

# SEASONS

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



Volume 21, Issue 3

March 2023



**"Let the little children come to me."**

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,  
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!  
A home that is not wholly His--  
How sad and poor and dark it is!

Oh, blest that house where faith is found  
And all in hope and love abound;  
They trust their God and serve Him still  
And do in all His holy will!

Oh, blest the parents who give heed  
Unto their children's foremost need  
And weary not of care or cost.  
May none to them and heav'n be lost!

Oh, blest that house; it prospers well.  
In peace and joy the parents dwell,  
And in their children's lives is shown  
How richly God can bless His own.

Then here will I and mine today  
A solemn promise make and say:  
Though all the world forsake His Word,  
I and my house will serve the Lord!

Hymn 862, Oh, Blest the House

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them. (Mark 10: 13-16)

## From Your Pastor

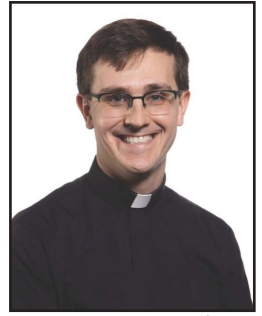
Unless the LORD builds the house,  
those who build it labor in vain.  
Unless the LORD watches over the city,  
the watchman stays awake in vain.  
2 It is in vain that you rise up early  
and go late to rest,  
eating the bread of anxious toil;  
for he gives to his beloved sleep.  
3 Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD,  
the fruit of the womb a reward.  
4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior  
are the children<sup>al</sup> of one's youth.  
5 Blessed is the man  
who fills his quiver with them!  
He shall not be put to shame  
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Psalm 127 is one of my favorites. At first glance it seems like two random poems, vs. 1-2 and vs. 3-5, thrown together to form a psalm. But the more that you meditate on the Psalm, the more you see the connection between the first and the second half, it's all about the Lord. It's all about Yahweh. Whether it's building a house, guarding a city, or raising a child, unless what you do is centered around the Lord, it's meaningless.

There are few things more universal to humanity than having children. From the very beginning God commanded mankind to be fruitful and multiply. We would like to think that we all want what's best for our children. We want them to get good grades, be successful, have good manners, be well rounded, and be kind.

There is, of course, one big problem with that list. There is nothing in there about our children's relationship with the Lord. We help our kids with their homework, we go to

their sporting events, we put them in different extra-curriculars, we bring them to birthday parties, we read them books, but what do we do to nourish their faith? What do we do to make sure that they have a relationship with Jesus? If we are willing to sit at their game for 2 hours, are we willing to read the bible and talk to them about it for 30 minutes?



*Pastor Reseburg*

In school here at EGL, I can easily tell the difference between the kids who spend time in the word with their parents or grandparents and those who don't. As a pastor, the children who obviously spend time in the word with their parents and know Jesus are a joy to my heart. They are truly arrows in this pastor's quiver. However I find myself thinking about and praying more for those who do not. What an amazing blessing and opportunity we have here at EGL to bring Jesus to children who do not hear about him from their parents!

Maybe you don't have any children. Maybe your children have children of their own. God has put you in the position that you are in so that you can nourish the faith of your grandchildren and your nieces or nephews. Maybe you don't have any of those relationships, again, God has placed you here at EGL, where you get the chance to nourish children's faith through the simple act of placing your offering in the plate or giving online. Maybe that connection hasn't been made in your mind before. The money that you give helps contribute to a teacher's salary or to my salary, which allows us to take the opportunity to have those conversations with kids and to tell them about Jesus' love for them.

Children are a heritage from the Lord. They carry their families' heritage, and the children that this congregation cares for, both members and non-members, will be our heritage. What an amazing blessing and opportunity to care for children that God has given us!

### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

#### TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

##### **By Transfer:**

Jerome Novak  
Transferring to Divine Redeemer  
Krzysztof & Jessica Olbrot  
OLIVIA  
NOAH  
EVA  
CLARA  
Transferring to Divine Redeemer

##### **By Death:**

Kristine Sousek  
Michael Brunner  
Carmen Nieting

### Baskets of Blessings

At Easter, our hearts are filled with joy, love, and thankfulness as we celebrate our Savior's Resurrection. We love to share that joy. We have many fellow members who find it difficult to get to church and may not be able to celebrate our Savior's Resurrection with us on Easter. Would you be willing to fill an Easter basket with a few items of care and comfort and take it to one of these members?

