

# SEASONS

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



Volume 23, Issue 1

January 2025



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## The Epiphany of our Lord



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Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.  
And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,

because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord.

(Isaiah 60:1–6)



# From Your Pastor

There is much good happening at Elm Grove Lutheran Church these days. And to think they are all happening in EGL's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary year! I am personally excited to see so much positive investment of energy and talent, coming from many angles. For instance, later this year, we will fully transition to a policy-based governance model. As was reported at the Voters Assembly on Dec 15, EGL's new constitution, by-laws, and proposed policy manual were all approved by the District's Committee on Constitutional Matters without any qualifications or questions! The governance committee deserves your thanks for their hard work! This new model of governance will ensure that EGL has the ability to be more nimble with the challenges facing the Church in the years to come.

Secondly, you should keep your eyes open in the weeks ahead for the roll-out of a new website for the Church, featuring a new logo design. The website promises to be a more effective tool for drawing people into exploring who we are as a congregation gathered around God's gifts of Word and Sacrament, established to proclaim Christ. Again, a small group of EGLers jumped in, learned along the way, and are blessing the body of Christ here.

In January you can also expect to see advertisements on Facebook inviting people to come to an evangelism program at EGL entitled, "Through the Bible in Two Hours." No one of course can learn everything about the Bible in two hours; however, the main goal is clearly stated here:

"To add active members to your fellowship by the power of the Holy Spirit enlightening souls with the Gospel shared via your pastor's adult Small Catechism class. This is the goal of a unique "7 Step Process" executing a Facebook ad campaign

to attract targeted FB users to attend a PowerPoint Presentation 'Through the Bible in Two Hours' conducted at your congregation by your pastor. This presentation seeks to show the revealed central theme of the Bible found in each of its sixty-six books."



*Pastor Skovgaard*

Although many congregations applied for the opportunity, EGL is one of only two sites selected for the launch of this new effort aimed at reaching the unchurched. It is the brainchild of retired Pastor Rod Zwonitzer. Zwonitzer says, "the organization is excited and blessed to partner with these two congregations as they offer us a significant opportunity to cast the Gospel Net on the Facebook Internet in their communities." You can see further information on this program in the pages ahead, but the advertising is tailored to the zip codes immediately surrounding the congregation's own, 53122.

There will be three opportunities to view the PowerPoint Presentation, which will be led by Pr Skovgaard on the second and third opportunities in mid-February. The founder, Rev. Zwonitzer, will demonstrate the presentation the first time around. At the conclusion of each of the presentations, participants will be invited to enroll in a series of sessions on the key teachings of the Bible, using the Small Catechism as a text. At this point in the program, Pr Senkbeil will help lead the Catechism classes. Under God's blessing, the hope is that the net result will be growth in numbers, but more importantly, the introduction of Jesus to those who are "spiritual but not religious," etc. Please note that the focus and primary attention will be given to those don't know the Bible.

(For more information on **Through the Bible in Two Hours** see pages 6-7.)

**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

**ADMISSION INTO MEMBERSHIP:**  
**Confirmed:**  
*By Transfer*  
 Allen and Sandy Krueger  
 Transferring from Our Redeemer



<b>GROW IN GOD'S WORD IN 2025 - Join an EGL Bible Study!</b>				
Day & Time	Location	Topic	Open To	Pastor Leader
<b>Sundays 10:30-11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>	<b>Lutheran vs. Roman Catholic Theology and Practice</b> (see below)	<b>All</b>	<b>Skovgaard</b>
<b>Tuesdays 7-8 a.m.</b>	<b>Room 228</b>	<b>Romans</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Skovgaard</b>
<b>Tuesdays 10-11 a.m.</b>	<b>BAAC</b>	<b>Romans</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Hipenbecker</b>
<b>Wednesdays 10-11 a.m.</b> (except 1st Wed. of month)	<b>BAAC</b>	<b>Acts</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Skovgaard</b>
<b>ALSO CALLING ALL HOME BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:</b> if you are willing to invite new members, contact the BOCE so we can promote it and encourage EVERYONE in our EGL family to "let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Col. 3:16) in 2025!				

