, I’d like to propose that as a resolution for everyone, as God continues working to “make all things new”.

Shalom to you in Christ,  
Pastor Eric

## ANNUAL MEETING

Deadline for submitting things for the  
annual report is January 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Annual Meeting will be February 11<sup>th</sup>  
after worship.

# EKLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## Monday, November 20, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:06 pm

**Attendance:** Denise Rockney, Hal Schuh, Linda Hanson, Oren Hammes, Don Amundson

Absent: Pastor Eric

Also attending: Judy Lund, Ron Knapwurst, Marilyn Gunderson, Curt Hanson, Johnnie Jacobson, Bonnie Ehrke

**Agenda:** The agenda was approved

**Devotions:** Denise – From Mark “Of Taxes and Tithes”

**Financials:** Judy was available to answer any questions

Motion to approve October financials – Don, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Oren, Motion carried

Discussion: Motion by Oren to forward \$600 in donated Ukraine funds to Natasha Amundson to be used as they see fit for Ukraine relief. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hal. Motion carried

**Review of committee reports:**

Reports received: Pastors report, Worship committee report, Education committee report

Motion to approve reports – Oren, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Don, Motion carried

**Review and approval of minutes from last council meeting:**

Motion to approve – Don, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Denise, Motion carried

**Presentation from Aagot Borge Committee**

Curt Hanson, Marilyn Gunderson and Bonnie Ehrke, representing the Aagot Borge committee, presented plans for upgrades for accessibility (ADA requirements) for the 1<sup>st</sup> East Church.

**Ron Knapwurst, representing the Trust Fund Committee**, discussed procedures for passing memorials from the general fund to the trust fund and how they should be documented.

**Budget**

The 2024 budget was discussed.

Don moved to approve the proposed budget, Linda 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

1. Camera system update – Oren

Spectrum wiring is up to building, just needs to be brought in to building. Oren will contact Best Buy Business, who often work with churches, regarding audio and video in church.

4. Development Group

Looking for people with ideas and interest in upgrading and maintaining our lower church education wing as well as regular maintenance needs.

5. Maintenance

1. Black top sealing will be addressed next year as it is too late in the year to do now. Oren will contact Picketts paving.

2. Parsonage-proposal from Mr Electric to upgrade electrical in parsonage.. Motion to approve by Oren, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda. Motion carried.

5. New Orleans Mission Trip, 2024. 1 person has confirmed interest.

Continued on page 4



Our sympathies to the families of  
Belva Anderson and Kirk Anderson  
who passed away.

**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.



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](http://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](mailto:eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com)

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

To my many caring friends-  
Blessings for a Merry Christmas and a  
Healthy Happy New Year.

Love, Wilma Furseth



January Council Meeting:  
Monday, January 15 @ 6:00pm

### **2023 COUNCIL**

**PRESIDENT:** Denise Rockney

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Oren Hammes

**SECRETARY:** Linda Hanson

**TREASURER:** Don Amundson

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

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***

November 2023 Income: \$24,954.36

Expense: \$18,952.49

November 2022 Income: \$23,526.21

Expense: \$25,828.73

YTD 2023 Income: \$253,867.84

Expense: \$262,969.55

YTD 2022 Income: \$217,916.45

Expense: \$214,224.63

We have sound amplifying devices available in the usher stand in the narthex. Instructions for use are in the basket with the devices, as well as saniwipes for wiping off the ear bud after use. Please turn off the device after use to conserve the batteries. Thank you!

Wednesday night services will  
resume on January 3.

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### New Business

1. Annual meeting date was set for February 11, 2024.
2. It will be our 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary congregation next year. More discussion will follow. Worship committee?

Motion to adjourn –Don, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oren. Motion carried 9:58 pm

**Closed with Lord's Prayer**

Next Council meeting: Monday, December 18 6pm

### Accessibility Project Update

As many of you know, the Aagot Borge Committee has been working on a project to provide accessibility for the Upper Church for those with mobility issues. The Committee has spent the last two plus years seeking a solution to this issue and have now come to a plan they feel would provide a safe and effective means of having access to the sanctuary and have a restroom on the same level.

Please plan to attend a presentation on Sunday, January 7, 2024, immediately following the church service. We will meet in the sanctuary. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers following the presentation.



