

SEASONS

Be prepared in season and out of season
2 Timothy 4:2



Volume 18, Issue 12

December, 2020

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From Your Pastor

We live in the midst of uncertainty. As I put finger to keyboard in mid-November, we still do not have a definitive answer as to who won the national election and will be our 46th President of the United States. Promising vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna for Covid-19 are nearing the completion of clinical trials. The Board of Stewardship is still tallying up the congregation's response to the annual pledge weekend. And EGL is waiting to hear if its Call to Pastor James Daub of North Carolina to be our Associate Pastor has been accepted. There is much waiting in this life.

Waiting, faithful waiting, is the name of the game for us Christians. It is especially what we are compelled to do in this season of Advent. With Thanksgiving freshly behind us, we begin a new Church Year by renewing the spirit of waiting for our Lord's return. The themes of these Advent services point us to that day when He brings to completion all of human history. Because of the way the calendar falls this year, we have four mid-week Advent services, each one at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. The theme of those Wednesday services will focus on the significance of the Incarnation for our daily lives. What does it mean for our work and relationships that God became man and dwelt among us?

But as we wait, let me share some miscellaneous details with you. The Board of Evangelism recently donated \$2,500 from its charitable reserves to support human care efforts in India and in South Africa. Split half and half this \$2,500 made an impressive impact upon our fellow Lutherans in both countries. The \$1,250 sent to India was enough money to provide 100 Lutheran families in the Kolar Gold Fields region with a month's supply of basic necessities. The same amount sent to South Africa was used to support 20 Lutheran pastors whose congregations were having trouble supporting them. Thus, 20 different Lutheran pastors were freed up to devote their energies to Word and Sacrament ministry. It's remarkable how far \$2,500 stretches in some places of the world. Thank you, Board of Evangelism!

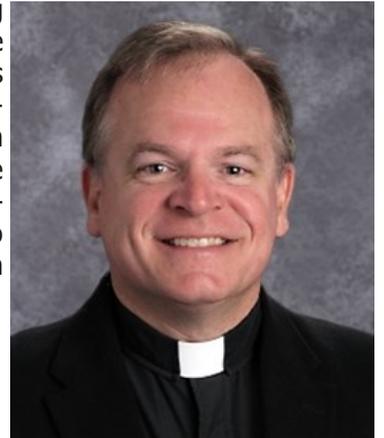
The Sunday morning adult study meeting in the nave continues its reading through the Book of Romans. As I am wont to do, there have been a couple of "rabbit trails," studying the significance of the crucifix in religious artwork and a survey that took the theological pulse of EGL. After reviewing the results, it was comforting to know that we scored far better than the national average. It must be the excellent catechesis you've received over the years! In all seriousness there is a direct connection between the corporate study of God's Word and the health of a congregation. Anticipate the study of Romans continuing for some time, however, because there is simply too much in this book to race through it. Thus, it is not too late to join us.

Speaking of study, this fall the Elders organized a new opportunity for the men of the congregation to gather for study and fellowship. The idea is to look at a given topic in such a way that we get some familiarity with it, but you don't have to wait a month to continue. Each topic will be a stand-alone discussion. We meet at Revere's in Delafield at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month for a 45-minute presentation followed by conversation and snacks. After a bumpy start because of Covid-19 complications, we've embraced the opportunity and will keep plugging away. Men, mark December 10 as the next gathering as we summarize the first 500 years of Church history.

Thank you again, EGL, for your support of Dr. Samuel Lee as he continues his vicarage among us. Vicar Lee is in his second year of studies through the Fort Wayne seminary in the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) program. If all goes according to plan, Sam will likely be ordained next October, even though he will not be at the end of his studies then. As the name of the program implies, our SMP Vicar is preparing to be a pastor in a specific ministry area – among those whose primary language is Mandarin Chinese. As is the case among the Anglo population here in the States, Sam has his work cut out for him in Chinese ministry. Join me in prayer that the Lord of the harvest will open the appropriate doors for many to hear and respond in faith to the Gospel.