Roman Catholicism? What to make of it nowadays? A lot of time has passed since the Lutheran Reformation. We all have family and friends who belong to Roman Catholic parishes, and often it seems, they sound like Lutherans in many ways. While we can and should give thanks to God for the many points we share in common, there are some important differences we need to address. This new Sunday morning class, following on the heels of the Formula of Concord study, will examine some of the obvious differences that were apparent at the time of the Reformation but also which have developed in the ensuing centuries. Topics will include the Papacy, the view and role of the Virgin Mary, salvation, and the connection between Scripture and Tradition. If you'd like a head start on the topic, consider listening to the interview on [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org) with Pr Bryan Wolfmueller on December 12 -- <https://issuesetc.org/2024/12/12/myths-about-lutheranism-lutherans-are-roman-catholic-lite-bryan-wolfmueller-12-12-24-3471/>. Anticipate this class starting on January 12 or 19, depending on how quickly we finish the Formula study.

## Elm Grove Lutheran's Board Members who serve our Church



The Lord has blessed EGL with many devoted members who serve on the various boards. They are essential volunteers who contribute to the smooth and complete functioning of our church. We thank them for their service. Praise be to God!

Board of Elder members pictured are (left to right):  
First row: Bruce Bessert, Eric Thompson  
Second row: Matt Stroh, Pastor Skovgaard, John Wolck, Paul Haut and Doug Grek

Not shown: Mattias Goldenstein and Rick Wegner

### Board of Elders

As your elected Elders, we sincerely care for all EGL members, and pray that the Lord will afford unity in His church. We encourage all to attend Bible study, in order to come together with fellow believers for instruction in, and reinforcement of, the Word of Jesus, and to recognize His expectations for us.

#### According to our bylaws, the Board of Elders shall:

1. assist the Pastor(s) in the spiritual care of members, to include arranging for personal visitation on the:
  - a. bereaved,
  - b. erring,
  - c. inactive members,
  - d. needy, and
  - e. sick.
2. be responsible for all worship services held in the name of the congregation;
3. be responsible for all personnel necessary to conduct and maintain the services in good order including but not limited to:
  - a. Pastors,
  - b. Chancel assistants,
  - c. Ushers,
  - d. Organists and other instrumentalists,
  - e. Choir directors, and
  - f. Choir members;
4. be responsible for youth, young adult, and senior ministries;
5. provide input to the Human Resource committee on the salary and welfare benefit program for the church staff.

### BREAD & FISH



The Bread and Fish program carries on, and on December 3, Ron Wegner and Jim Olson delivered 20 boxes of food collected here at EGL from the Thanksgiving Eve service, along with ten boxes of donated clothing, to Mission of Christ Church in Milwaukee. An additional seven boxes of clothing were donated to Bethany Lutheran.

On another note, we would like to recognize, and give our tremendous thanks to Ron Wegner. Ron has officially "retired" from running the Bread and Fish program. He has dedicated over 40 years to organizing, packing, and delivering **thousands** of boxes of clothing and food. Tens of thousands of dollars have been collected through the program during his time of service, and dispersed to those less fortunate. He has truly been a blessing to not only our inner city sister churches, but also as a great ambassador representing our own congregation in the local Lutheran community. A shining example of true Christian Stewardship. Thank you and bless you, Ron, for all you have done!



Ron and his wife, Bev. Bev has also devoted many years in support of the Bread and Fish mission.





Since the first Wednesday of January 2025 falls on New Year's Day, which is a holiday, there will be no LWML morning group meeting in January. We will meet on Wednesday February 5 in the BAAC at 10:00 a.m. The Bible study, **"The Third Article –**

**Steadfast in Christ: Gift of the Holy Spirit Through Word and Sacrament"** is found on page 17 in the winter issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.

The evening group of LWML will meet on Monday, January 6, in the Friendship Library at 6:30 p.m. The mission project will be crocheting soap bags to be filled with small left over soap to be used by needy people. These soap bags will be given to Hope House in central Wisconsin.

