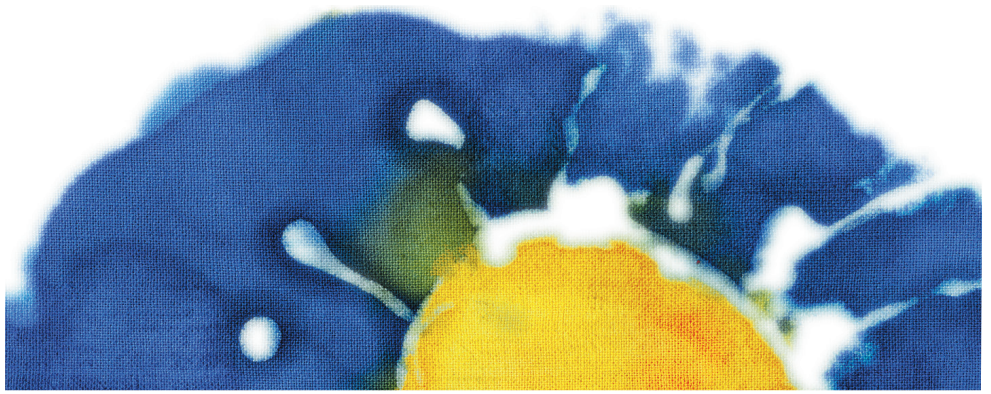


www.englishlutheran.org
office@englishlutheran.org
608-784-9335
1509 King Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

March/April, 2025



the *Voices* of english lutheran

The LENT and EASTER

Holy Week & Easter

Holy Week is a time of great significance for those of us who follow Jesus Christ: a time when we walk with Jesus from death to life.

Palm Sunday, April 12, at 5:00 p.m., and April 13, at 8:30 and 10:45, is the day we walk along with Jesus as he enters into Jerusalem, with palm branches and coats laid out on the path before him; hosannas filling the air along with the blessing: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Also this year, children who have been learning about the grace of God in Jesus will be celebrating their first communion.



~ continued on page 2

Called to Care

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' *Matthew 25*



I thank God daily for all the ways that we, as members of English Lutheran Church, as part of the ELCA, as followers of Jesus Christ, take to heart this teaching, these words of Jesus. In the Bible, it sure seems to me that what we are to be about is summed up in these words from the end of the 25th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew.

Lately, ministries of our church, or ministries we support as a church, have been attacked, slandered, derided in ways that are wrong, and not true. I am thinking particularly of Global Refuge (a ministry that started as the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) and Lutheran Social Services.

Listen to how the mission statements of these two amazing ministries resonate with our own Welcome Statement:

- **Global Refuge:** As a witness to God's love for all people, we stand with and advocate for immigrants and refugees, transforming communities through ministries of service and justice.
- **Lutheran Social Services:** The mission of Lutheran Social Services (LSS) is to help people live their best lives by providing services that are compassionate, humble, and courageous.

~ continued on page 3

IN CHRIST

We Welcome, Worship & Work

IN THE WORLD



Regular Worship Services

Saturday 5:00 p.m. · Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

~ Holy Week - cont'd from front page

THE THREE DAYS

Every Sunday in worship the church celebrates the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit gathers us to receive again the gifts of God that come to us through Christ, the saving Word. On several key days at the center of the church year, however, worship takes a particular shape. These central days have come to be known as the Three Days, recalling Jesus' own words to his disciples that he would be handed over to death, and that "after three days he will rise again" (Mark 10:34).

The Three Days encompass the time from Maundy Thursday evening through the evening of Easter Day. In particular, the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter unfold in a single movement, as the church each year makes the passage with Christ through death into life.

(from sundaysandseasons.com)

The THREE DAYS celebrated this year are:

Maundy Thursday

April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil

April 19 at 5:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 20 at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

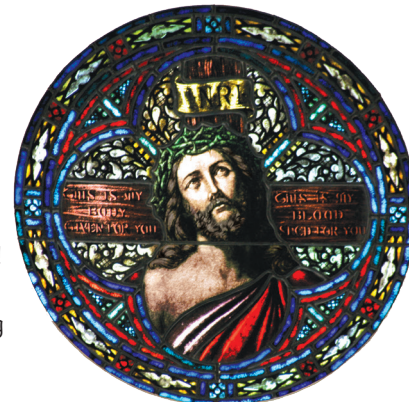


Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday is March 5

Lent begins on March 5 with Ash Wednesday. Two services will be held at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. with communion and imposition of ashes.

- A soup lunch will follow the noon service. We invite you to sign up to bring something!
- No meal in the evening.
- No confirmation classes or other programming in the evening.
- Nursery will be available during the evening service.



Midweek Lenten Services: March 12 – April 9

Beginning March 12 through April 9, two midweek Lenten services will be offered every Wednesday at 12:00 noon and 6:15 p.m.