God be with you!

Pastor Skougaard



*O Lord,
the season of Advent provides us
with a special opportunity to
prepare for the celebration of
Christ's coming at Christmas.
May our preparations bring glory and honor
to You, and may our focus be on preparing
our hearts for Your second coming. Please fill
the hearts of those who may not be prepared
for Your coming with the gift of saving faith
in Jesus, our Savior.
Amen. Come Lord Jesus.*

*Portals of Prayer
Oct.-Dec. 2020*

Dear Saints at Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church,

Your Pastor, Vicar, Teachers, and Staff thank you for the opportunity to serve you and God here in this place! It is a wonderful privilege to work together with you here in this corner of the Lord's vineyard. May He continue to richly bless our lives and work together!

Amelia Hup Debra Margrett Amy Weppner Kerzie Peters

Scott Paukner Laura Peterson Meg Strick

Katie Seepanski Amy Stosh Terri Elvers Krista Radwahn

Karla Dessert Pam Hanswindt Miss Bahn Sandy B. Kate Behring

Rick Lund Eric Oberauer Kelsey Lindhorst

Sons of Asaph: Catherine Winkworth

This month, let's consider a "daughter of Asaph." Does the name Catherine Winkworth mean anything to you? If you answered "no," I am not surprised. Unless you have studied the history of Christian hymnody, especially the translation of German-language hymns into English, it is unlikely you would know anything about her. She was not Lutheran. Nor is she on the list of saints to be commemorated in the front of the *Lutheran Service Book* (*LSB*). Not knowing anything about her, however, does not mean there is nothing significant about her for us to know.



While not a Lutheran, she was a student of Lutheran hymnody and a translator. The wording to some of our favorite Lutheran hymns are her translations. Without her work, our exposure to German hymns would have been much smaller. What would our American Lutheran hymnody be like if we were not able to sing the following in English: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come," "Soul, Adorn Yourself With Gladness," "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word," "Now Thank We All Our God," "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty," "We All Believe in One True God," "In Thee Is Gladness," or "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"?

Born on September 13, 1827, in London, Catherine Winkworth lived most of her life in Manchester, England. She was a precocious child, learning to read shortly after her third birthday. Because of fragile health, Winkworth never attended school. She was tutored privately after her family moved to Manchester. In 1846, Catherine and her sister were sent to Dresden where they lived with relatives for a year. It was in Dresden that Catherine began her study of the German language. Catherine never married and was a prominent supporter of organizations promoting the education of women as well as social work among the poor. She died July 1, 1878, of a heart attack in Monnetier, Switzerland where she had recently arrived to help care for a sick nephew.

Catherine Winkworth provided translations of nearly 400 hymns by more than 170 German authors. There are 51

of her hymn translations in *LSB*, more than any other translator or hymn writer included in *LSB*. By comparison, there were 41 of her translations in *Lutheran Worship* (1982), our previous hymnal and 73 hymn translations in the Lutheran Hymnal (1941). She is not the only translator of German hymns into English, but she has been the most popular and is credited with bringing the German Lutheran chorale tradition into the English-speaking world. She wrote the following in the introduction to her first book of hymn translations, *Lyra Germanica*: "Ever since the Reformation, the German Church has been remarkable for the number and excellence of its hymns and hymn-tunes."

While her translations continue to enjoy widespread popularity, the two biggest influences on her work were a book and a year abroad. The book was a collection of devotions, including hymn stanzas, in German. It was a gift from a German ambassador to England. The second influence was the year spent in the city of Dresden, Germany, in 1846, the only time she lived in Germany.

Did Catherine Winkworth know that just seven years earlier, the first leader of the Saxon Lutheran immigrants, Pastor Martin Stephan, had left Dresden to lead a group of faithful Lutherans to a new life in the United States? Did she have any idea that her interest in making German hymns available to the English-speaking world would one day help American Lutherans sing the faith of their fathers in a new land in a new language? Did she ever suspect that one day her translations would ring in the ears of millions of Lutherans?