The South Wisconsin District of LWML is hosting its Winter Getaway on January 31 and February 1 at the Cranberry Country Lodge at 319 Wittig Road, Tomah. Theme for this retreat is **"Wonderfully Made."** "For You formed my inward parts; You knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise You for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works." Psalm 139: 13 -14a. The deadline for Registration is January 17, and is \$65, including lunch on Saturday. See the LWML bulletin board for information on the retreat. On Friday, there will be a Breakout Session Book Discussion on the book, *Lady Like: Living Biblically* by Rebekah Curtis and Rose Adle. Gifts of the Heart will go to the SOS Center in Milwaukee. Guest speaker is Rev. Michael Salemink, the Executive Director of Lutherans for Life.

Soon to be fully funded is National LWML Mission Grant #13 **"Water and the Word – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya"** for \$80,000. Lutheran schools and

orphanages in rural Kenya lack clean water. In 2008 the organization **Water and the Word** was started with the purpose of bringing clean water and the Word of God to several Lutheran Schools. Prior to having clean water, children carried clean water in containers on their backs several miles to their schools. After assessing individual schools, **Water and the Word** installs water harvesting equipment and locally filtered sourced filters. Every three months a pastor trained in water equipment inspects the water systems of the schools. Students and the staff are trained in personal hygiene, handwashing, and drinking only clean water. On these visits and inspections to the various schools, the pastor also provides pastoral care. The hope is that 12 additional Lutheran Schools and some Lutheran orphanages will be also be in this program. Thank you for your donations of mites.



The photo at right shows one of the water filters that Water and the Word provides to schools. Each school gets 2 - 4 filters, depending on their student population.

"Serve the Lord with gladness." Psalm 100:2

Barbara Kurth



Pastors Lee and Skovgaard at Calvary Lutheran Chapel in Madison where Pr Lee was installed as the South Wisconsin District Missionary for International Outreach on Sunday evening, November 17.

A new, welcoming, safe entrance to Elm Grove Lutheran.



On November 26, the long-awaited project of replacing the main church entry concrete was completed. Due to the weather temperature, heat blankets were used to help cure the concrete over the course of five days. Best Concrete Concepts, who also performs snow removal on our property, was contracted to do the work. The concrete slab will get sealant applied in the Spring when the temperature gets warmer. Thanks to Paul Pfaff for coordinating the project.





## *Advent By Candlelight 2024*

We praise and thank our Lord for blessing us so richly, from the planning and preparations to Sunday afternoon, December 1, 2024, when almost 90 ladies gathered around beautifully decorated tables in the Fellowship Hall. We shared the wonderful story of God's promise to send a Savior as we joined our voices in singing favorite Christmas carols, including "Silent Night" by candlelight. We learned the many ways God showed His people He was fulfilling His promises as our inspiring speaker, Karen Lippert, shared the message, "Here's Your Sign!"

We were delighted to welcome many guests as well as those who were attending for the first time. It was a special joy to have so many mothers and daughters, grandmothers and granddaughters, sisters and friends join us. Thank you to all who attended.

Our table decorators; Barbara Alles, Jean Bennett, Linda Hoffmann, Joan Knuteson, Jean Kruse / Irma Witzke, Kierstan Leaf, Julie Leaf, Kristen/ Elizabeth Murphy, Sue Schmalzer, and Sharon /Veda Stellwagen, did a wonderful job transforming our Fellowship Hall into lovely a Christmas setting. A very special thank you to Karen Clark and her sister Karlene Joseph for being our thoughtful emcees again. What a blessing you have been!

A special thank you and heartfelt appreciation to Judy Hogan for her many years of helping to coordinate Advent By Candelight.

We also appreciate all who brought the delicious appetizers and desserts and Gayle Berry and Meg Grelk who helped to serve them. Kristen Murphy and daughters, Elizabeth Murphy and Kate Rollefson kept the punch bowls filled. Laura Traas, alto clarinet, and Emily Ewert, flute, provided us with beautiful music accompanied by Gene Traas on the piano, who also did some special arranging. Thank you to our thoughtful Reflection Readers: Barb Alles, Sonia Neubauer, Ann Wilcox, and Paula Keefer. Carol and Nancy Ewert provided a warm welcome as our Greeters.

A special note of appreciation to our set up and take down crews; Jean and Dave Bennett, Carole and Dennis Braun, Meg Grelk, Linda and Terry Hoffmann, Joan Knuteson, and Jim and Diane Olson and our "sound men", Dennis Braun and Terry Hoffmann. Bless you all!

