

SEASONS

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



Volume 21, Issue 8

August 2023



The 40th Biennial National LWML 2023 Convention was held in Milwaukee June 22-25.

Several of our church members attended and served as volunteers to help make it a success. Your mite box offerings are making an impact in our country and around the world!



Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man.
(Psalm 33:12-13)



Mite boxes are available on the counter in the Friendship Library. Fill them with your coins & place in Sherri Bond's church mailbox.



From Your Pastor

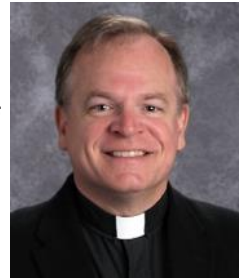
Every year on August 24 we commemorate a disciple and apostle who is only mentioned in passing in the Synoptic Gospels and then in John 1 where we hear of his call into discipleship and brief interaction with Jesus. He's listed among the apostles in Acts 1 also after the ascension of Jesus. What has been a conundrum over the centuries, however, is whether the man in John 1 is the same man in the other Gospels and Acts. Only in John is he called Nathanel, whereas in the other books he's called Bartholomew. You can rest assured, however, that two names are for the same man, and thus we can think of him as Nathanel Bartholomew, with the second being what's called a patronymic – a name referring to the father, because Bartholomew means "son of Tolmai."

So, how might we draw strength from the example of Nathanel Bartholomew? Down through the centuries, as St Bartholomew, he became known as the patron saint of tanners, those who process animal hides for leather goods. The reason for this is that tradition tells us that Bartholomew died a martyr's death, being skinned alive. Not a nice way to go! Thus, in Christian artwork he is frequently depicted as holding a large knife representing the method of his own death, and even his own skin draped over his arm. Thus, we could look to St Bartholomew for encouragement in our struggles or even persecutions, if God sees fit to bring us into a time of testing. Hebrews 12 urges us not to grow weary in the faith, remembering that we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding our blood. St Bart might beg to differ!

When it comes to suffering this apostle is also connected in history with the massacre of Protestants in Paris, France, on August 24, 1572. It was a well-planned and executed attack by Catholic forces on the fledgling protestant community, and is called the St Bartholomew Day Massacre.

Another way to draw encouragement from him is to realize what he was doing when Christ called him into discipleship. In John 1 we learn that he was sitting under the fig tree. It might be easy to think this is just a random detail about his location – under this particular type of tree. But in reality to describe someone as sitting under a

fig tree is to indicate that they were studying the Word of God in their own home. So, from that little detail we also know that Nathanel was a student of the Word of God, and was meditating on it when Jesus saw him supernaturally. This of course reveals something of his character, as well as the reminder to us that Jesus is intimately connected with His Word. He is the Word made flesh after all. Want to draw close to your Savior? Meditate on His Word and promises!



Pastor Skougaard

A related point here is how Nathanel is called an Israelite in whom there is no deceit. All Jews then could be called Israelites because they were descendants of Jacob by one of his 12 sons. You'll remember that after wrestling with the angel of the Lord all night, Jacob is given a new name – Israel, the one who wrestles with God. But don't forget that Jacob was also a twin. His brother was Esau, who got tricked out of his inheritance because Jacob – with mom's help – pulled a fast one on good ole dad Isaac, who at that point in life was blind and couldn't see that Jacob was only pretending to be his older brother Esau so that Isaac would give him the blessing of the first born. The name Jacob means deceit.

So, when Jesus calls Nathanel an Israelite in whom there is no deceit, he's saying more than Nathanel is an honest man. He's saying Nathanel is a true Old Testament faithful man, not like Jacob, his forefather. This connection and contrast with Jacob is further reinforced in the last sentence of our reading when Jesus promises that he and all believers will see the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man, a clear reference to Jacob's dream in which he sees the angels going in and out of heaven.

Ultimately, therefore, we are encouraged by this apostle, this student of the Word of God, this faithful Christian, to see Jesus as he saw him – as the Son of God, the King of Israel, the Messiah. Realize that he confesses the truth about Jesus in his initial call into discipleship! Before he'd seen any miracles or heard his teaching. Long before Peter calls him the Christ, the Son of the living God, St Bart confesses the truth. And this is the sum total of the witness of this man we barely know, this man we call Nathanel Bartholomew – that Jesus is the Son of God, the King of Israel!

