

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: www.egl.org
First Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 9, 2025 – Volume 77, Number 3.2
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	9:00 a.m. Worship (C) 10:30 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Through the Bible in Two Hours (CLC) 7:00 p.m. AA Mtg (FH)	10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC) 5:15 p.m. Exultate Ringers (Nave)
M	5:00 p.m. Intrada Ringers (MC) 6:30 p.m. LWML (FL) 7:00 p.m. Church Council (228) 7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	W 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC) 6:30 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Gym Rental 7:00 p.m. Exultate Singers (MC)
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)	

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **143** people that attended services last week in person and **112** households streamed the services for a total of **255**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

REGULAR VOTERS' ASSEMBLY: On March 16 will be our regular quarterly Voters' Assembly after the Divine Service in the Nave.

EGL FOUNDATION GOLF OUTING: The EGL golf outing is back! Sponsored once again by the EGL Foundation. This year's *Drive to Thrive* Golf Outing and Dinner will be held on Friday, May 9. We will once again be holding a raffle instead of an auction as well as many other familiar things from years past. Along with various raffle items supplied by generous donors, there will be a wine pull, a chance to win a new iPad, heads and tails, and a dinner catered by Bunzels. If you aren't a golfer, please still join us for the evening festivities, including an amazing dinner! All money raised this year will go toward the roof repairs needed for Elm Grove Lutheran Church. If you are paying by check, please make them payable to the Elm Grove Lutheran Foundation. Sign up today! We look forward to seeing you on May 9!

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN TWO HOURS: We are pleased to announce a partnership with an LCMS Michigan non-profit, THROUGH THE BIBLE

IN TWO HOURS. We aim to "Cast the Gospel Net on the Facebook Net," specifically via Facebook [FB] Ads. These FB Ads' objective is to register people for a 2-hour presentation at our congregation in Elm Grove. The topic is the Bible's Unifying Central Theme. The presentation traces this theme throughout each of the Bible's 66 books. Pray that the Holy Spirit would bless many who want to understand the Bible's message. Our focus is on the "unchurched" and "dechurched," not LCMS members. Please contact the Church Office if you or your LCMS friends want to learn this Biblical Central Theme. Do not use the Registration Portal. Instead, express your interest in seeing the presentation so one can be scheduled. See the website: www.BibleInTwo.org and the Facebook Page: BibleInTwo. You are encouraged there to "Like" and "Follow."

DID YOU KNOW? We are continuing to celebrate EGL's 85th Anniversary Year! On March 19, 1940, we took another major step as a congregation. A Certificate of Incorporation with the Register of Deeds of Waukesha County was filed. Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church would soon be formally accepted as a member of the Missouri Synod. You can join in this celebration! An 85th Anniversary cake will be served at the Lenten dinner on March 19 and also after church on March 23.

LENTEN FREE-WILL OFFERINGS: Thank you so much to the various volunteer groups who are preparing hearty meals for everyone on Wednesday evenings before the services! The free-will offerings received at the meals this year are being collected on behalf of two men in Africa that you've heard mentioned in prayers recently: Bienfait Romero and Jonah Khalid. Bienfait has finished his studies at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa, and his vicarage, and is now back in his home country of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where he is seeking a way to the US where he plans to study at the LCMS seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. Jonah is a Sudanese Lutheran Pastor seeking to build a congregation and a school in the Nuba mountain region of Sudan. These two men have great potential in their service to church and God and we have an opportunity to help.

ALTAR FLOWERS: We are looking for people to sponsor the altar flowers on Sundays. Please contact Amy (astroh@egl.org/262-797-2970) to request a date.

LENTEN DINNER: We are planning to have dinner before the midweek Lenten services. If you or a board, group, or committee that you are a part of would like to sponsor a dinner please let Amy (astroh@egl.org/262-797-2970) know. The available dates are April 2, and 9.