After expenses, an offering of \$800 was sent to LCMS-SWD for Rev. Sam Lee, Missionary for International Outreach.

Most of all, we thank and praise God for the gift of His Son, our Savior and Eternal Hope, Jesus Christ.

Meg Grelk

Carole Braun

Soli Deo Gloria







1. **HOW DID THIS INITIAL CONCEPT COME ABOUT?**

It came about when Pastor Rod Zwonitzer was ministering at Emmanuel Lutheran, Dearborn. He had wanted to reach out to the unchurched in the congregation's service area. Emmanuel Dearborn was one of the first churches in the area to try Cable TV advertising, and experienced some positive results. Then, in around the 2008-2009 timeframe, Facebook was introduced and offered a fresh, new medium to reach out with the Gospel. Advertising was purchased offering Small Catechism classes and brought an amazingly productive ROI (Return On Investment); Family Units signed up to take a twelve-week study of the Small Catechism leading to Confirmation and Active Member Participation. This led to contemplating how to attract an even larger group of FB users to explore the Bible in a much shorter time than twelve weeks.

2. **HOW AND WHEN DID THE CURRENT CONCEPT COME ABOUT?**

Pastor Zwonitzer moved to help rebrand and upgrade Worldwide KFUE in St. Louis from 2012 to 2015. There he continued to think about the FB approach as a bridge to Small Catechism Class. It was there in St. Louis that he became acquainted with another Lutheran who had a successful Social Media Promotion company and they began brainstorming the possibilities. This led to the Through the Bible in Two Hours PowerPoint Presentation. The development continued and a planned launch was targeted for 2019 in St. Louis. However, the launch congregation underwent the COVID-19 pandemic as well as pastoral change, so that delayed the launch until now.

3. **WHAT LAUNCH PLANS ARE BEING FINALIZED NOW?**

The necessary steps to launch are being put into place now, including incorporation as a non-profit LLC with 501(c)(3) IRS status which permits "tax deductible" donations. Promotional materials are being developed with a Lutheran Graphics Designer, including FB ads, brochures, landing pages, PowerPoint graphics, etc. Select congregations who have been preliminary informed about this effort are working with us to develop a Launch Schedule.

4. **WHO DOES THE LEADERSHIP TEAM CONSIST OF?**

Presently this team consists of:  
Rev. Dr. Kevin Golden: Professor of Old Testament, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; Jonathan Koeller:

Founder and Exec. Dir. of Koeller Marketing Solutions, Indianapolis, IN; Rev. Roberto Rojas: Zion Lutheran Church, Winter Garden, FL; Rev. Andrew Wrasman: Oak Road Lutheran Church, Lilburn, GA; Rev. Robert Zagore: Celebration Lutheran Church, Saint Johns, FL; Rev. Rod Zwonitzer, Founder.

5. **WHAT IS THE MAIN GOAL OF THROUGH THE BIBLE IN TWO HOURS?**

To add active members to your fellowship by the power of the Holy Spirit enlightening souls with the Gospel shared via your pastor's Adult Small Catechism Class. This is the goal of a unique "7 Step Process" executing a Facebook Ad Campaign to attract targeted FB users to attend a PowerPoint Presentation "Through the Bible in Two Hours" conducted at your congregation by your pastor. This presentation seeks to show the revealed central theme of the Bible found in each of its sixty-six books.

6. **WHAT IS THIS "7 STEP PROCESS?"**

In an unique seven step process, the main goal of adding new confirmed members to congregations is targeted. Step One develops a sought after target geographical range which will be the focus of a Facebook ad campaign. Step Two is the execution of this FB ad campaign on behalf of the congregation whose task is to lead them through Landing Pages which provide the information and motivation (Step Three) to consider registration (Step Four) for the Through the Bible in Two Hours presentation (Step Five). This Two Hour presentation at your church conducted by your Pastor includes "Inviting" the attendees to attend an upcoming Small Catechism class (Step Six) which he will conduct. Step Seven culminates this process with some from the Small Catechism class being confirmed and then entering active congregational membership.