A Prayer for Pastors — subject to the hatred and plots of Satan

O Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, our only mediator and redeemer, You have been exalted to the right hand of the Father. You send pastors and teachers of Your Word. Through their work, You gather the church among us to Yourself. I humbly beg You, true God with the Father and the Holy Spirit, that You guide Your ministers in the way of truth and turn the hearts of their hearers to the true obedience of faith. There is no occupation of human life, no class of people, that is so subject to the hatred and plots of Satan as the ecclesiastical ministry of the Word. Therefore, protect the members of this ministry with the shield of grace and furnish them with patience so Satan cannot trap them.

Johann Gerhard (translated by Matthew C. Harrison) "Meditations on Divine Mercy", CPH, p135.

2023 Fall Stewardship Campaign

The theme for the 2023 Fall Stewardship Campaign is **"Working Together – Celebrating God's Good Gifts."** Based on 1 Corinthians 3:9, the campaign considers how we are recipients of God's good gifts. The campaign examines how we can use these gifts for God's glory, and to minister to other people. God grants us the wonderful privilege of serving in the ministry of our church through our time, talents, and treasures.

The campaign emphasizes why we should give to the Lord's work in our church and elsewhere, how we should give, and how much we should give. Most importantly, the campaign stresses developing an attitude of godly generosity that will pervade every area of our lives as we choose to have a generous spirit that reflects God's generosity to us.

As in the past, the campaign will include several newsletter articles in *Seasons*, a letter/brochure to church members, and several lay speaker presentations, all culminating on Pledge Sunday that will take place in November. May our loving Father bless us, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit guide us, as we continue His work in His church, and embark on this fall stewardship campaign.

For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

(1 Corinthians 3:9)



No meetings are scheduled for both the morning and evening groups of LWML in August. The next meetings will be Wednesday, September 1 at 10:00 a.m. for the morning group, and Monday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. for the evening group.

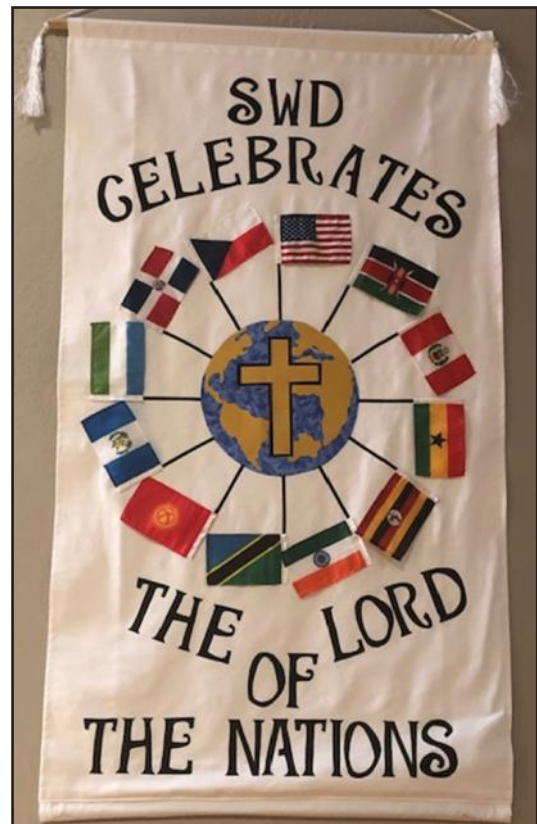
What an awesome experience for the 3,500 plus participants registered for the 40th Biennial National LWML Convention held in Milwaukee June 22-25 with the theme of **"Celebrate the Lord of the Nations!"** The theme Bible verse was "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage! The LORD looks down from heaven; He sees all the children of man." Psalm 33:12-13