LUNCH BUNCH: It's time to get together again. Let's meet at North Star Bistro, 19115 West Capitol

GROW IN GOD'S WORD IN 2025 – Join an EGL Bible Study!				
Day & Time	Location	Topic	Open To	Pastor Leader
Sun 10:30-11:30	Sanctuary		All	Skovgaard
Tues 7-8 a.m.	Rm 228	Ezekiel	Men	Skovgaard
Tues 10-11 a.m.	BAAC	1Corinthians	Women	Hipenbecker

Drive, Brookfield, on March 20, 11:45 a.m. Let Carole Braun (262-781-1494) know you can join us for good food and fellowship.

SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT FINANCIAL AID applications are **due May 15**. Anyone attending a Concordia University or Seminary, is a member of an LCMS congregation in the SWD, and is preparing to be a full-time church worker (pastor, teacher, deaconess, DCE/DCO, DFLM, DPM, lay minister) is encouraged to apply. There are two applications required (District Financial Aid Application and Personal Aid Application). Both are available on the SWD website – www.swd.lcms.org/AID.

LWML: The evening group is scheduled to meet on Monday, March 10 in the Friendship Library at 6:30 p.m. and will be working on assembling the birthday kits, cutting fabric for the birthday bags and making "recipe cards" for the birthday kits.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: March 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC is the date, time, and place for our next meeting. The book to be discussed is ***The Keeper of Hidden Books*** by Madeline Martin. The setting for this book takes place in Warsaw, Poland during World War II with an underground library as resistance to the Nazi occupation of Poland. We welcome new members. Questions? Contact Barb Kurth at 262-345-5083.

Wed 10-11 a.m. (except 1 st Wed. of Month)	BAAC	Acts	All	Skovgaard
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ALSO CALLING ALL HOME BIBLE STUDY GROUPS: 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" (Co.. 3:16) in 2025!

“ Under the assumption that there are many reasons for attending worship, here are my top 27 reasons for being in church, in no particular order. Perhaps you can add a few of your own ideas? As you think about it, you’ll quickly realize that gathering around God’s Word and Sacrament is the center of our Christian lives, and rightly so.

1. To receive the gifts of God that flow freely and lavishly from His grace.
2. Because you love the habitation of the Lord’s house, the place where His glory dwells.
3. For the sake of evangelism, to bear witness to your family and neighbors that regular worship of the Triune God is important, even when you’d rather sleep in!
4. Because you want to instill in your kids the habit of regular worship attendance.
5. Because you want your children and family members to know that your Pastors love them. (It’s true!)
6. To joyfully give your first fruits offering in person.
7. To get a hug from someone who loves you in Christ when you’re grieving the death of a loved one.
8. To thank God for another year of married life to your favorite person.
9. To find hope in the midst of a troubled marriage or relationship.
10. To sing the songs of the Church that proclaim Christ and Him crucified.
11. To hear the unique gift of Mr Ewert’s virtuosity on the organ.
12. Because you desire to listen attentively to God’s Word for direction in life.
13. To learn by word and example from older Christian men and women what it means to be a godly adult.
14. To look for ways to build up of the Kingdom of God in this place.
15. To thank God for a new job or a successful year at college.
16. Because God’s expects you not to forsake the gathering of the baptized on a weekly basis, and you can’t imagine disobeying God.
17. Because you want to intentionally be an ambassador of reconciliation in a world of conflict, knowing that God has richly forgiven you so that you might forgive others.
18. Because your heart aches for loved ones who have wandered from the Church and you want to lay their names down before God’s throne of grace.
19. To join the young and old in confessing the ancient creeds of the Christian faith.
20. To receive the Body and Blood of the Lord again on your lips for the assurance that the Lord is always with you.
21. To hear the words of absolution spoken into your ears when there’s a sin that troubles you.
22. Because you understand that worship allows you to join angels, archangels, and the whole host of heaven in God’s presence, including the faithful who have gone before us.
23. To sit next to that elderly Christian who is all alone and needs your encouragement.
24. To see young children giggling and squirming in church because it’s a reminder that a new generation will grow up to grasp the baton of faith from you.
25. Because you want to be around people who share the same Biblical values at a time when so much seems up for grabs in society.
26. To thank God with a special offering because He answered an extraordinary prayer request or blessed you financially in a way you didn’t anticipate.
27. Because you know that it encourages your Pastor to see you in worship. :0)

(This partial list of reasons to attend worship is reprinted in part from the July 2022 issue of Seasons.)