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1509 King Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

September/October , 2024



the *Voices* of english lutheran

The SEASON of ORDINARY TIME

LUTHERAN
SOCIAL SERVICES

Weekend
OCTOBER 5 & 6

Héctor Colón, President and CEO of Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, will join us at all services on the weekend of October 5 and 6, 2024.

Every year, tens of thousands of people in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan come to LSS in need of their services. Héctor will share some of these stories with us.

LSS is the social ministry partner of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and partners with over 600 ELCA congregations and many other denominations to strengthen families, heal communities and create avenues for belonging.

To learn more about LSS and the variety of services they provide for people of all ages, please visit: <https://www.lsswis.org/>

Dear Siblings in Christ

Yesterday saw the primary elections that will lead to the elections in November. We are living in a time of deep discord, mistrust, and anxiety about all sorts of things, including the political and civic landscape of our nation. Maybe, like me, you are wondering what our role is in civic life, and how does our faith impact that role.



The ELCA, our denomination, is developing a social statement on civic life and faith, the relationship of church and state, and related matters, as called for by the 2019 ELCA Church-wide Assembly.

Social statements are the ELCA's primary documents to address significant social issues. They are intended to aid reflection, shape conscience and set forth the ELCA's teaching and policy on the major social issues and questions of contemporary life. Social statements are developed by task forces, using an established process of study and widespread participation across the church to guide theological and moral deliberation.

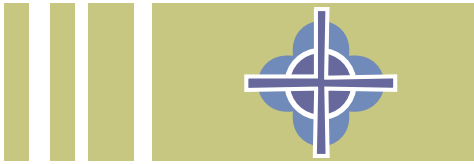
I would ask you a few things: First, please take some time and read the draft version of the social statement. Second, we will be scheduling a series of sessions for us as a congregation to discuss the proposed social statement, and learn from each other.

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IN CHRIST

We Welcome, Worship & Work

IN THE WORLD



Worship Services

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



As the school year approaches, we will resume our three service schedule, **August 25 with the River Service at Copeland Park at 10:45 a.m.**

There will be no in person service at the English Lutheran building.

The August 24, Saturday, 5:00 p.m. service will be recorded and played back at 8:30 online.

Fall Worship Times



Beginning the weekend of **August 31/September 1**, the service schedule will be:
Saturday 5:00 p.m.,
Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.



IT'S TIME TO REHEARSE



The Vocal Choir and English Ringers will start rehearsing for the fall. Please consider joining either or both to share your musical gifts during our worship services.

THE VOCAL CHOIR meets weekly on Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. They sing for worship at both Sunday services at least twice a month. Rehearsals begin September 4 at 5:30 p.m. If interested in joining or simply trying it out, contact Trevor DuPey, trevor@englishlutheran.org for more information.

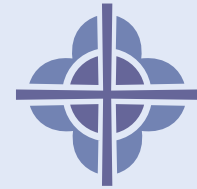
THE ENGLISH RINGERS will start rehearsing in the choir room on September 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Contact Jim Knutson for information, jim@firstlu.org. The English Ringers play at both worship services on October 13, November 10 and December 8.

Hello Friends GREETERS PROGRAM



"Hello Friends" is a new initiative which will be a combined efforts of the Worship Council and RIC (Reconciling in Christ) Committee at English Lutheran. This will be a Greeters program we will be offering to all people as they come to the doors of our church for Worship. Our hope is to train greeters to be a welcoming and helpful face of our church to visitors and members alike. We will be working out the details in the next several months and helping train members of our church in the gift of hospitality.

If you are interested in this ministry please contact:
Cathy Walth at 608-317-8768. cmwalth@gmail.com or
Kathy Hageseth: at 608-792-6234. khageseth@centurytel.net



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Dear Siblings continued from front page

And lastly, let us pray . . . Almighty God, we lift before you all who govern the state of Wisconsin, the city of La Crosse, and the United States of America. May those who hold power understand that it is a trust from you to be used, not for personal glory or profit, but for the service of the people. Drive from us cynicism, selfishness, and corruption; grant in your mercy just and honest government; and give us grace to live together in unity and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

GIFTS, MEMORIALS AND PASTORAL ACTS

UNDESIGNATED

In memory of Marjorie Renner
by Kent and Mary Sween,
Howard and Nancy Mills, and
Lou Wuensch

In memory of Jeff Miller
by Candiece Brieske

In memory of Marge Terry
by Louise Sedevie-Lawrynk

In memory of Lois Betz
by Ruth Frise, Altar Ministry,
Mary Circle, Bruce and Pam
Walters, Dennis and Lois
Peterson, Gregg and Becky
Pritchett, Bill and Karen
Newburg, Don and Linda
Brueggen, Joan Everson, Kent
and Mary Sween, Karen
Guptill, Gary and Susan Link,
Chuck and Carmen Gustafson,
Ruth Kuntz, Amy Grabow,
Ruth Olson, Howard and Nancy
Mills, Nancy Borgen, Sharon
Odahl, Gloria Weisbecker, Jean
Davis, family and friends

QUILTERS

In memory of DeLaney Gilster
by Richard Taber

SUGAR CREEK
In memory of Marge Renner
by Dennis and Lois Peterson

BAPTISMS
07/14 .. Logan Christopher
Burman, son of Chris and
Caroline Burman

07/14 .. Crew Richard Cochran,
son of Ian Cochran and Kennedy
Johnson

07/28 .. Enslee Faye McKinney,
daughter of Lloyd and
Mandi McKinney

08/10 .. Barron Gregory
Weingarth, son of Max
Weingarth and Renee Kloss

BLESSING

08/03 .. Therese Pudenz and
Dennis Naumann

DEATHS

06/13 .. Lois Betz

YOUTH events

September 4
Confirmation Orientation
6:00 p.m.