We will again provide the baskets, the suggested list of items, and the name, address, a phone number of the individual or couple. The new items could include a devotional book(let), an Easter card/note, hand lotion, candy or baked goods, a small plant, etc. Many blessings have been given and received by such a simple act of kindness. Thank you to all of you, families, couples, widowed, or retired, who have thoughtfully filled and delivered a basket in the past.

Baskets, names, and lists will be ready to pick up in the lower entrance on the following Sundays, March 19 and March 26, 2023. Please come and pick up a basket or two, fill it and deliver it with Easter blessings from all of us to a fellow EGL member before Easter. If you have questions, please contact Barbara Thompson (262-784-3886) or Carole Braun (262-781-1494).



Below is an article reprinted, with permission, by Rev. Richard Wurmbrand, the founder of The Voice of the Martyrs (VOM). You can find the magazine on display in the Friendship Library. Wurmbrand was born into a Jewish family in Bucharest, Romania, on March 24, 1909. In 1938 through the witness of Christian Wolfkes, a Romanian Christian carpenter, Richard and his wife Sabina were baptized and became Christian, joining the Anglican Mission to the Jews. He was later ordained, first as an Anglican, and then later, after World War II, as a Lutheran. He was arrested several times for preaching the Gospel against the orders of the Communist authorities. Eventually in 1964 he and Sabina were allowed to leave the country, following Norwegian church efforts to secure his release. He initially didn't want to leave but underground church leaders convinced him to become a voice for the persecuted church in the West. The going rate for purchasing a prisoner's release at that time was \$1,900. His price was \$10,000. He eventually made his way to the United States, where in May 1966 he testified before the US Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. He famously removed his shirt and showed the scars on his body from his beatings and tortures. He died on February 17, 2001, and is buried in the Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, California. – ECS



## “Prepare Your Children To Be Cross Bearers,” by Richard Wurmbrand

“And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God ... Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb.” (Deut 28:1,4)

I thought about this promise of God when I read the second volume of *The Gulag Archipelago*, by Russian writer and Nobel Prize winner Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. Solzhenitsyn, who was expelled from the Soviet Union by the Communist government, tells the story of 10-year-old Zoya Leshcheva, whose parents, grandparents and brothers were sent to concentration camps because of their Christian faith. The Leshcheva children had been richly blessed with parents who hearkened to the voice of God even when it meant heavy suffering.

Zoya was first placed in a home for children whom the government thought needed “re-education.” Refusing to part with the cross pendant her mother had given her just before being taken away, Zoya tightened the cord of her necklace at night to prevent Communist authorities from taking it.

As a result of her stubbornness, she was sent to a home for developmentally disabled children, where she continued the fight for her cross and the Savior it symbolized. When other children encouraged her to blaspheme and steal, she replied, “My mother should not have a criminal child.”

Sentenced to death at age 14, Zoya’s punishment was later reduced to a long imprisonment. Her parents and brothers had long since been freed while she remained in prison.

When we read in the Bible that blessings are promised to children of the faithful, some of us expect a good position at work, a happy marriage, academic success or some position of honor. But the Bible often defines “blessing” another way. The Lord Jesus said, “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.” (Matthew 5:11)

As parents and grandparents, we search our hearts to determine what is best for our children and grandchildren. But what we should desire most for them is that they would “share his sufferings” and become “like him in his death” so they “may attain the resurrection from the dead” (Philippians 3:10-11). Obviously, not everyone will go to prison for his or her faith. But as Christians, we must remember our family members like Zoya Leshcheva “as though in prison with them” (Hebrews 13:3).

Do you wish for your children earthly possessions, fun, enjoyment and good careers, none of which are to be entirely despised? Or do you think primarily about preparing them for the highest blessing – to become, like Zoya and thousands of others, partakers of Christ’s Passion? It is not enough to take children to Sunday School and church or to have devotions with them in the home. They must come to understand what it means to be a Christian, a cross bearer who views suffering with Christ as pure joy.



Obey the Word of God and prepare real blessings for your children. Instead of giving them riches and recreation, prepare them to endure sufferings gladly while sharing in the sorrows of Christ. There is no higher blessing than this. This is the path to glory.