7. **WHO ARE THE TARGETED FACEBOOK USERS IN THE AD CAMPAIGN?**

Primarily we are targeting the unchurched who currently have no religious affiliation. However, the FB campaign will also attract Christians who are interested in learning about what the Confessional Lutheran church holds as the Central Theme of the Bible. Such might be searching for another confessional church body to affiliate with, or explore what the differences in a church bodies' central theme of the Bible is. At some point we will also attempt FB ad concepts which reach out to the dechurched as well.

8. **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONGREGATION AND THAT OF THROUGH THE BIBLE IN TWO HOURS?** First, the Congregation desires to Partner in the Gospel with Through the Bible in Two Hours (Philippians 1:5), and perform their assigned responsibilities to execute this Outreach program. These responsibilities include: unified desire to conduct such an Outreach effort; encourage the Congregation to pray for the Lord's blessings on this humble Outreach effort; provide the budget necessary to carry out the Campaign; be prepared to offer and hold the Small Catechism classes that the Outreach effort would provide; be a welcoming fellowship of Christ's Church to these outsiders who would come among them for worship and Bible study. Through the Bible in Two Hours is responsible to conduct all the FB ad campaign (Steps Two – 5) and its subsequent follow-up by way of registering those who wish to sign up for the Small Catechism class and its follow-up efforts. The Congregation will be responsible for Step Six, the Small Catechism Class, as well as Step Seven, the Confirmation and Membership rites.
9. **HOW MUCH BUDGET DOES THIS EFFORT REQUIRE THE CONGREGATION TO PROVIDE?** There are two required budgetary investments that participating congregations must provide. First, in consultation with Through the Bible in Two Hours a minimal agreed-upon FB Ad Campaign budget will be developed. Second,

an administrative fee of a minimum amount yet to be determined must be paid to Through the Bible in Two Hours for execution of the Campaign in all its details.

10. **WHAT BLESSING CAN ONE EXPECT FROM A CONGREGATION PARTICIPATING IN THIS PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL?**

Truly this Gospel Casting (Matthew 13) provides the Central Theme of the Bible to be revealed and taught to many. The sorting of the fishes into different results along the Seven Step Process is the work of the Triune God. Our current modeling of this Gospel Casting Partnership is based on Flow/Funnel Models (maps of customer journeys in digital marketing) which try and predict what potential outcome participating congregations could expect. These have three different scenarios, and of course, we must all understand that they are no guarantees, since the Holy Spirit must do the heavy lifting to get people to be involved. However, that being said, the modeling is based upon some pretty accurate statistical data, and hopefully will be verified as close to what actual launch results will produce. It has all the potential to be a blessing to Christ's Church in that it has a potentially large Return-On-Investment with a minimal budget! However, all of this is totally dependent on God's blessing. Without His doing, nothing can be accomplished.

## An EGL Family Thanksgiving

On Sunday, November 24, members gathered in the Fellowship Hall for a delicious meal with all the fixings!



The turkey was catered and attendees brought their favorite traditional side dishes and desserts to share. No one left hungry and all were reminded of the many blessings we enjoy.



A very big thank you to the EGL members who gave 20 boxes of food to our Thanksgiving collection, and to Randy and Jake Wegner who boxed the food so Jim Olson and Ron Wegner could deliver it to Mission of Christ Lutheran Church, along with boxes of donated winter clothing. Praise God!





Thank you to Mikayla Zientek, and others in the youth group who packed 20 boxes of Cookies for College Kids on Sunday, November 10. Thanks also to the bakers at EGL!

### What???? ... You have never played FARKLE?

It is a fast-paced dice game that is easy to learn. Players compete for the highest score. Lost your points?.....Oh! No! That's a FARKLE!

**DATE:** Friday, January 24, 2025

**TIME:** 6:30 - 8:30PM

**PLACE:** Fellowship Hall

**FOOD:** Walking tacos, drinks, and game snacks

**COST:** Free-will offering

**RSVP by 1-22:** [evangelism@egl.org](mailto:evangelism@egl.org)

\*\*\* Prizes will be given for those lucky rollers! \*\*\*



### Check out the Children's Booklets in the Friendship Library!

EGL Member and Sunday School teacher, Linda Hoffmann, has procured an assortment of booklets offered through Lutheran Hour Ministries.