Seven women from our Elm Grove LWML attended the Convention with Jean Kruse, President of our Elm Grove LWML, and President of the LWML Zone 3. Jean was a voting delegate at the convention. A mission goal for the 2023-2025 Biennium was set at \$2,350,000 with 31 mission grants. Journey's Lutheran School, located in Hales Corner, WI will be receiving a \$100,000 mission grant for their specialized program for special needs students. Eden Keefe from Overland Park, KS was elected as the new President. \$108,000 was collected in the four offerings at the Convention, and went to the LWML Mission Goal; We Are Called to Care – Plano, IL; Wolf River Lutheran High School – Shawano, WI; and Milwaukee Area Crisis Pregnancy Centers – Concordia Gospel Outreach. There were so many inspiring parts of the convention. Hearing from missionaries in the field and seeing pictures of several of the recipients of the Mission Grants was so informative.

A tradition of the convention is the Banner Procession with LWML Districts creating banners with the theme of the convention. The LWML-SWD banner represents the world coming to know Jesus, the Lord of the Nations in truth and joy, lauding Him as in the theme verse in Psalm 33:12-13. After the procession, all these banners were

displayed in the Exhibition Hall, which was quite impressive. Another awesome sight was to see the 375 host volunteers cross the stage at the end of the convention, receiving lots of applause for their many hours of volunteering for a successful convention. To God be the glory!

The LWML-SWD is hosting its Fall Retreat on September 29-30 at the Clarion Hotel and Suites located at 60 Gasser Road in Wisconsin Dells. The deadline for registering for the retreat, and special room rates at the hotel is September 10. Information for this retreat can be found at lwml-swd.org.



Our South Wisconsin District Banner

Barbara Kurth

Meet Paul Pfaff

Paul started his job as Elm Grove Lutheran's Maintenance Engineer on January 23rd of this year. He saw the opportunity posted on an online employment site.

Paul grew up in Mauston, Wisconsin. His parents are of Lutheran background, and he is the product of Lutheran elementary and high schools. Currently, he lives in Wind Lake, and keeps busy helping his father by updating his property.

Our church and school had long been in need of someone with the skills and experience of Paul to properly manage our buildings and grounds. Not only do we need to maintain our property in good working order, but also be compliant with safety standards. Examples include, the testing of fire extinguishers and water, as

well as installing AEDs and choking aid devices in the proper areas. The web site for the Red Cross explains, "an AED, or automated external defibrillator, is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's a sophisticated, yet easy-to-use, medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm." EGL has two AEDs, one near the Nave and one near the gym. We have three LifeVacs, a device used to aid a child or adult who is choking. They are located in Fellowship Hall, the west entrance of the church in the hallway, and the main entrance hallway to the gym.

Paul's 25 years of experience qualifies him for his new role at EGL. When meeting with vendors, he understands the language and process. He is well versed on how to coordinate a project – who you bring in first, and in what order, and has experience as a general contractor hiring subcontractors. He can assure that trades are certified and licensed, and knows when to involve an inspector. He also knows what to look for in the completion of a project, prior to signing off on it.

Our organization has a system of work orders to help understand, track and prioritize the maintenance needs of the church and school. The teachers submit work orders through an app. Amy Stroh, EGL's Business Manager, then creates a work order and submits it to the system.

Paul is a non-voting member of the Board of Trustees, along with Amy Stroh, who serves as an advisor. The Board of Trustees is knowledgeable about building maintenance, experienced in related processes, and adept at asking legitimate questions. The Trustees, along with Paul and Amy, agree as to what needs to be done in any requested initiative. In his role as our Maintenance Engineer, Paul reports findings, gets quotes from vendors, and submits them to the Trustees. He tries to get three or more quotes, a practice that is somewhat dependent on which vendors have been used previously. As an employ-



ee, he can sometimes accomplish what vendors were hired to do in the past. For example; exterior landscaping, seeding and weed control. He took over the waxing of the floors. And, after routine examination, he has brought equipment up to good working condition.

Paul worked closely with the Board of Trustees on the planning and execution of the demolition of 755 Terrace Drive, our house that was destroyed in a fire last year. The insurance company dictated certain things, as did

the Village of Elm Grove. He communicated with the village to understand the order of business related to permits, what they would recommend and allow, and the necessity of why they do things the way they do. It was imperative to follow the criteria, and know what was needed to do first in the process, prior to moving forward with vendors. Some services from the 755 address were also serving our 805 property, and they needed to be determined. Paul was tasked with getting that done.