- A soup lunch will follow the noon service and a meal will be served before the evening service, beginning at 4:45 p.m.
- This year, we invite adults of all ages to share the evening meal with our confirmation students. There will be an opportunity to discuss provided questions at the tables as you learn about each other, and then we invite you to attend worship with the students. If you're interested in learning more and participating, please contact Jared Kronback or one of the pastors.

Midweek Lenten Theme

Our midweek Lenten theme, Bread of Life, highlights how Jesus fed people – not just their bodies, but also their souls – with good news, stories of redemption, and parables that showed the way of God's kingdom. From wedding feasts to eating with tax collectors to feeding thousands, people left Jesus' presence with full hearts and bellies. A gift Jesus gives freely so we may give to others. Bread of Life reminds us there is abundance – more than enough love, grace and hope for all. If you are weary, lonely or burdened, come join us and be fed through music, prayer and God's word.

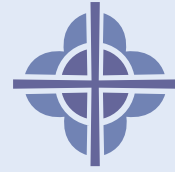
Invitation to Assist with Meals

We invite members to bring soup and bread for each of the noon meals during Lent. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Welcome Center or you may call the church office for more information.

Evening meals will be provided.

We ask that you consider making a \$5 donation per person or \$20 donation per family to help cover the costs of the meal.

Please note that on Wednesday, April 16, there will be no services, no meals and no confirmation classes. We invite you to attend one or all of the Holy Week services.



CHURCH OFFICE

main phone 784-9335
office@englishlutheran.org

SENIOR PASTOR

Pastor Mark Kvaleext 205
pastormark@englishlutheran.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Pastor Becky Goche.....ext 203
pastorbecky@englishlutheran.org

DIRECTOR of MUSIC

Trevor DuPey
trevor@englishlutheran.org

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

Jim Knutson..... 498-8829
jim@firstlu.org

ORGANIST/PIANIST

Luke Thering

CHILDREN'S MIN. COORDINATOR

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~ Called to Care - continued from front page

• **Our Welcome Statement:** The faith community of English Lutheran Church is rooted in Christ and committed to living life generously. We celebrate diversity of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, economic status, marital status, physical or mental ability. We are united in the Holy Spirit as we embrace our differences. We welcome all as we strive to be a community equipped for God's mission in the world. We invite you to join us as we seek to promote racial equity, social and economic justice, and care for our environment. Wherever you are on your faith journey, there is a place for you here.

Dear siblings in Christ, do not be discouraged, we are doing our best in living in the call of Jesus!

Soli Deo Gloria (To God alone the Glory)
Pastor Mark Kvale

GIFTS, MEMORIALS AND PASTORAL ACTS

CHOIR

In memory of Stephan Mueller
by Pam and Todd Strittmater,
David and Judy Bouffleur

COMMUNION FUND

In memory of John Goche
by Kent and Mary Sween, Paul and
Lori Moe, Karen Guptill, Bill and
Karen Newburg, Howard and Nancy
Mills, Dennis and Lois Peterson,
Mark and Carol Solyst, Chuck and
Doris Rislow, Ruth Olson, Ruth
Kuntz, Chuck and Carmen Gustafson,
Joan Van Gorp, Gary and Susan Link,
Carol Taebel, Joyce Wichelt, Clar
and Marcia Brodt, Wayne Jacobson,
Dennis Naumann and Therese
Pudenz, Joan Allen

In memory of Stephan Mueller
by Kent and Mary Sween, Bill and
Karen Newburg, Janet and John
Wheelock, Kay Taylor, Jerome
and Mona Poehling, Dennis and
Sharon Krumenauer, Linda
Sherwood

LIBRARY

In memory of Rosemary Ellen Lemke
by Sharon Lemke

QUILTERS

In memory of Stephan Mueller
by Sonja Dauphin, Dennis and
Betsy Stannard, S. L. and M. J.
McCardle, Bruce and Barbara
Marco, Judy Brown, Dave and Judi
Konop, Joan Allen, Sharon Odahl,
Carol Tanke, David and Judy
Bouffleur, Joan Allen, Karen Guptill,
Nancy Holthaus and Joann Kranig

UNDESIGNATED

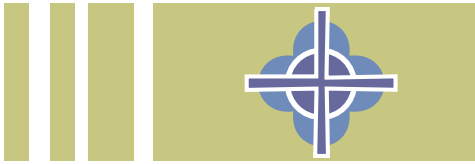
In memory of Nancy Matchett
by Dick and Julie McGarry
In memory of Stephanie Stannard
by Dick and Julie McGarry

BAPTISMS

01/12 Tsuga Elaine Schneider,
daughter of Adam and Jordyn Schneider
01/26 Mason Timothy Lowry,
son of Chris and Alexa Lowry
01/26 Etta Rose Lowry,
daughter of Chris and Alexa Lowry

DEATHS

12/24Stephan Mueller
02/02 Joan Doescher



Vocal Choir at Worship

MARCH 2, 5 (Ash Wed. 7:00 p.m.) and 16
APRIL 6, 17 (Maundy Thurs. 7:00 p.m.),
18 (Good Fri., 7:00 p.m.) and 20 (Easter)
MAY 4 and 18 (one service at 9:30)

REHEARSALS

March 5 at 5:30-6:30
March 12 - April 9 at 5:15-6:00
April 16 - May 14 at 5:30-6:30

Hand Bells at Worship

MARCH 23 and APRIL 13

REHEARSALS

March 5, none - Ash Wednesday
March 12 - April 9 at 7:00 to 8:00 to accom-
modate the 6:15-7:00 p.m. Lenten service.

english lutheran Ways to Give



Place checks or cash in a white pew envelope and drop it in the offering plate, or mail offering to the church office.