The booklet titles are:

- *Do You Know Who Jesus Is?*
- *Sharing Your Faith*
- *Learning to Pray*
- *The Easter Story*
- *The Christmas Journey*
- *The Bully*
- *Let's Be Disciples*
- *The Bible Tells Me So*
- *Welcome*

While they were developed for children, the messages will resonate with all ages. If you know children or others who would benefit from a booklet, please take one or two to share.

## EGL Stammtisch!

**Happy 2025, EGL Guys!**

**Yup...it's still cold!** Come on out and join us at **EGL Stammtisch** as we comfortably connect with those around us, in a warm and relaxed environment over a few cold ones and "schnecks".

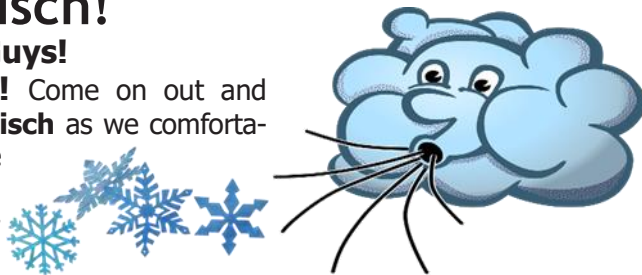
Join us for our monthly EGL guys' get-together of great conversation and great libation.

We continue to meet in the Bartelt Center (BAAC) at EGL the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Our next get together is January 16, from 7:30-9:00(ish)

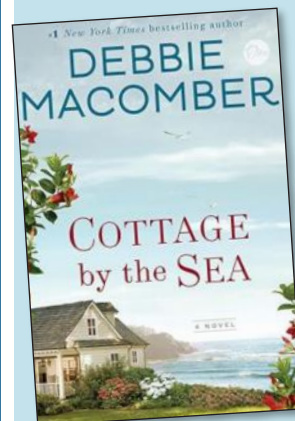
**This month, bring something "new to you" to share, hot or cold... We like to try new stuff!**

**If you are new to EGL or Stammtisch, come on out and give it a try! Bring a friend and snacks to share! See you there!!!**

For more info, please text or call Bruce Bessert at 414-526-8430



The Book Discussion Group will meet on Thursday, January 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC to discuss the book, **Cottage by the Sea** written by Debbie Macomber.



A seaside community helps one young lonely woman reclaim her life in familiar surroundings.

If you like to read, please join us.





