

Sundays and Beyond

March 2025
East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
ELCA



Friends in Christ,
I'll be honest with you all, I had a totally different newsletter article ready to go for March. However, some recent events that have transpired in this world dictated I write this one in its place. Before getting into this too deeply, I first have to clarify that since what I am commenting on involves some individuals who are heavily involved in our current political system, that the **words I speak are in no way intended to be politically partisan**. In other words, I am not suggesting favoritism or opposition toward any political party or candidate. You are all free to support whichever candidates or parties you choose to.

Now with that clarification out of the way, recently there have been unfounded accusations that several Lutheran charities, specifically Lutheran Services in America (LSA) and Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) are running a "money laundering operation". This claim was made without any evidence to support it and is false. LSA and Global Refuge have both been serving our neighbors for decades and are both strong partners in ministry with our denomination the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Global Refuge helps resettle refugees all around the world who are fleeing violence, persecution, or other dangers. Global Refuge works with these families as well as the places where they are resettled to ensure that they along with communities who welcome them are all safe. Global Refuge always operates within the confines of any refugee resettlement laws of the country(s) they're working with. LSA helps countless individuals who are some of the most vulnerable amongst us including, but not limited to, foster children, veterans suffering from PTSD, and people living with disabilities. One statistic I read shared that 1 out of every 14 people in this country are directly positively impacted by the services of LSA. This is also only a snapshot of the good works that LSA and Global Refuge perform. I personally know people who have received lifechanging help from LSA and Global Refuge and I also know people who have worked for both organizations. Charity navigator, which closely examines the finances and work of many different charities to help ensure that the money is really going toward the mission charities, has rated both LSA and Global Refuge with 4 stars. That is the highest rating they offer and one that they don't award very often. This is basically like their own stamp of approval that both charities are doing fantastic work in fulfilling their mission. Furthermore, as nonprofits, both organizations are subject to oversight as required by law to maintain said status and both have also been longtime recipients of congressionally appropriated grants and contracts for the work they do in the social service arena. In other words, both of these charities meet the highest standards, and we can be thankful for the good work they do that makes this world a better place and are called to support them as best we can.

Shalom to you in Christ,
Pastor Eric



WELCA Spring Tea

Saturday, April 26th, 9 a.m.
at Eastkoshkonong Lutheran Church

Invite your mother, daughter, sister, friends and enemies.
All are welcome!

RSVP by April 13th, to Diane Luginbuhl at 608-235-9874
or dianechrkeluginbuhl@gmail.com

Wear your Easter bonnet!

EKLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday January 21, 2025

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by President, Denise Rockney

Attendance By Zoom: Denise Rockney, Amy Hensel, Peggy Luther, Pastor Eric, Linda Hanson, Ron Knapwurst
Financial secretary: Judy Lund

Agenda: Add parsonage discussion to New Business
Add discussion of report availability prior to annual meeting
Agenda approved with changes

Devotions: Pastor Eric: Video on Martin Luther King. How he wanted to be remembered. Matthew 25 – God’s faithful people.

Financials:

Review and approval of financials:

Discussed making the proposed budget and profit and loss statements available to the congregation on February 2 so questions can be addressed prior to the annual meeting.

There is \$1045.17 in the Ukraine Relief Fund. Motion by Peggy to disburse to Natasha Amundson for her family in the Ukraine to disburse as needed for relief. 2nd by Linda. Motion carried.

Linda moved to approve financials. Peggy 2nd. Motion carried.

Committee reports: Received Pastor’s report, education committee report. Ron moves to accept committee reports. Amy 2nd. Motion carried.

Minutes from last council meeting: Peggy moves to accept minutes from December council meeting. Ron 2nd. Motion carried.

Thank you’s: Peggy will follow-up with thank you’s .

One new member was approved for membership.

Camera system update: We are moving forward with the sign up in February for people to help with the camera/Ipad operation.