It's also tempting to wonder if she first heard our great Lutheran hymns sung in the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) during her year in Dresden. The church was a little over 100 years old when Winkworth visited, and the church would survive another 100 years before being destroyed in World War II. It has since been rebuilt and rededicated. Even if she never attended worship in the Frauenkirche during her stay, she could not have avoided its influence on the city. As seen in paintings from that time, the church dominated the city skyline.

Not only should we give thanks to God for the gift of hymn writers and hymn translators, but it is worth remembering that the providence of God is sometimes found in small gestures – like the giving of a devotional book or inviting someone to hear the praises of God sung in faithful hymns. Are there small gestures you could make that, in the providence of God, might yield a harvest of faith in the decades to come?

LET US ALL WITH GLADSOME VOICE

*Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.*

*To this vale of tears He comes, here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes
We may reign in gladness.*

*We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder.*

*Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.*

HYMN OF THE MONTH

For over thirty years, a hymn of the month has been taught to the children at Elm Grove Lutheran School. This year, we embark on a new practice of teaching you, the congregation at Elm Grove Lutheran Church, a hymn each month. Each month, a "new" hymn will be presented in each *Seasons* with some background information on the hymn and its author as well as the composer of the hymn tune. This information comes from the Lutheran Service Book Companion To The Hymns. The Lutheran Church has a rich heritage of hymns which cradle-to-grave Lutherans know and love. During the last three decades of the 20th century, the English-speaking world experienced an "explosion" of hymn writing with tens of thousands of hymns being written. A number of superb hymns have come from this myriad of hymns. As a congregation, we have the opportunity to share the "old favorites" and learn some brand new hymns. Each month, the Hymn of the Month will be presented on the first weekend by singing it during the offering at each worship service. The hymn will then be used as a distribution hymn or in another location in the service each weekend of the month thereafter.

The Hymn of the Month for December is LSB 351, Creator of the Stars of Night.

1. Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting Light:
O Christ, Redeemer, save us all
And hear Thy servants when they call.
2. Thou, grieving that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe,
Hast found the healing, full of grace,
To cure and save our ruined race.
3. Thou cam'st the Bridegroom of the bride,
As drew the world to eventide,
The spotless Victim all divine
Proceeding from a virgin shrine
4. At whose dread name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things celestial Thee shall own,
And things terrestrial, Lord alone.
5. O Thou, whose coming is with dread
To judge the living and the dead,
Preserve us from the ancient foe
While still we dwell on earth below.
6. To God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally. Amen.

Because monastic rules called for the regular use of hymns in addition to psalms, readings, and prayers for each of the Daily Offices (times of day when church law prescribed that certain prayers be said), monks wrote many hymns for various times of the day, seasons, and Christian feast days. Creator of the Stars of Night was created for use in monastic life at Advent Vespers. It has been preserved in numerous manuscripts since the ninth century. Since the eleventh century, so-called "Office hymns" usually conclude with a doxological stanza in praise of the Trinity. In this way, these stanzas function like the Gloria Patri added to psalms and the ancient trinitarian termination of collects.

In Creator of the Stars of Night, two stanzas express the Advent theme: stanza 3 speaks of Christ the Bridegroom of the Church who as the promised virgin's Son would be the sacrifice for the sins of the world, and stanza 5 identifies His tasks to rule all things until the time of judgment and to bring an end to the days of living amidst sin and evil. In stanza 1, Christ is called upon as Creator and Redeemer to save His people who call upon Him. Jesus is the light of the world and the one who leads people out of darkness.

Stanza 2 reminds us that all are lost and condemned without Christ's healing power. Stanza 4 proclaims that the one named Jesus, the sacrificial victim, is now highly exalted. As ruler of the universe, all nations will bow down before Him at the Last Day and every tongue will confess that He is Lord. And, finally in stanza 6, the doxology: to Him belong all glory, might, honor, and praise with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever.

