

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: www.eql.org
First Sunday in Advent
Sunday, November 27, 2022 – Volume 74, Number 11.4
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

- S 8:00 a.m. Worship (Matins)
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School/Bible Study
 10:45 a.m. Worship (DS2)
 7:30 p.m. AA Mtg (CLC)
- M 5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC)
 7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)
- T 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (BAAC)
 5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (MC)
- W 10:00 a.m. Church History Class (BAAC)
 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead Players (BAAC)
 6:30 p.m. Advent Service
 7:30 p.m. Exultate Singers
 7:00 p.m. Basketball (Gym)
- T 8:15 a.m. School Chapel

OFFICE HOURS
 Offices are open Mon. – Fri.
 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Key:
 CLC – Christian Life Center
 FH – Fellowship Hall
 BAAC – Bartelt Adult Activity Center
 MC – Music Center
 FL – Friendship Library
 YR – Youth Room

IN THE LORD’S HOUSE: 275 attended services last week in person. **121** households streamed the services for a total of **396**. “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES to the family and friends of Rosie Wold. Rosie died on November 18. Rosie’s funeral will be here at EGL at 11 a.m. on Dec 1 with a visitation starting at 10 a.m. until the time of the service. Christian sympathies also to Rob Hipke and his family on the death of his father, Robert (Bob), on Nov 21. Christian sympathies to the John Schaefer and Cindy Regenfuss families. John died on November 22. The funeral for John will be at 11:30 a.m. Dec 3 at EGL. Visitation will be Friday night from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. and at 10:00 a.m. Saturday until the time of the service.

SECURITY OF EGL CAMPUS: On Monday night, Nov 14, the EGL Church Council passed a motion aimed at helping secure EGL’s school. In fact, school accreditation policies nowadays demand that the school perimeter be secure during school hours, Monday through Friday, 7:00-4:00. Because the church and school buildings are so closely intertwined at EGL, this decision affects activities in the Church areas also. The Council decision means that any activity inside and outside our facility requires checking in with the Church or School Office for anyone who is not staff, during these hours. This new

policy is not meant to stifle any current or future activities; rather, simply to give us a good handle on who has access to the school during school hours. This amounts to saying hello to Amy Stroh or Sandy Brown before your planned activity and letting them know when you leave. Worship-related services in the nave and/or Fellowship Hall are exempted.

PASTOR SENKBEIL: During Coffee hour on Sunday, Nov 27, and Sunday, Dec 4, Pastor Senkbeil will be displaying his new award-winning children’s book from Lexham Press, “The Lord’s Prayer for All God’s Children,” and its matching coloring book, plus “The King of Christmas,” written by another author. The books, lavishly illustrated with colorful depictions of Bible stories, are part of Lexham’s FatCat Books, intended to teach children age 3 - 8 the truths of the catechism. You may want to pick up multiple copies for children in your extended families; they make great Christmas gifts. The books sell for over \$18 retail, but Pastor Senkbeil has donated them to our church as a fundraiser for our school. You may pick up as many copies as you like for your free will donation to the project, which will share the book with children undergoing procedures at local hospitals, sister urban schools, etc.

CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES are completed and ready for pick up. If you preordered a directory, they are available to be paid for and picked in the Church

office. Otherwise, please contact Amy (astroh@egl.org/262-797-2970) in the Church office to arrange payment and pick up of your directory.

PTL FUNDRAISER DINNER: On Dec 7, from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. help support our school by having dinner at Panera at 15040 West Greenfield Avenue. 20% of sales will be donated to EGLS.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Plan to attend on Thursday, Dec 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC to discuss the book, *Christmas in London* by Anita Hughes. If you enjoy reading and like discussing the book, please join our group. If you have any questions, please call Barbara Kurth at 262-345-5083. It will also be time for our Christmas party. Several ladies will be bringing Christmas bakery items. If you would like to add something to our festivities, please bring 6 cookies.

LWML CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: The morning group of LWML plans to meet on Wednesday, Dec 7, at 10:00 a.m. in the BAAC, enjoying Christian fellowship at its Christmas party. Emphasizing our anticipation of the birth of the Christ Child, we will all participate in the Christmas Devotion, **"The Christ of Christmas,"** with singing of Christmas songs, reading of Bible verses, the Christmas story, and narrations. Each lady is asked to bring 1 sandwich and 6 cookies for the luncheon. An invitation is extended to all women of our congregation.