Building Inspections:

Inspections were completed on church owned buildings as requested by the insurance company.

This was submitted to the insurance carrier on January 10.

There is a list of concerns and we are starting to address some of these.

Furnaces in the upper church need replacement and this is being addressed.

Bryar has repaired the bell tower rope.

Various projects are being addressed this spring when weather permits including, but not limited to:

Sidewalk repair

Window repairs by NCI (contracted)

Legge Professional Cleaning: 2/3 of the deep cleaning of the church has been completed. The remainder will be completed early in 2025.

We currently have many members stepping up and assisting with office duties. A potential candidate has now declined for health reasons.

The Annual Meeting is set for February 16, 2025

Adjourn: Ron moved to adjourn. 2nd by Amy. Motion carried. 8:19 pm. Closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Next meeting: 2/16/2025 immediately following annual meeting to elect officers



Welcome to our newest member
Dan Hanson.



March Council Meeting:
Tuesday, March 18 at 6 p.m.

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.

2025 COUNCIL

- PRESIDENT:** Kurt Klemp
- VICE-PRESIDENT:** Denise Rockney
- SECRETARY:** Peggy Luther
- TREASURER:** Amy Hensel
- COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Linda Hanson, Anders Amundson, Kreg Gruben

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

January 2025 Income: \$22,039.88
Expense: \$36,769.98
January 2024 Income: \$29,192.17
Expense: \$38,616.14

We are still in the process of searching for a church office administrator.

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!

TIME FOR SOUP SUPPERS



The Lenten journey begins with the important Ash Wednesday service on March 5th at 7 p.m. The next five weeks will offer a midweek Lenten service at 7 p.m. with a Soup Supper starting at 6. Hosts are needed to make this happen. The soup needs to be brought to the kitchen around 1 p.m. to start heating in the large crockpot. Setup, serving and cleanup is done by the host. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Five hosts are needed. Please consider taking a turn to make this event happen.

The Chosen Bible Study
Tuesdays at 10 am,
weather permitting.



All families interested in their children receiving first communion this year please email Pastor Eric by March 10.



Sunday School
Class will sing
during worship
March 2.

Natasha Amundson and her sister will be hosting a meal in Friendship Hall Saturday, March 1 at 4 PM.

EKLC Homebound Members

Melissa Anderson

279 Hwy A, Cambridge, WI 53523

Bea Householder ~ 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 N Morris St , Stoughton, WI 53589

Maxine Porter

1221 E Main St, Stoughton, WI 53589



Ash Wednesday worship at the Upper Church building March 5th at 7 p.m.



Join us for our mid-week Lenten evening services each Wednesday during Lent beginning March 12 at 7 PM. We'll be using an order of worship created by the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin-ELCA based on the psalms. There will also be a soup supper beforehand served in the fellowship hall beginning around 6 PM.

News from the church basement

Greetings from the church basement,

We have cancelled several Pin and Sew mornings so far this year because of weather, but we plan to meet on Thursday, March 6th beginning at 8 AM. We have lots of work to do to catch up to last year's quilt numbers. Light Circle will be in charge of duties in March. Thanks to them, and to Joy Circle for February. We are now in possession of 200 new backpacks for this year's school kits, and the price is a bit higher again. It's still less expensive and less work than trying to make them, so if there's anyone interested in helping with the cost of them, please let us know. Jane (who is out of commission right now) takes care of the treasury for stewardship, so she's in charge.

We are hosting a cluster meeting for Synodical Women on Saturday, April 26th. Please plan to attend, and we may need volunteers for that day, so stay tuned.

Thanks to all those who helped with the serving of funerals lately. Your help is so much appreciated. Thank you too, to our loyal Meals on Wheels deliverers. You are appreciated not just by us at East, but the whole community. This volunteer work is so important! Our next shift is weekdays, April 21st through May 2nd. Some days are already spoken for, so if you have a time you'd like, let me know. High school students can earn points toward cords for this community service, so if you have kids or grands who would like to help with this here's your chance!!!