One well was officially abandoned. A new well will be established for 805. Next steps for 755 are to complete the final grade of the landscape, as well as seeding of the ground and clean up, so it meets the presentation standards of the village. As of now, work is waiting for contractors. Work on the 805 property is on hold.

Paul understands that some vendors are challenged because they are short staffed, or their availability is dictated by when they are working in our area. In the instance of 755, some vendors were decided by the insurance company.

He believes in keeping in close contact with vendors for schedule adjustments, and other details. Good communication is key in the success of a project, and if you treat vendors with consideration, they will work with you. Quick updates via email, or phone, are effective ways to relay any needed changes. He will press vendors for a completion date, and hold them to honoring it, understanding that weather, and emergencies, can mean vendors need to change priorities. His practice of clear, detailed communication can eliminate or reduce confusion, as individuals may interpret things differently.

Paul states that his new job at EGL meets what he was looking for to finish up his career, and as a result his prayers were answered. EGL's prayers were answered as well. Paul says he's received commendations for the quality of his work and his dedication to it, but responds that the praise isn't necessary, he's just doing his job.

Welcome to Elm Grove Lutheran, Paul!

From the EGL Archives



Elm Grove Lutheran Church's Mixed Couples Bowling League 1957-58

The game of tenpins, or bowling as it is more commonly known, has been associated with Milwaukee since German immigrants began arriving in the Midwest before the Civil War. In the early years of our church, members formed a team that was part of a league, and joined in the competitive fun. Lifelong friendships and bonds were forged in the process. Pictured left to right, in the photo above are:

Back Row: Betty Ormichen, Phyllis Kurth, Marge Burkee, Marian Scheibe, Jane Haut, Vi Wilke, Gerri Weber, Ginny Wilke, Doris Falkenberg, Lil Diffner, Florence Ihlenfeld, Edna Wagner, Carol Jones

Middle Row: Willard Haut, Joe McCloskey, John Weber, Vivian Sterley, Zae Bartelt, Lu Blusner, Dick Burkee, Roy Wilke, Rich Kruhn, Adolph Sterley

Front Row: Ed Wilke, Jim Athey, El Roy Ihlenfeld, Pastor Victor Bartelt, Rudy Wagner, Al Blusner, Hy Diffner, Ralph Treichel, Ollie Kurth.

Absent from the photo: Irv Boettcher, Bernice McCloskey, Hattie Dreyer, Lewis Jones, Sylvia Athey

Life during the past 100 years.

A few of our members have reached their 100th birthday, and many are approaching it. Consider what they've experienced during their lives in changes and advancements. Their generation has made valuable contributions to our world.

18 presidents:

Warren G. Harding	Gerald Ford
Calvin Coolidge	Jimmy Carter
Herbert Hoover	Ronald Reagan
Franklin Roosevelt	George H Bush
Harry Truman	Bill Clinton
Dwight Eisenhower	George W Bush
John Kennedy	Barack Obama
Lyndon Johnson	Donald Trump
Richard Nixon	Joe Biden

The complete human genome was sequenced in 2022; 99 years earlier they did not know what DNA was.

The eradication of smallpox, TB & polio.

Penicillin was invented, as was acetaminophen,

insulin, statins, chemotherapy, stem cell therapy, dialysis, stents, pacemakers, artificial hearts, knee and hip replacements

Vaccines for TB, diphtheria, polio, mumps, rubella, measles, HepB, flu and COVID 19

Multiple USA conflicts:

Banana Wars, last Indian Uprising, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Cold War, Indochinese War, Libya, Grenada, Persian Gulf, Panama, Gulf War, Somalia, Iraq, Yugoslav Wars, Haiti, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, 9/11, War on Terror, Yemen, Nigeria and Syria

- Lindbergh's 1st transatlantic flight
- The Concorde: top speed 1,354 mph
- Moon landings and space travel
- The Model T to self-driving cars
- From a party line phone, or an absence of *any* phone, to a cell phone
- From a lack of electricity in homes, to cameras in doorbells, and lights controlled wirelessly
- Indoor plumbing became common
- The advent of the internet, computers, Zoom calls, & the ability to view streaming EGL services on Sundays



T-Ball Fun!