Did you know that on our recent cream of mushroom collection campaign that we **didn't just collect enough** cans to fill the need in the Thanksgiving baskets, that we collected 477 cans which was enough to also fill the need for the Christmas baskets? Well done EKLC! Thank you! -Barb Klemp

**Thank you from Sons of Norway  
District 5!**



Thank you for welcoming us to your church service, for the treats, and to tour the church & grounds. What a blessing you are! *Paylene Ames*



Greetings from the church basement

We do not have a meeting scheduled for January. Weather permitting, we may meet for Pin and Sew. Thank you to Joy and Light Circles for hosting the Christmas Coffee on December 31st. I am writing this in advance, so I can't tell you who won the quilt, but we all won a good time!!! Thank you to Light Circle for duties in December, and to Peace who will serve in January.

Thank you to our loyal Meals on Wheels deliverers for December work. Listed here is our *schedule for the year for those who need to have this information early to fit in with work schedules. We are assigned February 26 through March 8, May 20 through 31st, August 12-23, and November 4-15. Let me know which days you want to claim. 608-669-4249 or [speedystoutknitter@gmail.com](mailto:speedystoutknitter@gmail.com)*

*We are church of the month at Skaalen in January and there are many opportunities to help there. They could use help for Bingo on Wednesdays at 1:30, some craft opportunities, sing along, and many more. I have a schedule. If you'd like to see it, I could text it to you, or talk to me. Thanks for any help you can give us. Happy New Year!*

*Communicator Carolyn*

The Church is looking for help on Sundays after worship to help count the offering money. If you are interested, please contact the church office or Joy Graffin.

There will be no Confirmation  
January 3. Classes will resume on  
January 10 at 6:30pm.

## *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

**Joan Volenberg**

2315 Hwy W Cambridge, WI 53523

**Edward & Linda Melton**

1316 Vennevoll Dr Stoughton, WI  
53589

## **Recipe Books Still Available**

We had a very good response to our recipe book sale this year. We still have about 15 books left.

If you are interested in purchasing a book, please contact Marilyn Gunderson (423-3876). The cost

is \$15.00. If you write a check for payment, please write it to WELCA.

# Worship Helpers for January 2024

**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)

1/7 ~ Gloria Fruit

1/14 ~ Carolyn Lien

1/21 ~ Vicki Schuh

1/28 ~ Holly Loomis

## **Lay Readers~**

1/7 ~ Trudy Spike

1/14 ~ Beverly Lien

1/21 ~ Kristen Lien

1/28 ~ Don Amundson

## **Acolytes ~** (Contact: Pastor Eric)

1/7 ~ Payton Mancheski

1/14 ~ Tanner Furseth

1/21 ~ Rylie Mancheski

1/28 ~ Zack Durkee

## **Greeters~** (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

1/7 ~ Marge Stach

1/14 ~ Ken Rude

1/21 ~ Carolyn Lien

1/28 ~ Peggy Luther

## **Ushers~** (Contact Person: Vicki Schuh)

1/7 ~ Frodel Family

1/14 ~ Zahn Family

1/21 ~ Hal & Vicki Schuh

1/28 ~ Jane Furseth & Diane Luginbuhl

## **Communion Set-up/Take-down~**

(Contact Person: Marge Stach)

Altar Guild

## **Offering Counters~**

(Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

1/7 ~ Joy Graffin & Gloria Fruit

1/14 ~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl &  
Diane Luginbuhl

1/21 ~ Jean Lehr, Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel

1/28 ~ Joy Graffin & Gloria Fruit

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

1/7 ~

1/14 ~

1/21 ~

1/28 ~

## **Church Lock up~**

(Contact Person: Holly Loomis)

1/7 ~ Vicki Schuh

1/14 ~ Carolyn Lien

1/21 ~ Holly Loomis

1/28 ~ Gloria Fruit

# January 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>  Office Closed	2 6:00pm <i>Worship meeting</i>	3 5:30 <i>Worship</i>	4	5 Office Closed	6
7 9:00am <i>Worship</i>  9:40 coffee <i>Fellowship</i>  <i>Accessibility Project Presentation Following worship</i>	8	9	10 5:30 <i>Worship</i>  6:30 <i>Confirmation</i>	11	12 Office Closed	13
14 9:00am <i>Worship</i>  9:40 coffee <i>Fellowship</i>	15 6:00pm <i>Council meeting</i>	16 10am <i>The Chosen Bible Study</i>  6:00pm <i>Education meeting</i>	17 5:30 <i>Worship</i>  6:30 <i>Confirmation</i>	18	19 Office Closed	20
21 9:00am <i>Worship</i>  9:40 coffee <i>fellowship</i>	22	23 10am <i>The Chosen Bible Study</i>	24 5:30 <i>Worship</i>  6:30 <i>Confirmation</i>	25	26 Office Closed	27
28 9:00am <i>Worship</i>  9:40 coffee <i>fellowship</i>	29	30 10am <i>The Chosen Bible Study</i>	31 5:30 <i>Worship</i>  6:30 <i>Confirmation</i>			