The tune CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM is the traditional chant associated with this text. The construction of the tune suggests to the modern ear a sense of mystery which suits a text that seeks to contemplate the mystery of Christ's incarnation and the blessings that come from His humble service to sinners. (From LSB Companion to the Hymns, vol. 1, pgs. 51-52)





The LWML evening group packed 35 Christmas Shoeboxes for the mission project, **Operation Christmas Child**, which is ready for shipment. The outpouring of donations for this worthwhile mission from LWML members and congregation members was overwhelming. Thank you so much for your love and concern. Think of the joy at Christmas time for so many children as they receive these gifts. An added plus is that the children will be able to read a book about our Savior Jesus Christ in their native languages. "For unto us is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord." Luke 2:11

Our LWML morning group will participate in a **Christmas Devotion** of singing favorite Christmas carols, reading scripture, and narrations pertaining to Jesus' birth. This will take place on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 in the BAAC at 10:00 a.m. Because of the upsurge of Coronavirus cases, we will not have any refreshments. Please wear your masks. Our emphasis for this special December meeting will be on praising and thanking God for His plan of salvation as we ponder the true meaning of Christmas.

Our district LWML is planning a **Winter Getaway** on January 29-30, 2021 at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells. The theme is "God's Got It," based on Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Keynote speaker is Kaye Wolff who will speak on the Deaf Ministries of the LCMS. The registration fee is \$60.00, which includes breakfast. This registration form for the retreat can be found on lwml-swd.org. For room reservations, contact the Clarion Hotel directly (800-648-4765, ext.1) for the discount group rate of \$95.00.

An update on our LWML District mission grants is that \$4,000 is needed to fully fund Mission Grant #1 **Church Worker Student Grant** for the total of \$30,000.

Our Elm Grove Lutheran LWML appreciates the many congregation members who faithfully donate their filled mite boxes for the spreading of the Gospel message as we fund the district and national Mission Grants of LWML. Thank you!

"And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.'" Luke 2:10

Barbara Kurth

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

We will miss:

Evelyn Barth by death †

Scott and LaBree Paukner
ELLIOTT, EMMETT

Transferred to St. Paul's Lutheran, Oconomowoc

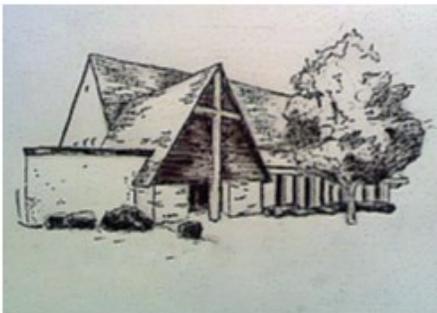


COVER ART Many thanks to EGL's own Joan Knuteson for the cover art this month. Joan has made all of the pillar banners for the sanctuary. You may notice that the cover of this issue of *Seasons* uses the design of the Advent pillar banners in the church. Did you know that for many years during Advent, the banners first appear on only the front pillars? Then for each Sunday of Advent, another set is added. Watch for the banners to begin appearing on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29!

Elm Grove Lutheran Church

Quarantine Kitchen Edition

2020



*Come Lord Jesus be our guest
and let these gifts to us be blessed*

Amen.

EGL Cookbook Sale Starts November 22

Prepay by December 6 to make sure you have your copy before Christmas! Cost is \$10 per cookbook. Profits will go to a food pantry. To prepay online go to the bottom of the egl.org website under Payment and select Donations and Payments. Enter the amount under the EGL Cookbook category. To pay by check make payable to Elm Grove Lutheran Church. Under memo note that it is for the EGL Cookbook and deliver to the church office or to the Big Red Mailbox. Cookbooks will be ready before Christmas. Pickup instructions will be given at a later date. Questions can be sent to evangelism@egl.org or Paula Ky 262-366-3170.