*Richard Wurmbrand (1909-2001) and his wife, Sabina, (1913-2000), were imprisoned in Communist Romania for their faith in Christ. After their release, they sought ways to serve persecuted Christians and, in 1967, founded The Voice of the Martyrs. You can read Richard and Sabina’s story in Wurmbrand: Tortured for Christ – The Complete Story, available at TorturedForChrist.com.*

(The above article ran in the November 2022 issue of Voice of the Martyrs magazine. "Materials provided by Voice of the Martyrs, PO BOX 443, Bartlesville, OK, 74006. 800-747-0085. [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com).")



The morning group of LWML will meet in the BAAC on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Instead of having a Bible study, we will participate in the 2023 LWML Prayer Service, **"My Soul Rejoices,"** written by Rev. Dr.

Michael Schuessler, former LWML Pastoral Counselor. This is a service of song and prayer with the key verse being Psalm 5:11a "But let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let them ever sing for joy." This should be an inspiring prayer service for our group. We welcome all women of our congregation to attend.

The evening group of the LWML will meet in the Friendship Library on Monday, March 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. The mission project for this meeting will be the putting together of **Hygiene Kits** for the Ingathering at the National LWML Convention in June. These kits will then be given to Orphan Grain Train. If congregation members would like to contribute to this worthwhile project, here is

the list of items needed: **new or gently used bath towels and washcloths; a bar of bath size soap; plastic soap box holder; nail clippers; and purse size facial tissues.** You may put your donations of these items in the big mite box near the LWML bulletin board in the lower entrance of the church. Thank you very much.

An upcoming South Wisconsin District of the LWML will be the **Heart to Heart Sisters of All Nations Event** to be held on April 15, 2023 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Brookfield, WI. Plan to attend this inspiring event with our LWML sisters from different cultures and ethnicities sing and speak in their ethnic languages during the worship service and then enjoy the luncheon of various foods of American and other cultures with a program following. It really is a heartwarming event.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever." (Psalm 23:6)

*Barbara Kurth*

### From Chef to Shepherd



The Winter 2023 issue of *Lutherans Engage* features Jeancarlos Ramirez, a new pastor ordained and installed to serve through the Lutheran mission in Peru, along with his wife, Deaconess Caitlin.

Pastor Ramirez was attending culinary school when he stopped in to practice his English at Coffee and Conversation, an informal English class offered by the Lutheran mission in La Victoria, Peru. There, God set Jeancarlos on the path to becoming a pastor. He answered the call to volunteer at an outreach to Lima's poor children and families. His culinary skills were put to work, and he continues to rely on income from that vocation, until the Peruvian Lutheran church grows, and is able to support a full-time pastor.

*The freewill offering at EGL's Advent by Candlelight event raised \$550 in support of Pastor Ramirez's service to the mission in Peru.*

### Book Discussion Group Celebrates 25 Years

As the renovation of the Bartelt Adult Activity Center was nearing completion in 1998, a meeting of interested congregation members met to discuss possible uses for the new center. It was at this meeting that one of the suggestions was to start a group that would read and discuss books.

The first meeting of the Elm Grove Book Discussion Group met on March 19, 1998. Charter members of this group in its first year of existence were Evelyn Barth (deceased), Dorothy Burkholz (deceased), Bev Jaeger (deceased), Meg Jungkuntz, Judy Hansen, Ginny Moeller, Ruth Smith, Marge Tracy (deceased), and Anne Tuttrup.

Meetings of this new group of avid readers decided to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. The first year the leader of the group, Anne Tuttrup, decided on the books to be read and discussed. After the first year the group voted on suggested books in the June meeting, which also started a tradition of having a luncheon at this meeting. Another tradition was created with Anne Tuttrup serving her famous and delicious Sticky Buns.

Thinking of the blessings our reading group has enjoyed, I asked our 5 charter members what they remembered and enjoyed. **Ruth Smith** remembers the enthusiasm of the ladies with the new reading group and the diversity of the books. She came to appreciate each and every member of the group and felt that the diversity of the books and discussions enriched her life. **Ginny Moeller** felt that with each member suggesting book titles of fiction and non-fiction led to a variety of reading material. **Judy Hansen** loves to read and enjoyed the discussions with hearing of different viewpoints and also remembered how much Bev Jaeger added to discussions of the settings of books by relating details from the many trips she and her husband took. **Meg Jungkuntz** looked forward to the monthly discussions and appreciated the friends that she made and found it interesting how the book discussions led to analyzing the books. **Anne Tuttrup** enjoyed being leader of the group for all these years, which seemed to go by so very fast. Each year she tabulated the votes and gave us new book lists. We thank you, Anne, for all the work you put into helping with the success of our group. We pray that the Lord will bless you and Terry in your new home in South Carolina.