Members of the Sons of Norway (District 5) joined the East Koshkonong Lutheran Church in worship on October 29, 2023. They were taking part in the Annual Destination Stoughton Weekend including tours and events connected to Norwegian heritage and culture. After worship they visited the history displays at the lower building, enjoyed delicious treats and coffee, and then walked the cemetery road for a tour of the upper church building.

On the walk through the cemetery, they stopped to recognize the site of the 1844 Log Church. This stone is from the farm fields of EKLC member Franklin Lien and with the help of Dan Hensel, Tom Hensel, and Lane Taylor was placed in the cemetery this summer in the approximate area of the first building of worship for the pioneer families in the East Parish. This stone is a reminder of their **ancestor's commitment to establishing a strong church community founded on faith and trust in God.**

This is the first tour group to view the stone/marker to show the location of the 1844 log church; 4 rows to the north of the driveway. The log church measured 36 feet long x 28 feet wide. White metal fence posts mark the dimensions. Previous cemetery board members have told the story of being able to see the outline of the building in dry seasons each year. There is a cemetery map indicating the location of the early church steps.

Before 1844, the pioneer families met in their individual homes for worship and singing of hymns. J.W.C. Dietrichson was the Pastor in 1844 through 1850. Because of the many immigrants over a widespread area, the Koshkonong settlement was divided into two parishes; the East and West parishes.

October 10, 1844, Pastor Dietrichson held a worship service on the Amund Anderson farm. About 40 families adopted a constitution establishing East Koshkonong, the First Norwegian Lutheran Church in America. The western parish was organized October 13, 1844; there is a marker at that site also. Both EAST and WEST parishes began work building an identical log church at that time. They had movable benches that served for seats; a plain table, adorned with a white cloth and a black wooden cross for the altar. In 1858 the Log Church at East Koshkonong was replaced with a larger Stone Church to accommodate the growing number of members.

The Sons of Norway tour group of October 29 continued to the upper church building to view the beautiful structure and for further historical details. Due to the blessed vision of many of the early families the East Koshkonong Lutheran Church congregation has numerous pamphlets, stories, pictures, books, and charts detailing our history.



# SONS OF NORWAY

## *District 5*





## Bible Study – The Chosen

A Bible Study featuring the series, The Chosen, is being offered. There will be eight weekly sessions, each lasting about an hour. It will be a video presentation of one episode of the series, followed by a discussion period. The study will begin on Tuesday, January 16, at 10:00 am..

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, so we know how many to plan for. There is no cost and you do not need to purchase any supplies.

Sign up if you are interested in this actor portrayed story of the life of Jesus. Learn about the disciples and how they became followers and see the miracles happen.

Other churches in our area have had similar Bible Studies and were found to be very interesting.

We will cancel in the event of bad weather.

Sunday School Calendar 2023-2024	
12/3/2023	Christmas Program Rehearsal
12/10/2023	Christmas Program Rehearsal
<b>12/17/2023</b>	<b>Christmas Program - host coffee hour</b>
12/24/2023	<i>No Class - Merry Christmas</i>
12/31/2023	<i>No Class - Happy New Year</i>
1/7/2024	Sunday school
1/14/2024	Sunday school
1/21/2024	Sunday school
1/28/2024	Sunday school
<b>2/4/2024</b>	<b>Kids sing during worship - host coffee hour &amp; service project</b>

# East Koshkonong Lutheran Church

454 East Church Road  
Cambridge, WI 53523

## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Tel: 608-423-3017

E-mail: [eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com)

Website: [www.eastkoshkonong.org](http://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](mailto:eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com).

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday - Thursday

**YOUTUBE:** Go to East Koshkonong Lutheran Church" or the email [eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com).

Remember to like the videos and subscribe to the channel! <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUv6MDQV54yCWz6oIGWezw>

**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](http://www.eastkoshkonong.org)