YOUR ELECTED LEADERSHIP

Periodically we place in front of you those whom you have elected as officers to serve and lead on the six constitutionally mandated boards. All of the boards meet eleven times a year but members also give of their time to prepare for

these meetings by serving on various committees within each board. We acknowledge and understand that service to our Lord is freely given through love and faith with no thought of self, but we also hope that the efforts and personal experience of these board members will inspire and motivate others to get involved in various ways in our church. We sincerely thank all of these board members for their service to Elm Grove Lutheran Church and School.

Thank You!



The **Board of Trustees** oversees and maintains the real and personal property of the congregation and arranges for sufficient physical facilities. In other words, they make sure the furnace and AC are running, the lights are working, the toilets are flushing, and repairs of all kinds are being done in a timely fashion. This is no small task for a facility as large as EGL which includes the Childcare and the parsonage. While they "officially" meet eleven times a year, they are constantly busy keeping the facility running. Board members are: Jon Heup, Andrew Dietrich, Peter Holzwart, and Andrew Alles.



Do you need help with Christmas shopping?

SCRIP AND AMAZONSMILE HELP ELM GROVE LUTHERAN!



SCRIP



Support our School!

SCRIP is fundraising while you shop and the SCRIP program at EGL provides an opportunity for funding school field trips. Every card earns a rebate which varies depending on the retailer.

The FULL FACE VALUE gift cards can be given as gifts or used to purchase gas, groceries, retail buys, and visits to restaurants by the buyers. Half of the rebate on each card goes into the school field trip fund and the buyer can designate where the other half goes. Options include being put into the account of an EGL student, given back as cash to you, or added to the field trip fund. Once registered with SCRIP, you can order and/or buy online and then designate where your half of the rebate will go. Cash and Carry cards are available every Sunday between services (limited quantity, but BIG selection) at the SCRIP table in the lower lobby of church or by contacting Meg Grelk (mgrelk@egl.org). The church/school office can be of help during school hours. For more details, contact Meg Grelk.



amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.



What is Amazonsmile? Amazonsmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to EGL. You use the same account on Amazon.com and Amazonsmile. Your shopping cart, wish list, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

Shop at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-0908369> and Amazon donates to Elm Grove Lutheran Church & School.

THANK YOU!





Raise a slice
FOR A
**GOOD
CAUSE**

ELM GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

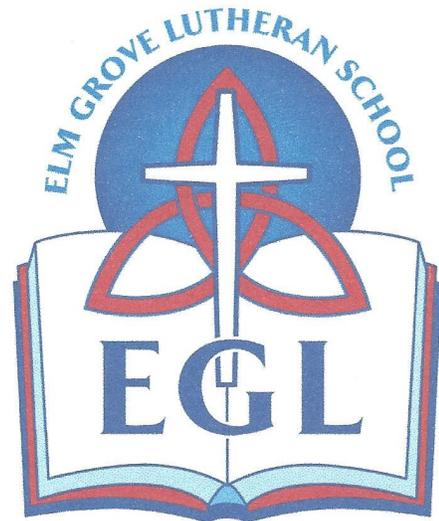
DATE

Monday, December 7, 2020

LOCATIONS

Lou Malnati's Brookfield

4:00pm - 10:00pm
15795 W Bluemound Road
(414) 930-4500



FOR QUESTIONS

Please contact EGL PTL
262-797-2970
mbest1108@gmail.com

Lou Malnati's will donate 20% of total sales to your organization (20% based on pre-tax purchase, excluding alcohol) from every order received from Dine-In, Carryout or Delivery (within zone).

Make sure to mention the flyer or fundraiser during your order.

* INCLUDES ONLINE AND APP ORDERING. USE CODE: FUNDEGL20 *

**PLEASE
NOTE**

- Must mention fundraiser at time of order to ensure credit towards fundraiser
- Please check receipt for "fundraiser" item, if you do not see "fundraiser" on your receipt, please see or call a manager. For online orders, it will be indicated after you enter the promo code.
- For questions or concerns please email fundraising@loumalnatis.com



December Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries ("A")

If your birth date or wedding anniversary is not included, please be sure to contact the church office.
Thanks!