September 11
Confirmation First Night
6:15 p.m.

September 14
PACK at 6:00 p.m.

October 12
PACK - pumpkin carving and
caramel apples at 6:00 p.m.

October 12
Youth Night - TBD

October 30
Trunk or Treat at 6:15 p.m.

Jared Kronback,
Director of
Faith Formation



Confirmation Sunday

9th Grade Students
October 27
10:45 a.m. service

Helping our Youth Become Better Neighbors and Friends

Youth are either leading or leaving, that isn't my phrase but one I recently learned about from the author and Peer Ministry Director Lyle Griner, and I couldn't agree with it more. After co-leading our group of youth to the ELCA National Youth Gathering I have seen it first hand, our youth at ELC are ready to take on bigger and better things and one of those things is being faith leaders. Peer Ministry gives youth the relational leadership skills to know how to listen, care, help, when to seek help, welcome, the very skills needed to love every neighbor.

Peer Ministry isn't a new program, it has been around for over a decade but it is new to ELC. How do we get this started at ELC you

ask? We are looking for adults that are willing to engage with our youth and participate in training. More importantly we are looking for high school youth that are wanting to learn the skills needed and the confidence to be the real friend that everyone needs. This process is evolving as we go along, however, if you have any experience with Peer Training we would love to get your input.

Information Session

Wednesday, September 11
6:15 to 7:30 p.m.
Youth Room

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to me (608)386-7749.

-Emily Farmer

YOUTH STEERING COMMITTEE

Monthly Meetings for one hour.

We are looking for anyone interested in being more involved in the youth ministry and in planning events for them.

If interested contact Jared Kronback, jared@englishlutheran.org



new this fall

Chime Choir for Beginners

Beginning September 11
Wednesdays, 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Music Room

This will be a beginner's class geared to the non-music reader or early music reader. It is being developed in particular for kids and youth. We will be learning to play the chimes that the English Ringer's use in some of their pieces. If interested, please contact Ann Kvale at kid-sministry@englishlutheran.org.

Sunday School for 2 and 3 year olds

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. - Nursery
The format of the class will be:

- a Bible story
- an activity
- a song
- with a little play time thrown in as well.

All 2 and 3 year-old children are welcome!

Parents may either join the class or drop their child off.

Please use the Sunday School Registration Form to sign up your child(ren).

Confirmation Changes for 2024/25 School Year

Confirmation classes will begin for students in seventh through ninth grades on Wednesday, September 11.

New this year, our ninth-grade confirmands will affirm their baptism on Sunday, October 27 at the 10:45 a.m. service. We are excited to return to the practice of confirming students on Reformation Sunday!

Another new change for confirmation this year is that our **sixth-grade students will begin attending confirmation classes starting in January, 2025.** Sixth grade students will attend Sunday school for the first part of the year (through December), and then they will transition to Wednesday night confirmation classes in January. The focus of their first half-year in confirmation will be learning more about what it means to be Lutheran.

Sunday School Begins

Rally Sunday
September 8
9:45 a.m.
South Hall

There will first be a meeting with all Sunday School families and then families will break off on a scavenger hunt, craft activities and snacks!

Bible Milestone

Sunday, September 15
9:45 Sunday School Hour
Room 106

Third grade students along with their parents will meet with Pastor Mark for a class on the use of the Spark Bible.

Sunday, September 29
8:30 and 10:45 services

The third graders will receive their Spark Bibles and 4 year olds will receive the Spark Story Bibles.

Christlers Begin

Beginning September 11
Wednesdays, 6:15 – 7:30
Room 104

The Christler's Group will again meet on Wednesday evenings during the school year. Christler's is for kids up to Confirmation age. The kids meet as a group to play games, create crafts, have devotions and just spend time together.

Christmas Program



December 15
10:45 a.m.
worship service

Mark your calendar



Ann Kvale,
Children's Ministry

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

September/October

ORDINARY TIME

OUR VISION

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

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Blessing OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE

Sunday, October 6,
1:00 p.m.
Bell Tower Courtyard

Each year we celebrate St. Francis of Assisi who had a strong connection to animals and the natural world with the Blessing of the Animals Service that includes our beloved pets.

All creatures, great and small, and their special human beings are

invited to join us in the Bell Tower Courtyard (outside the Fellowship Hall doors) for a short service and a blessing of each animal. In the event of rain or extremely hot weather, we will move inside the Fellowship Hall entry.



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.