Our Book Discussion Group will meet on Thursday, March 16, 2023 to discuss the book **The Endurance** by Carolyn Alexander. On Thursday, March 30, 2023 our group will meet for a luncheon at Yemas Restaurant in Elm Grove to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

*Barbara Kurth*

Elm Grove Lutheran Church  
**Bulletin Board**



*Family Easter Egg Hunt*  
**SAVE THE DATE**

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST AT 9AM  
 HOSTED BY THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM  
 MORE DETAILS AND A SIGN-UP GENIUS  
 LINK FOR DONATIONS COMING SOON!



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**JULY 17-21, 2023**

INTERESTED IN DONATING TIME OR ITEMS?  
 CONTACT KENZIE PETERS  
 (KPETERS@EGL.ORG) OR BROOKE GRONITZ  
 (BGRONITZ@GMAIL.COM)



**Order Your Easter Chancel Flowers!**

You may reserve your plants *in memory of, in honor of, and/or for blessings received*, by — calling Linda Haut (262-782-7356 or 414-254-2918), **or** by placing your order (with payment) and drop it off at the church office.

The order form, with payment, may also be mailed to:  
 Easter Flowers, c/o Elm Grove Lutheran Church,  
 945 Terrace Dr.  
 Elm Grove, WI 53122

Checks should be made payable to:  
 Elm Grove Lutheran Church

**DEADLINE for orders is Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023**  
 (Please....no late orders)

Please note plant selection and quantity desired below.  
 Sorry, there are no guarantees on flower colors. Our florist does his best to supply us with the flowers we ordered. On rare occasions substitutions may need to be made.

- \_\_\_ Hanging Flower Basket \$25.00
- \_\_\_ Hyacinth \$14.00
- \_\_\_ Pansy Bowl \$22.00
- \_\_\_ Daffodils \$14.00
- \_\_\_ Azalea \$26.00
- \_\_\_ Tulips \$14.00
- \_\_\_ Hydrangea \$29.00
- \_\_\_ Easter Lily \$15.00
- \_\_\_ Daisy mum \$16.00
- \_\_\_ Ivy Basket \$18.00



You again have the opportunity to contribute to the Children's Garden in the lower lobby of our church, on Easter Sunday.

- \_\_\_ Children's Garden \$6.00

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_
- Honoring: \_\_\_\_\_
- Blessings received [ ] \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Flowers need to be picked up soon after the 10:00 service on Easter Sunday, April 9.**  
 (Other pick-up times available **ONLY** by special request — see Linda Haut for details.)

# DOORS OPEN EGL

On Sunday, January 29th, members were invited to walk the halls, see the classrooms and meet the staff!



Thanks to everyone who attended!



# 47TH ANNUAL EGL SPIRIT TOURNAMENT



**A HUGE "THANK YOU" TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED ITEMS AND VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME AND TALENTS!**



**Thank you to all our bakers! \$750 was raised for the 8th grade celebration!**







### March Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries ("A")

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



#### March 2

Wayne Koneman

#### March 3

Michael Klein  
Doris Moore (96)  
Peaches Senkbeil

#### March 4

Tom Brojanac  
Laura Huber  
Sue Kaucic  
Woody Lindblom

#### March 5

A-David & Jean Bennett  
Zachary Fleischmann  
Aaron Kurka

#### March 6

Elijah Lind  
Jim McMiller  
Kristine Schuchardt  
Pr. Harold Senkbeil

#### March 7

Addison Keck  
Rhonda Kurka  
Ashley Ma  
Nancy Roozen

#### March 9

Yvonne Bangle  
Kyle Kurka  
Judith Pritchard

#### March 10

Amanda Kysely

#### March 11

Charles Janz

#### March 12

Ken Olson

#### March 13

Rick Ewert

#### March 15

A-Scott & Amy Williams

#### March 16

Greg D'Agostino  
Paula Keefer  
Xuhui Lu

#### March 17

Ken Dahlke  
Joan Komschlies

#### March 18

Carole Braun  
Benjamin Cross

#### March 19

Rachel Antonczyk  
Katie Thompson

#### March 20

Nicholas Margrett  
Beverly Mueller

#### March 21

Ken Greenweller  
Jeffrey Jagusch  
Michael Kaucic  
Peggy Paulsen  
Sandi Schmidt  
Petra Seymore  
Ken Willis

