

Sundays and Beyond

June 2024
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
ELCA



Friends in Christ,

Well, I'm sure you don't need any more reminders but with summer now here, that means yet another election cycle is coming up this fall. Now don't be alarmed, I'm not writing this article on behalf of nor in favor of any political figure or party. We see more than enough of that happening elsewhere. Rather, I am writing this article to talk about the culture around politics in this country today, and mainly how bitterly divided things are. It seems that I cannot turn anywhere without being confronted with various attacks of those running for public office; I see them on tv, I hear them the radio, I see them on the internet, and I even hear them in some conversations out in the public. Let me make clear that participating in our democracy is healthy, in fact our faith calls us to do so and to also work to

ensure that our neighbors have that same freedom. Furthermore, having our own opinions and disagreeing and debating with one another about them is also healthy. However, that's not what I see happening across our country in this current political climate. Instead, people on almost every side of the political spectrum are constantly going after each other personally, which has separated and divided many of us from one another. Across the country this has resulted in some families who have been torn apart and don't even see or speak to each other anymore, simply because they disagree on politics. It's also dissolved friendships between people who live on different ends of the political spectrum. Finally, perhaps worst of all, it's even resulted in actual violence and threats of violence between different groups who oppose each other politically. While these types of divisions have always existed, they seem to have gotten more extreme in these past few years than at any other point I can remember during my lifetime. I don't think I'm alone in that either, according one article that I read, a recent study from Georgetown University found that a vast majority of people surveyed feel that the most pressing issue facing our nation today is our extreme divisions. Our faith reminds us that this is not the way God created us to live with one another. In fact, Martin Luther explains that the eighth commandment not only means to not tell lies to or about our neighbors, but also that we shall not "slander or hurt their reputation. But instead defend them, speak well of them, and explain everything about them in the kindest way". Contrary to what we might see and hear in this culture, it's possible to disagree and debate politics and still be kind to one another and also not slander or hurt one another. That's the kind of community and world which God is calling to build and live in together. Personally, I too struggle at times amidst the noise in this culture encouraging me to think ill of those with different worldviews and opinions than myself. Yet, I am also thankful that I still have plenty of family members and friends that I love and respect, but that I also disagree with on various issues and topics. But I also pray that God will keep helping both myself and the world around me improve, and that one day people who disagree might not see each other as enemies, but instead as siblings made in the image of our Creator.

Shalom to you in Christ,
Pastor Eric

EKLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 15, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm

Attendance: Denise Rockney, Hal Schuh, Oren Hammes, Amy Hensel, Peggy Luther, Pastor Eric, Linda Hanson. Absent: Ron Knapwurst

Agenda: The agenda was approved.

Devotions: Pastor.

Financials: Oren moved to approve March financials as presented. 2nd by Amy. Motion Carried.

Review of committee reports:

Reports received: Pastors report, Worship committee. Motion to approve reports – Amy. 2nd –Peggy. Discussion. Motion carried

Review and approval of minutes from last council meeting:

Motion to approve –Amy. 2nd –Oren. Motion carried

Old Business

1. Thank yous

2. No new members. Letters will be sent out to new residents of the area introducing them to our church.

3. Audio/Camera system update – Oren

The audio system has been installed and is working great. Peak looked at our video system and says we do not need new video equipment. We will train volunteers to run our current system. We have several people who are interested.

4. Upper Church -

The 1st fundraiser event will be BINGO on youth Sunday, May 5th. A motion was made by Oren to approve letters presented from the Trust Fund Committee to Edward Jones and Bank 1st regarding authorized signatories on the accounts. 2nd by Amy. Motion carried.

5. Steering Committee

The next meeting of the steering committee will be a walk-through of the educational wing on April 21st. Discussion ensued regarding a proposal to contract with NCI for design and consultation. Oren will contact Bernie Lange of NCI for an updated proposal.

6. The following maintenance items are being followed up on:

Landscape plans and updates requested from landscape designer. Tabled for more information.

Heating and cooling needs- Bryar contacted Al Beyers

Tree removal – One dead tree will be removed on west side of education wing.

Lane met with Amish on April 11th regarding bell tower repairs. Need to follow up on items discussed. Discussed repair of windows that are rotting and need painting. Is this something Bryar and Mark can do? Vinyl clad? Wood?

Need to contact electrician regarding lights on front of church and lights on east side of church.

Clean up day scheduled for May 4.

Motion by Peggy to adjourn, 2nd by Oren. Carried 8:45 pm

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: Monday, May 20, 2024

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.



June Council Meeting:
Monday, June 17, 6:00 p.m.

2024 COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Denise Rockney

VICE-PRESIDENT: Oren Hammes

SECRETARY: Linda Hanson

TREASURER: Ron Knapwurst

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Amy Hensel, Peggy Luther, 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.

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.



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

Treasurer's Report

April 2024 Income: \$40,471.78
Expense: \$30,086.68
April 2023 Income: \$19,317.72
Expense: \$24,415.60
YTD 2024 Income: \$130,289.25
Expense: \$138,604.37
YTD 2023 Income: \$94,046.96
Expense: \$109,769.43

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!

The June meeting is scheduled with Pin and Sew for 8 AM on Thursday, June 6. If construction has started, we may have to change or cancel. We have been meeting weekly to get ahead of the work in case we have to cancel some of our Pin and Sew days. There are packages of squares in the Narthex at the lower church if some of you would like to put quilt tops together at home. Thanks to Linda and Marilyn for making this happen.

