

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122
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Third Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 14, 2025 – Volume 77, Number 12.2
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

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|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| S | 9:00 a.m. Divine Service | 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) |
| | 10:30 a.m. Bible Study | W 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) |
| | 10:30 a.m. Confirmation/Sunday School | 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC) |
| | 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH) | 6:30 p.m. Midweek Advent Service |
| M | 4:45 p.m. Intrada Ringers (Church) | 7:30 p.m. Exultate Singers |
| | 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) | T 9:30 a.m. Book Discussion Group |
| T | 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) | (BAAC) |
| | 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC) | 7:30 p.m. Stammtisch (BAAC) |
| | 4:45 p.m. Exultate Ringers (Church) | 7:30 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) |

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **169** people that attended services last week in person and **93** households streamed the services for a total of **262**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

BAPTISM: During this morning's service Hans Eric Goldenstein, born 12/5/25, son of Mattias and Catherine Goldenstein. Baptismal sponsors: Daniel and Christine Grimmer and Kai Goldenstein. *"For all of you who were baptized in Christ have been clothed with Christ."*

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES are extended to Nancy Genack and her family following the death of her son Steven. Steven died on December 8. His memorial service will be at EGL at noon on Wednesday, December 17.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY: Cookies are begging for frosting, pizza's ready to disappear, and the gym's calling for chaos – and EGL Youth Ministry is making it all happen on Sunday, December 21 right after Bible study/Sunday

School (11:30 a.m.) in the Youth Center. Expect Christmas music, a short Christmas devotion, cooking decorating and eating), and space to hang out. Come celebrate the joy of Christ's birth, enjoy lunch together, and make some lasting memories!

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE SIGNAGE PROJECT: EGL is preparing to enhance signage throughout our campus to better welcome visitors, provide clear direction, and reflect our identity in Christ. Our goal is to raise **\$75,000** to fund new monument signs, updated lettering, directional signage, and necessary electrical work. The Foundation is providing a matching gift of \$1 for every \$2 raised to support this effort. Graphic boards showing the proposed signs and locations are in the back of the church. "Let your light shine before others..." (Matthew 5:16)

EGL TOWNHALL: We're almost six months into our new governance model. One of the features is that we don't have nearly as many Voters Assemblies because you have entrusted your elected Board of Directors with the direction of the

Church. However, in an effort to keep the membership informed, we are scheduling a townhall meeting for Sunday, Jan 11, right after worship to update the congregation on developments and to solicit input.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: There will not be Sunday school on December 28. I encourage all of you to rejoice in church with your family in the precious gift of God's son. Blessings, Linda Hoffmann

LADIES PM STUDY: The Story of Esther follows the story of a young orphan girl starting with a six-month long feast, to her becoming queen, and finally risking her life to save the lives of her people. Join the "She Shed" gals as we dig into this beautiful story together, with LWML speaker Donna Pyle-Snow. She will show us how the story of Esther applies to our lives today. The Ladies PM Bible Study will take up the eight-week study of "Chosen – A Study of Esther" starting on Wednesday evenings January 21, 2026 through February 11, 2026, 5:30-6:45 p.m., in the BAAC, then shift to Thursday evenings for the next four weeks during Lent (February 19 through March 12). Contact Nancy Wolck or Susan Schmalzer with questions.

ADVENT ANTICIPATION: We are now in the Advent season. Per our tradition, Elm Grove Lutheran has changed its midweek service schedule from Thursday evenings to Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The Wednesday service in December (17) will focus on faith's eager anticipation of our Lord's return in glory, while the Sunday morning services will follow the regular lectionary readings. These midweek services will not be live-streamed, so see you there in person!

SOUP AND COOKIE JARS are still available! You are not too late! They will be in the lower lobby today and next Sunday.

LUTHERAN YOUNG ADULTS LEAGUE (LYAL): You are invited to an evening of fellowship as the

LYAL gathers to rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on December 20, 5:00 p.m., at Luther Memorial Chapel – Gymnasium (3833 N Maryland Ave. in Shorewood). This will be a semi-formal Christmas celebration and will include a catered meal for all attendees. The Green Bay Packers game will be paying during the evening for those who would like to watch and enjoy fellowship around the game. Please RSVP at <https://LYALCHRISTMASPARTY.RSVPIFY.COM>.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS: This year we are again offering congregational members three different Advent devotional booklets, which you can find just outside the west entrance into the nave: "Wait for the Lord" by Rev William Weedon, who is often heard on Issues Etc; "Reflections" by Pastors connected with the youth organization, Higher Things; and "Born to You ... a Savior" by Dr Vo from Lutheran Hour Ministries. May God richly bless your additional study of His Word in this Advent season!

THANK YOU: Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Thanksgiving offering. A total gift of \$5,120.00 was collected and will be donated to the Persian Project to support the work of the Lutheran Church in Germany as it proclaims the Gospel to Iranian and Afghan refugees throughout Germany. If you would still like to contribute to the work among the Persian Immigrants you may do so at this link, <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/germany-foro>.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Meet the BAAC on Thursday, December 18 at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the book, *The Santa Suit*, by Mary Kay Andrews. The plot revolves around a decades old Santa Suit found in a recently purchased farm house by the new owner who finds a note from a young girl in the pocket of the suit asking for her daddy to come home from war. We will also have our Christmas Party at this meeting.