December 1

Ryan Schmid
John Seals
Dawn Widas

December 2

Sarah McNeely
Kathy Rutley

December 4

Ben Mueller
Rachael Tischer

December 5

Kyle Higgins
Ruth Huwiler (99)
Paula Ky
Alexandra Thompson

December 6

Sue Mickol

December 7

Benjamin Nelson

December 8

Steve Handrich
Greg Margrett
Michael Rentmaster

December 9

Cathy Tuttrup
Emma Wollak

December 10

A-Bob & Nancy Genack
James Drabiszczak

December 11

A-Arik & Becky Ruhna-Gee
Cate Heup

December 12

Lynn Crowell
Benjamin Garcia
Michael Gibbons
Audrey Zarder

December 15

Jean Bennett
Rose Brojanac (96)
Nancy Ewert
Sarah Huber
Joan Knuteson

December 16

Noah Schulz

December 17

Makayla McCarville
Jennifer Rentmaster
Ariana Strommen

December 18

A-Joe & Cindy VanderMeer
Judy Hogan

December 19

Linda Diven
Jeff Schulz
Amy Stroh

December 20

A-Lisa & Al Savaglio
Barb Albers

December 21

Mindy Aldinger
Karlie Bellante
Kaethe Ward

December 22

Chuck Ewert
Mason Hornburg
Linda Stiloski
Delaney Ward

December 23

A-John & Luanne Schaefer
Noah Olbrot
Delores Rische (90)

December 24

Kim Brown-LeBoef
Dana Vilar

December 25

Hannah Margrett
Anne Tuttrup

December 26

A-Matt & Terri Elvers
Don Gronitz
Logan Novak
Susie Radke

December 27

A-Jeff & Carol Jagusch
A-Woody & E'lem Lindblom
Carol Ewert
Joanne Kowach
Jene' Kramer

December 28

A-Becky & Jack Butler
A-Forrest & Barb Schumacher
Lanita Beck
Paul Haut
Carol Jagusch

December 29

Angela Holmes

December 30

A-Jim & Lynn Burhop

December 31

A-Terry & Laurie Eichelberger
A-David & Christa Neill
Anthony D'Agostino
Benjamin Krueger
Robert Tesch
Jack Widas

December

Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church Calendar

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
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<p>6</p> <p>8:00 AM Service (C)</p> <p>9:30 AM Adult BC (CN)</p> <p>9:30 AM HS Youth (Rm 228)</p> <p>9:30 AM SS (FH)</p> <p>10:45 AM Service</p> <p>12:00 PM Bd. of Evangelism (Rm 228)</p> <p>7:30 PM AA Mtg. (CLC)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:00 PM Public School Confirmation (Rm 229)</p> <p>6:00 PM Intrada Ringers (BR)</p> <p>6:30 PM Bd of Stewardship (WFH)</p> <p>6:30 PM BOCE (Rm 228)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 AM Women's BC (BAAC)</p> <p>6:30 PM Foundation (Rm 228)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 AM Chapel</p> <p>10:00 AM Women's BC (BAAC)</p> <p>6:30 PM Advent Service</p> <p>7:00 PM Exultate Singers (Church)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 AM Library Committee (FL)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:15 AM Blood Pressure Screening-Rm 229</p>	<p>12</p>																																																								
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*Elm Grove Ex. Lutheran Church
School and Childcare*

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Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor

Dr. Samuel Lee, Vicar

Rev. Carl J. Egloff, Pastor Emeritus

Miss Stephanie Bahr, Interim Principal

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.

The deadline for articles and photos to be submitted for the next *Seasons* is

December 15

Submissions can be sent to
seasons@egl.org.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

*Advent Service
Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23*

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

*The Lord's Supper celebrated
1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday*

***Sunday School & Bible Classes
9:30 a.m.***

Sunday 10:45 a.m.

*The Lord's Supper celebrated
2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday*

Christmas Eve

Service - 5:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service - 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Festival Divine Service - 10 a.m.

New Year's Eve

Divine Service - 6:30 p.m.