Thank you to Joy Circle for serving duties in May, and Light Circle for taking care of June. Thank you to all who helped with serving the funeral meal last month. We loved having some younger women helping us. Thank you to our loyal Meals on Wheels delivery folks. You are so much appreciated. Our next schedule is weekdays from August 12 to 23. Contact me to schedule days – (608) 669-4249 or speedystoutknitter@gmail.com .

Thank you to the Sunday School folks for the wonderful Worship last month. You made us so proud of your talents and willingness to share them. And we love having you at worship also, you bring us joy.



Join our team! We are hiring

Church Office Administrator

We are looking for a dedicated individual to join our church community and help make a difference.

Overview: Perform Administrative duties and act as a point of contact for EKLC

Hours: While there could be flexibility - generally would be looking for Mon - Thurs 9am -2pm

Requirements: Proficient in Microsoft office, publisher, comfortable using a computer. Must be outgoing and willing to work independently.

**Interested in learning more? Email all inquiries to
eastkoshkononglutheranchurch@gmail.com**

Bingo with Friends

On Sunday, May 5, we were treated with an opportunity to share a multi-generational event. It was Bingo, and it was fun! There were approximately 45 players who enjoyed an hour of fast moving, exciting Bingo. There were tons of prizes and everyone seemed pleased with the assortment that was available.

Thank you to the Confirmation kids who helped out, along with others who volunteered. Ruby did a great job as our Bingo checker. Thanks also to those who donated prizes. Everyone really enjoyed the variety.

It was a fun event and also provided a nice fundraising opportunity for the ABCD fund. Thanks to everyone who participated!



Deepest sympathies to the families of Carroll Ehrke and David Benson

EKLC Homebound Members

Melissa Anderson

279 Hwy A, Cambridge, WI 53523

Bea Householder ~ 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

400 North Morris Street Stoughton, WI 53589



Thank You to our Amazing Choir

We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated choir and director. While their numbers are small, the music they provide is outstanding! With Judy accompanying them, Vicki brings out extraordinary talent from each of our choir members. **It's often said that the music they bring would lead you to think that their number is double what it really is.** Heartfelt thank you to all.

WE HAVE PEWS!

Over the past several years we have removed some of the pews in the Sanctuary to provide a bit more space for walking. The pews have been stored in the lower level of the Educational Wing.

We will also need to remove a pew from the Upper Church in order to provide walking space from the new accessible entrance (which will be finished this fall).

This leaves us three beautiful pews which need new homes. If you have an interest in having one of these pews, please contact a member of the History Committee for more information. A donation to the church of \$200 or more has been suggested.

Thank you for considering the "rescue" of these lovely antique pews.

History Committee
Bonnie Ehrke, Marilyn Gunderson, Linda Hanson,
Judy Taylor

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 June 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)

6/2~ Vicki Schuh
6/9~ Trudy Spike
6/16~ Gloria Fruit
6/23~ Carolyn Lien
6/30~ Holly Loomis

Lay Readers~ (Contact Person:)

6/2~ Bobbie Rawinski
6/9~ Jane Furseth
6/16~ Anders Amundson
6/23~ Carolyn Lien
6/30~ Elizabeth Kaashagen

Acolytes ~ (Contact: Pastor Eric)

6/2~ Zack Durkee
6/9~ Tanner Furseth
6/16~ Morgan Rockney
6/23~ Rylie Mancheski
6/30~ Kyle Durkee

Greeters~ (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

6/2~ Gloria Fruit
6/9~ Karen Hayes
6/16~ Carolyn Lien
6/23~ Ken Rude
6/30~ Kurt & Barb Klemp

Ushers~ (Contact Person: Vicki Schuh)

6/2~ Dennis Lund Family
6/9~ Brenda Schroeder and Diane Luginbuhl
6/16~ Buddy & Beverly Lien
6/23~ Bjorn & Elizabeth Kaashagen
6/30~ Kurt & Barb Klemp

Communion Set-up/Take-down~

(Contact Person: Marge Stach)
Altar Guild

Offering Counters~ (Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

6/2~ Joy Graffin and Gloria Fruit
6/9~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl & Diane Luginbuhl
6/16~ Jean Lehr, Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel
6/23~ Joy Graffin and Brenda Schroeder
6/30~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl & Diane Luginbuhl

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

6/2~
6/9~
6/16~
6/23~
6/30~

June 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	3	4 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee meeting	5 5:30 p.m. Worship	6 8:00 a.m. Pin & Sew	7	8
9 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	10	11	12 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Education Meeting	13 8:00 a.m. Pin & Sew	14	15
16 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship 10:00am ground- breaking ceremony	17 6:00 p.m. Council meeting	18	19 5:30 p.m. Worship	20 8:00 a.m. Pin & Sew	21	22
23 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	24	25	26 5:30 p.m. Worship	27 8:00 a.m. Pin & Sew	28	29
30 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship						

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

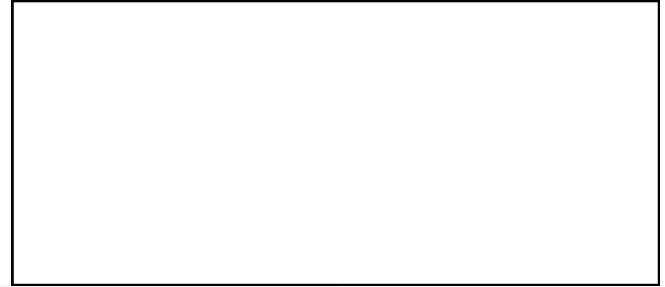
⇒ YOUTUBE

⇒ 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

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