Text the amount you wish to give to 855-929-1663 (use 5, 10, 15, etc. - no decimal point or dollar sign). Details will be texted to you.



Download Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Give once or set up recurring donations and view your giving from the convenience of your phone.



Visit our website to set up and manage one-time and recurring gifts. You'll also be able to see your donation history. englishlutheran.org/onlinegiving

For more information, contact Jennifer at 608-784-9335 or jennifer@englishlutheran.org

FIRST Communion

for Children of All Ages
and their parents

Sunday, March 30
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

We recognize that families are in different places with their children participating in the Lord's Supper, and believe that there is no age restriction to the table of the Lord because all are welcome. We want to invite children of all ages to learn more about Holy Communion.

We will begin the class by sharing a meal together. We will then learn what the Lord's Supper is, why we celebrate this meal together at church, and how we can participate in this Sacrament at English Lutheran Church. We plan to bake communion bread and have some fun together, too!

Children will celebrate their First Communion at the service of their choice on Palm Sunday weekend, April 12 and 13.

If you have any questions, please contact Jared Kronback or one of the Pastors. If you are interested in registering your child for the First Communion class, please email Jared at Jared@englishlutheran.org with their name and grade, and parent(s) name of who will be attending the class with them.

Vacation Bible School



July 7-10

The theme will be "God's Word Comes Near" and the week will be full of Bible stories, skits, music, games and prayers led by the camp counselors of Sugar Creek Bible Camp!

This will be for those just finishing grades K – 5.

Preschool aged VBS will run at the same time and will be staffed by ELC members.

Time of day for the camp is yet to be determined. If there is a time that would work best for your family, please let Ann Kvale know by emailing her at kidsministry@englishlutheran.org. She will work with Sugar Creek to choose a time that works best for most families.

Please mark this week on your calendar!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

two year olds - 6th grade

April 6

Sunday school Service Project during Sunday school time

April 13

Palm Sunday – Sunday School students sing at both worship services

May 18

Last day of Sunday school. In celebration of a great Sunday school year, there will be one worship service at 9:30 a.m. held at English Lutheran with a potluck and games to follow in Weigent Park. The entire congregation is invited to join the Sunday school students in this celebration.

Please look for more information as the date draws closer.



Ann Kvale,
Children's Ministry



YOUTH events

March 5

no confirmation (Ash Wednesday)

March 9

7th-12th youth group

March 14

PACK at 6:00 p.m.

March 23

Faith Webs at 4:30 p.m.

March 30

First Communion class

April 11

PACK at 6:00 p.m.

April 13

Palm Sunday breakfast

April 16

no confirmation (Holy Week)

April 27

Faith Webs at 4:30 p.m.

April 30

all grades last confirmation class

Senior Recognition Worship with quilts



May 3 and 4

Lenten MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

March 12 - April 9

Students are in charge of finding a mentor to sit with them during dinner and worship for the duration of lent. If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact Jared for more information!

LOOKING for



SUPPORTERS

As we have been launching this new program, we have 21 students signed up, we are now looking for 18 more households as supporters!

What does it take to be a supporter?

- Time to form a relationship with the student you are supporting.
- Attending monthly events with a meal and activities at church.
- Other forms of relationship building you would like to do together.
- Any other form of relationship building you would like to do together.

If you are interested in this program or have any questions, contact Jared Kronback!
jared@englishlutheran.org

Jared Kronback
Director of
Faith Formation





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PERMIT NO. 487

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

March/April

LENT and EASTER

OUR VISION

BY THE GRACE OF GOD,
ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH
SHALL BE A HEALTHY,
MISSION-FOCUSED
CONGREGATION *full of life*

608•784•9335

www.englishlutheran.org

Thank You

English Lutheran wants to thank Bill Newburg for an unprecedented 36 years as Finance Committee chair for the church. He is ready to enjoy his "retirement" and hand the baton off to Paul Moe to be the new chair. Paul began his duties with the Annual Meeting in February.

Thank you, Bill and Paul!

On behalf of all of us at English, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to our leaders whose time on Vision Board ended at our annual meeting in February.

Adam Hatfield, Karl Green, and Kaitlyn Hamann, your leadership, your faithfulness, and your love of Jesus and God's people have been and continue to be a blessing to all of us at English Lutheran. We thank God for you!

And we thank God for those newly elected to serve on Vision Board! Thank you for your faithful response to the call and nudging of the Holy Spirit!

Pastor Mark



Welcome Statement

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