Thanks to member, Mr. Jeff Timm, for coordinating another year of T-Ball for children, ages 4-6. The boys and girls played in EGL's sports field in fun, non-competitive games weekly during June. Thanks also to the coaches for guiding and teaching the young players in the importance of learning new skills, sportsmanship, and physical exercise!

Congratulations and God's Blessings to recent graduate Emily Ewert!




EGL members, and their friends and family, enjoyed a beautiful weekend out in God's creation at Plymouth Rock Campground June 23-25 for the 2nd Annual EGL Campout.



Elm Grove Lutheran Church
Bulletin Board

Support our school by dining at Chipotle on Tuesday, August 8, 4-8 p.m.




DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE

CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR ELM GROVE LUTHERAN SCHOOL

33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8TH | 4-8PM
15375 W BLUEMOUND RD STE 170, BROOKFIELD, WI, 53005

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **LQYY4ML**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count toward the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

Be a Beacon of Hope

Donate blood
SCHEDULE YOUR DONATION NOW

Wednesday August 16
2:00 PM - 6:30 PM



ELM GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL

Blood Drive Details
ELM GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
08/16/2023
02:00 PM - 06:30 PM
945 TERRACE DRIVE
ELM GROVE, WI 53122

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT
https://donate.wisconsin.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/258030

MORE INFORMATION
Rick Ewert 262.289.9333 or email
BloodDrive@EGL.org

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

← QR Code to Schedule an Appointment

EGL Stammtisch...Summer Break Hey Guys! We're on Vacation!




ENJOY YOUR SUMMER BREAK!

EGL Stammtisch is taking a break, but we'll be back in September! Enjoy the rest of your summer, and stay tuned for more information on our Fall schedule. Blessings! Bruce

Sunday School:

Mark your calendars for **September 17** for a new year to rejoice in God's love, in Sunday School. More information coming.

Sunday school is in need of a special needs teacher as well as teachers in Sunday school. If God has blessed you with this talent, Sunday School would welcome your help. Call Linda 262-786-1203.



FREE Family Activity Day

Stormwater Action Day

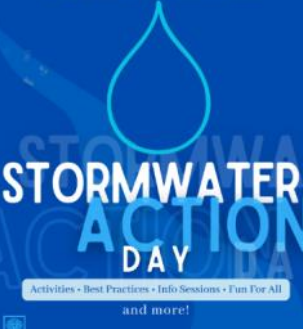
Retzer Nature Center, Waukesha Wednesday, August 9 noon-3 p.m.
Free No Registration Walk ins only

Families! Be a part of the action this day as we have fun learning about stormwater!

- where it comes from
- what is in it
- and most importantly, what can I do about it

There will be plenty to do at this first-ever event including stream testing, stream critters, the watershed model, composting activities, and more.

Adults! Get to know "Sustainable Gardening" in our **noon presentation** or just travel through the activities with your kids. There is something for everyone! See you there!



Join Waukesha County Parks & Land Use

STORMWATER ACTION DAY

Activities • Best Practices • Info Sessions • Fun For All and more!



The Lord blessed us with a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School!



Special thanks to our volunteers:

- Linda Hoffman
- Christiana Ewert
- Joe Benson
- Meg Grek
- Pastor Reseburg
- Jessica Ward
- Mindy Aldinger



August Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries ("A")

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



August 1

Darlene Baumgart

August 2

A-Doug & Meg Grelk
A-Andrew & Angela Holmes
Tom Kaucic

August 3

Joan Knight

August 4

A-Linda & Terry Hoffmann
Casey Carney

August 5

Todd Baumgardt
Sandy Hahn

August 6

A-Pr. Aaron & Martha Reseburg
A-Terry & Anne Tuttrup
Jen Bachmann
Pam Ganswindt
Beverly Hipenbecker
Carol Schaefer