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

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



January 1

Michael Bartsch  
Johanna Beirs

January 2

Mason Nobile

January 3

Jack Storm

January 4

Kylie Kruck  
Wendy Lester

January 5

Timothy Cowell  
Elaine Willis

January 6

A-Jason & Emily Krueger  
Robert Kurka

January 7

A-Cynthia & Brad Buss  
Isaiah Holmes  
Elaina Luetzow

January 8

Cheryl Albers  
Lynne Bock

January 9

Allison Pritchard

January 10

Cindy Busse  
Clark Gaulke  
Thomas Harmeyer  
Nina Kaul

January 11

Shirley Wartchow  
Randy Wegner

January 12

Kierstan Leaf

January 13

Linda Berry  
Ken Schuppner

January 14

Robert Hicks  
Jeff Mueller  
Linda Seroka  
Eric Thompson

January 15

Brian Bleisner  
Tracy McMahon  
Brae Nelson  
Jacob Newman

January 16

A-Dave & Barb Stamm  
Ryan Beckley  
Willi Radke

January 19

A-Brian Zavadil & Amanda Miller

January 20

Virginia Moeller

January 21

Killian Carney  
Isabelle Holmes

January 22

Matthew Ewert

January 23

Linda Beckley

January 24

Carrie Marble

January 29

Ian Ruhnau-Gee

January 30

Jennifer Alexander  
Dylan Schultz

January 31

Courtney Anderson





# January

## Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church Calendar - 2025

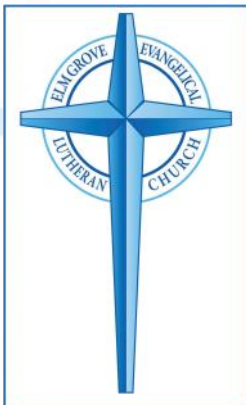
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Dec 2024</caption> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Feb 2025</caption> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></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></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	29	30	31					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		<b>1</b> Happy New Year Office Closed	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 4:00 PM Board of Evangelism (FL)
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<b>5</b> 9:00 AM Worship (C) 10:30 AM Bible Study and Sunday School 7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)	<b>6</b> 4:30 PM HA Basketball Rental (Gym) 5:00 PM Intrada Ringers (MC)	<b>7</b> 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study (228) 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (BAAC) 5:15 PM Exultate Ringers (MC)	<b>8</b> 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 PM Sheepshead (BAAC) 4:30 PM HA Basketball Rental (Gym) 5:30 PM "Golden Fruit" Study (BAAC) 6:30 PM Gym Rental 7:00 PM Exultate Singers (MC)	<b>9</b> 6:30 PM Worship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>																																																																																			
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<b>19</b> 9:00 AM Worship (C) 10:30 AM Bible Study and Sunday School 7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)	<b>20</b> 4:30 PM HA Basketball Rental (Gym) 5:00 PM Intrada Ringers (MC) 6:30 PM Property Planning Meeting (BAAC) BOCE Meeting (BAAC)	<b>21</b> 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study (228) 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (BAAC) 5:15 PM Exultate Ringers (MC)	<b>22</b> 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 PM Sheepshead (BAAC) 4:30 PM HA Basketball Rental (Gym) 5:30 PM "Golden Fruit" Study (BAAC) 6:30 PM Gym Rental 7:00 PM Exultate Singers (MC)	<b>23</b> 6:30 PM Worship	<b>24</b> 6:30 PM Family Game Night (FH)	<b>25</b>																																																																																			
<b>26</b> 9:00 AM Worship (C) 10:30 AM Bible Study and Sunday School 7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)	<b>27</b> 4:30 PM HA Basketball Rental (Gym) 5:00 PM Intrada Ringers (MC) 5:00 PM Board Finance (229) 5:30 PM Board of Trustees (228)	<b>28</b> 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study (228) 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (BAAC) 5:15 PM Exultate Ringers (MC)	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 PM Sheepshead (BAAC) 4:30 PM HA Basketball Rental (Gym) 5:30 PM "Golden Fruit" Study (BAAC) 6:30 PM Gym Rental 7:00 PM Exultate Singers (MC)	<b>30</b> 6:30 PM Worship (C)	<b>31</b>																																																																																				

As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."  
 (Luke 3: 15-22)





## Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
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Web Site: [www.egl.org](http://www.egl.org) • E-mail: [astroh@egl.org](mailto:astroh@egl.org)



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

**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, January 15**

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



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



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

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

Linda Hoffmann – [LindaHoffmann@yahoo.com](mailto:LindaHoffmann@yahoo.com) or call 262-786-1203, or email Meg Grelk, [mgrelk55@gmail.com](mailto:mgrelk55@gmail.com)

Epiphany is both a day and a season on the church calendar. The day is January 6; the season is the time between the close of the Christmas celebration and the beginning of Lent.

The Day of the Epiphany, with Easter and Pentecost, is one of the three oldest and most important festivals observed by Christians. This is true even though today the festival seems to be little understood and under-celebrated. [lcms.org](http://lcms.org)

It was a blessed commemoration of St Lucia at the Advent service on Dec. 11. Thanks to Christine for dressing up as Lucia! Attendees enjoyed Scandinavian snacks and glogg.



### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday 9:00 a.m.**

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

Bible Study will follow the service  
10:30-11:30

**Thursday 6:30 p.m.**

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

Thursday services resume on January 9, 2025



### **The special beauty and meaning of Altar Flowers**

Celebrate an anniversary or birthday, remember and honor a loved one, or give thanks for blessings received by sponsoring Altar flowers. Take the beautiful arrangement home to enjoy after the Sunday worship service. The cost is \$35. Please call or email Amy Stroh in the church office to request a date and to provide a message for the bulletin; 262-797-2970 or [astroh@egl.org](mailto:astroh@egl.org).