

**ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122**  
**Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: [www.egl.org](http://www.egl.org)**  
**Second Sunday in Advent**  
**Sunday, December 10, 2023 – Volume 75, Number 12.2**  
**The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod**

**Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar**

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|---|--|--|---|
| S | 9:00 a.m. Worship (DS3)<br>10:30 a.m. Bible Study & Sunday School<br>4:00 p.m. Midwest Vocal Express Barbershop<br>Chorus Christmas Concert (Gym)<br>7:00 p.m. AA Mtg (FH) | 4:00 p.m. PTL Fundraiser (Panera Bread)<br>5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (MC)<br>6:30 p.m. BOCE Meeting (228) |   |
| M | 5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC)<br>7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)  | W  | 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC)<br>1:00 p.m. Sheepshead Players (BAAC)<br>5:15 p.m. She Shed Bible Study (BAAC)<br>6:30 p.m. Midweek Advent Service (Vespers) |
| T | 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)<br>10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)   |  | 7:00 p.m. Basketball Rental (Gym)<br>7:30 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)  |

**IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: 230** attended services last week in person. **104** households streamed the services for a total of **334**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

**MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES:** We continue this coming Wednesday evening with our midweek Advent services at 6:30 p.m. This year we are looking closely at three different examples of faithful Christians from our church history who are given prominence in our church's calendar. Of course, we always focus on Christ, but we can learn about His love for us through the example of Christians who have walked the road of faith before us. Last Wednesday we looked at St Nicholas of Myra. This coming Wednesday we draw attention to Sankta Lucia. And then on Wednesday, Dec 20, St Katrina von Bora (Luther's wife) will be the lens through which we reflect on the grace of our heavenly Father in sending His Son on Christmas Day.

**SAMSON STUDY:** This Sunday we continue our brief study of the life and work of God's reluctant judge, Samson, by reviewing Judges 14 in which Samson seeks a wife who is "right in my eyes." Last week we covered the account of the Mal'ak YHWH promising to give Manoah and his wife a

son, who would be a Nazirite from the womb. The class meets in the nave shortly after the end of the Divine Service.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS:** For your reading pleasure and strengthening in the faith once for all delivered to the saints, three different Advent devotional booklets have been printed and provided for you in the mailbox/coat rack area. Included among the choices are the Lutheran Hour Ministries' "What Child Is This?"; the Higher Things' "Reflections"; and the 1517 "The Clothing of the King."

**DECEMBER VOTERS' MEETING** will be on Dec 17, following the worship service in the nave. Please find the proposed agenda posted on the bulletin board near the elevator.

**MIDWEST VOCAL EXPRESS BARBERSHOP CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The Midwest Vocal Express Barbershop Chorus would like to thank Elm Grove Lutheran for allowing us to rehearse every Monday evening. As a thank you we would like to invite everyone to a free Christmas concert in the gym at 4:00 p.m. on Sun Dec 10. This concert will also feature our mixed chorus Forward Harmony.

**CHANCEL CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING:**

If you would like to help decorate the Chancel for Christmas, please plan to come to EGL on Sat Dec 16, at 9:00 a.m.

**ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT 2023 WRAP-UP:**

Ladies of all ages (12-99) gathered last Sunday to quietly begin preparing their hearts for the celebration of Jesus' birth. Amid beautifully decorated tables and enhanced by our talented musicians, Lynn Crowell, clarinet, Emily Ewert, Flute, and Karla Bessert, piano/arranger, we heard and sang familiar carols. Dr. Brad Alles shared the story of our Savior's birth and final triumph through Old and New Testament prophecy. Thank you to all who attended, set a lovely table, brought a delicious treat, helped set up, greet, serve, or put away. *May Jesus, our Savior, be the heart of your Christmas preparation.* - Meg Grell, Judy Hogan, and Carole Braun

**BREAD AND FISH:** The Bread and Fish committee wishes to thank the Zion (Elm Grove campus) grade school and EGL church members for the wonderful amount of food they brought before the altar at Thanksgiving. We received food that filled 24 boxes, which were given to Hope and Holy Ghost Lutheran Churches and generous monetary contributions in November which will be distributed to three churches that we support for their food pantries. Thank you for your gracious support of our clothing and food program here at EGL.

**SPECIAL MISSION PROJECT:** On the back credenza you'll find a three-page flyer on Bienfait Safari-Romeo, a recently graduated seminarian from the Lutheran Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa. He is slated for a two-year vicarage in Durban, South Africa, at a multi-point parish. Originally from a small village on the shores of Tanganyika in the Democratic Republic of Congo, he has found his way to South Africa, to Lutheranism, and to successful completion of his seminary studies. The EGL Board of Evangelism has designated him as the recipient for the 2023 Thanksgiving and Christmas Day offerings. You are invited to add your support via the Christmas

Day offering or even now. Simply write the check out to EGL, with a clear note that this gift is for Bienfait. Whatever is raised will be sent to support him through the St Phillip Lutheran Mission Society. Alternately, you can give directly to them now at <https://www.splms.org/>. This is being done in cooperation with the Bleckmar Mission of the SELK in Germany, our sister church body.

**CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE:** Attention all bakers! Zion Lutheran School (EGL campus) is having a bake sale to raise money for the school. We are asking for donations of baked or packaged treats by Tues Dec 19, to the school office. Please email PTL at [elmgroveptl@gmail.com](mailto:elmgroveptl@gmail.com) or call/text Jessica Ward at 262-488-1962 to let us know if you are able to bake.

**2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are in your Church mailbox. If you didn't receive envelopes and would like them please contact Amy in the Church office.

**A LIFE QUOTE FOR DEC 10:** "You might not be impressive by the world's standards. You might be a third-shift worker, a nameless neighbor, or a sinner who messed up in very public ways. But the angel declared good news for all people, which logically must include you. So, rejoice today! A Savior was born to you!"

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:** The book to be read and discussed for December is *Love Comes Softly* by Janette Oke. The date of the meeting has been changed to Thurs, Dec 28, at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC. We will also have our Christmas party at this time. Remember to bring what you signed up for or plan to bring cookies. If you like to read and discuss books, you may be interested in joining our group. Please call Barb Kurth if you have questions at 262-345-5083.

**PTL FUNDRAISER:** Please support the Zion Lutheran (Elm Grove Lutheran Campus) PTL by eating at Panera on Greenfield Avenue in Brookfield on Dec. 12, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 25% of the sales will be donated to the PTL.