THE LUTHERAN A CAPPELLA CHOIR OF MILWAUKEE presents "A Fantasia on Christmas Carols" Friday, Dec 2, 7:00 p.m., Mt Carmel Lutheran Church, 8424 W. Center St., Milwaukee and Sunday, Dec 4, 3:00 p.m., St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 6705 Northway, Greendale. Tickets are available on their website or contact Richard Ewert, their accompanist. www.LutheranACappella.org

CHRISTMAS BELLS ARE RINGING IN GREENFIELD: There's no better way to ring in the season than with the Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble! Enthralling audiences for two decades, this unique group has performed with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Bel Canto Chorus, Midwest Vocal Express, and across the United States. Under the direction of Kaethe Grabenhofer, MHE plays music from many genres on six octaves of Schulmerich handbells and hand chimes, along with other instruments. Join them for an evening of Christmas carols and holiday favorites! **Friday, Dec 2, 7:00 p.m. Mt. Zion Lutheran Church 3820 W. Layton Ave. in Greenfield**

FREE BARBERSHOP CONCERT AT EGL: You are invited to join the Midwest Vocal Express and Forward Harmony Barbershop choruses as we "Welcome Christmas." This free concert will be on Sunday, Dec 4, from 4:00-5:00 in the gym. This group has been practicing at EGL for over a year and wanted to share their talents with us as an early Christmas gift.

EVENT AT BLESSED SAVIOR: On Dec 1, at 11:00 a.m. there will be a program presented by Mr. and Mrs. David Weidenkeller. They will portray Mary and Joseph. A first hand look at that first Christmas. Lunch will follow at Blessed Savior. There will be a free will collection. If interested in attending, please contact Kathy Herbst by Nov 27. She can be reached via email, kherbst129@gmail.com or phone 262-784-9575.

PLEASE PRAY FOR and remember these members of EGL who are confined to bed or to their homes. Addresses and telephone #'s are in the church directory.

Bernice McCloskey	Joanne Kowach
Ken Dahlke	John Seals

Remember those serving in the Armed Forces:

Rebecca (Burhop) Butler
Katherine Leaf
Will Myatt
Alex Ohde
Joshua Tesch

AOR Team Leader Dwight Schettler provides the following update for the congregation following their visit with EGL last week.

There are three (3) next step activities underway:

- Inviting EGL members to prayerfully consider appointment to a new *Reconciliation Ministry* for EGL. Our team identified 4 individuals for this consideration and I have been able to connect with 3 of the 4 so far.
- Finalizing and delivering Written Report
- Planning for Return Visit by team leader

We commit to delivering the written report within 30 days of our "Part 2 Visit" which was this last weekend. Generally we deliver it far sooner than that.

Regarding the return visit, this is what is stipulated in the agreement:

Follow-Up Engagement: Once a Congregation invests in the process described above, it will want to make best use of its time and financial investment by committing to follow-up. Follow-up is important because it creates a sense of accountability and gives the Congregation a chance to review its progress with those who helped them set the course. One of the team members will provide one day of consultation within 90 days after the Congregation receives the written report. That consultation includes eight hours for evaluation of the process and after-intervention consultation.

In addition, the Congregation's reconcilers who have been identified and charged with the responsibility of leading the Congregation through on-going peacemaking efforts can be better equipped with a consulting agreement with one or more of the team members. The Congregation can contract with AoR for this additional work.

The written report will include the following recommendation related to the return visit:

Within the next 90 days, leaders of Elm Grove Lutheran Church are encouraged to schedule the follow-up engagement with the reconciliation team. This would serve as an opportunity to review what the leaders have implemented, to encourage them to continue doing what's right, to make additional suggestions, and to help hold the congregation accountable to its commitments. It may also be used for a mediation or leadership training (such as one of the seminars listed above). One day of consultation (or mediation or training) is included in the proposal. We will provide recommendations on how to best use this time when the return engagement is scheduled.