#### March 22

Deanna Beltran  
Conor Carney

#### March 23

Louis Scheer

#### March 25

Hannah Daws  
Pr. Aaron Reseburg

#### March 26

Helen Moore

#### March 27

A-Gene & Barbara Wilbur  
Clara Olbrot  
John Soderland

#### March 28

Mary Beth Drabiszczak  
Linda Timm

#### March 29

Lisa Schuppner  
Lea Soderland

#### March 31

A-Carl & Charlene Pfeifer



# March

## Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church Calendar—2023

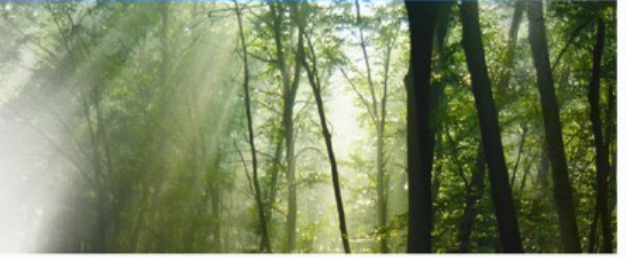
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Feb 2023</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Apr 2023</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28					S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							<b>1</b> 10:00 AM LWML (BAAC) 5:30 PM Lenten Dinner (FH) 6:30 PM Midweek Lent Service 7:00 PM Basketball Rental (Gym)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8:30 AM Sunshine Dance Group (Gym)
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"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11: 25-26)



## Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church School and Childcare

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122 - 2035  
Phone (262) 797 - 2970 • Fax (262) 797 - 2977  
Web Site: [www.egl.org](http://www.egl.org) • E-mail: [ElmGrove@egl.org](mailto:ElmGrove@egl.org)



**Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor**

**Rev. Aaron Reseburg, Associate Pastor**

**Dr. Samuel Lee, Vicar**

**Rev. Carl J. Egloff, Pastor Emeritus**

**Miss Stephanie Bahr, 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:

**Wednesday, March 15**

Submissions can be sent to  
[seasons@egl.org](mailto:seasons@egl.org)



**Follow Elm Grove  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church and School  
on Facebook!**

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday 8:00 a.m.**

Bible Study  
9:30-10:30

**Sunday 10:45 a.m.**

**During Lent and Holy Week, the Lord's  
Supper will be celebrated at both  
Sunday Worship Services.**

(February 26 – April 9)

### **Lenten and Holy Week Services**

Every Wednesday March 1 - 29  
5:30 p.m. Dinner  
6:30 p.m. Service

Palm Sunday - April 2, 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - April 6, 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday - April 7, 12 noon and 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 9, 7 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Weekly Thursday night services are paused until after Easter, and will resume on Thursday, April 13.

### **Make Revelation Great Again**

**Join us on Saturday, March 11 to learn more.**

The book of Revelation is widely known for how it speaks about things that are way "up there" and way "down the road." While this is most certainly true, its real greatness is in the many fascinating ways it reveals the "right here" and the "right now" of what is taking place in Christian worship.

Come take a fresh look at this challenging book on March 11 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. here at EGL, in the Church nave, with Dr. Brian German, Associate Professor of Theology at Concordia University Wisconsin and Director of the Concordia Bible Institute. Lunch is included. Please call the church office, 262-797-2970 if you plan to attend, or email Amy, [astroh@egl.org](mailto:astroh@egl.org).

### **BREAD & FISH**



Jim Olson and Ron Wegner delivered 21 boxes of clothes to Mission of Christ Church that Carole Braun, Linda and Terry Hoffman, and Irma Witzke had sorted and packed.  
Praise be to God!



### **SET YOUR CLOCK AHEAD ONE HOUR**

It's time for Daylight Savings Time to return!

It begins **Sunday, March 12** at 2 a.m.