Sign up to serve soup for a Lenten supper, and don't forget to worship at one of the Wednesday services offered each week. What do you plan to give up, or add for Lent? Prayer, community service, smiles to those who need them???? We can each do something to remind us of Christ's sacrifice.

Happy longer days and end of Winter!!

Communicator Carolyn

Worship Helpers for March 2025

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)

3/2 ~ Kyle Durkee
3/5 ~ (Ash Wednesday) Holly Loomis
3/9 ~ Vicki Schuh
3/16 ~ Carolyn Lien
3/23 ~ Gloria Fruit
3/30 ~ Trudy Spike

Lay Readers~ (Contact Person: Holly Loomis)

3/2 ~ Holly Loomis
3/5 ~ (Ash Wednesday) Peggy Luther
3/9 ~ Bobbie Rawinski
3/16 ~ Jane Furseth
3/23 ~ Anders Amundson
3/30 ~ Elizabeth Kaashagen

Acolytes ~ (Contact: Pastor Eric)

3/2 ~ Tess Marchant
3/5 ~ (Ash Wednesday)
3/9 ~ Lena Skjolaas
3/16 ~ Hank Wierzba
3/23 ~ Caitlin Terland
3/30 ~ Josie Lund

Greeters~ (Contact Person: Judy Rusch)

3/2 ~ Kurt & Barb Klemp
3/5 ~ (Ash Wednesday) Marge Stach
3/9 ~ Ken Rude
3/16 ~ The Rosenthal Family
3/23 ~ Tom & Trudy Spike
3/30 ~ Buddy & Beverly Lien

Ushers~ (Contact Person: Vicki Schuh)

3/2 ~ Bonnie Ehrke & Carolyn Lien
3/5 ~ (Ash Wednesday) Amundson Family
3/9 ~ Frodel Family
3/16 ~ Don & Eileen Hoehn
3/23 ~ Barb & Kurt Klemp
3/30 ~ Hal & Vicki Schuh

Communion Set-up/Take-down~

(Contact Person: Marge Stach)
Altar Guild

Offering Counters~

(Contact Person: Joy Graffin)

3/2 ~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl & Diane Luginbuhl
3/9 ~ Jean Lehr & Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel
3/16 ~ Joy Graffin & Gloria Fruit
3/23 ~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl & Diane Luginbuhl
3/30 ~ Jean Lehr & Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel

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

3/2 ~ Sunday School Kids
3/9 ~
3/16 ~
3/23 ~
3/30 ~ Holly Loomis

March 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1 4 p.m. Ukrainian Dinner
2 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Education Meet- ing	3	4 10:00 a.m. The Chosen Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting	5 5:30 p.m. Worship 7:00p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Upper Church	6 Pin & Sew	7	8
9 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	10	11 10:00 a.m. The Chosen Bible Study	12 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	13	14	15
16 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	17	18 10:00 a.m. The Chosen Bi- ble Study 6:00 p.m. Council meeting	19 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	20 Pin & Sew	21	22
23 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	24	25 10:00 a.m. The Chosen Bible Study	26 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	27	28	29
30 9:00am Worship 9:40 coffee Fellowship	31					

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

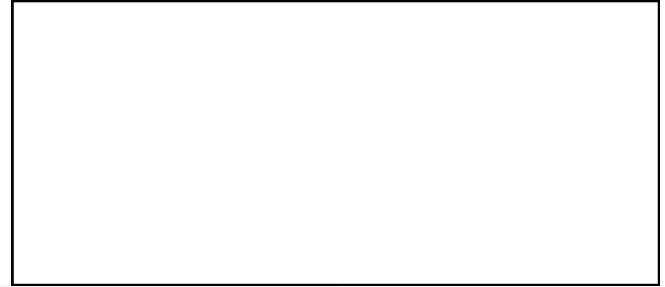
⇒ YOUTUBE

⇒ 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