August 7

A-Dan & Stephanie Garcia
Natalie Carstedt
Mark Kennedy

August 8

Isaiah Ewert

August 9

A-Paul & Linda Haut
A-Pr. Eric & Shelly Skovgaard
Christine Wilcox

August 10

A-Kyle & Alexis Higgins
Lindsay Mitchell

August 11

Barb Alles

August 12

A-Peter & Terry Holzward
Tyler Beckley
Gabrielle Ewert
Heidi Wegner

August 13

Alex Ohde

August 14

Rob Hipke

August 15

Patrick Gerber
Ruth Lawonn

August 16

Manfred Moritz
Brody Setzer

August 17

A-Paula & Tri Ky

August 18

A-Jeff & Laurie Mueller
A-William Myatt Jr. & Anna Bangl-Myatt
Donald Anderson
Tom Paasch
Alex Setzer

August 22

A-Kirk & Cynthia Midtbo

August 23

Barb Thompson

August 24

A-Bill & Ruth Dare
Jim Aldinger
Jeff Netzel

August 26

Ian Klein
Ray Lester

August 27

Kent Baumgardt
Aislyn Wegner

August 29

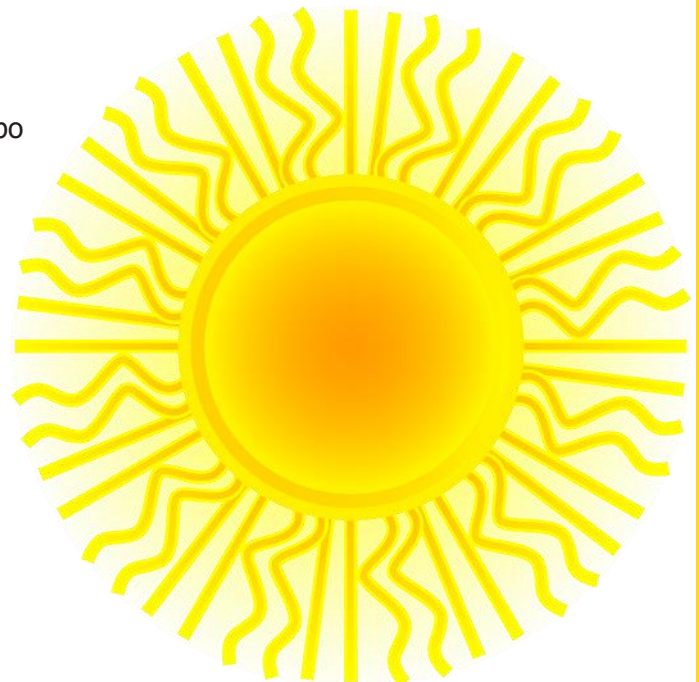
A-Deanna & Matthew Beltran
Dick Kruse

August 30

William Dennis
Laura Patterson
Richard Rahardt

August 31

A-Mattias & Catherine Goldenstein
A-Kevin & Andrea Kysely
A-Tom & Jane Neill
A-Brad & Vicky Ohde
Lydia Ohde



August

Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church Calendar—2023

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And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." (Matthew 14: 28-33)



Elm Grove Ex. Lutheran Church

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 • E-mail: ElmGrove@egl.org



Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor

Rev. Aaron Reseburg, Associate Pastor

Dr. Samuel Lee, Vicar

Miss Stephanie Bahr, Principal

**Summer Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(through August 18)**

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

Tuesday, August 15

Submissions can be sent to
seasons@egl.org



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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Summer schedule: until September 10,
there will be one Sunday service, at 9 a.m.

**The Lord's Supper is celebrated
every Sunday**

Bible Study will follow the service

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

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



**Prayer Warriors at Elm Grove Lutheran Church
are ready to pray for you.**

Prayers of:

**Thanksgiving Comfort Praise Healing Strength
Peace Blessings Wisdom**

If you have a prayer request or wish to become a part of
this great mission, please contact:

Mindy Aldinger – prayerchain@egl.org or 414-698-8774
Linda Hoffmann – 262-786-1203

The containers of artistically arranged flowers that adorn the front entrance of our church are the creation of Irma Witzke, one of our volunteer gardeners. Her caring work, and that of others, contribute to the beautification of our property in the summer months.