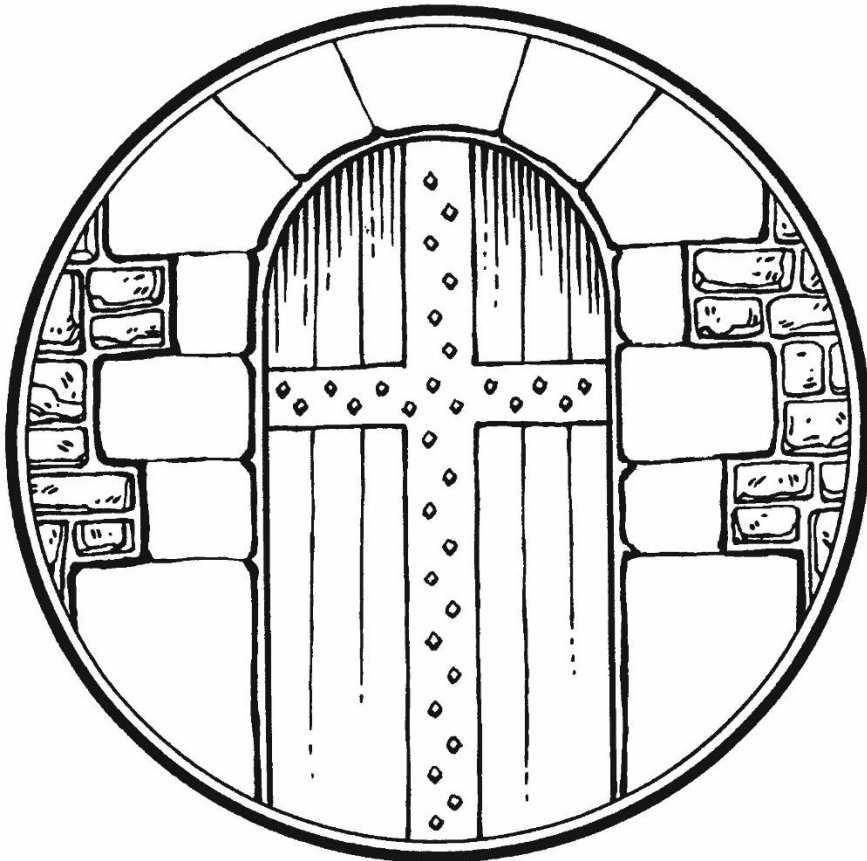


ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone (262) 797-2970

Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor
Rev. Joshua D. Tegatz, Associate Pastor



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Thursday, April 30, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 3, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

Divine Service 1

EGLC Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated here in the glad confidence that those who commune actually eat and drink the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Only those communicants who believe this and who repent of their sins receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Those who do not believe this or who do not repent of their sins will commune to their harm. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the specific teachings of the faith which is confessed in this congregation, those who are not in agreement with this understanding of the Lord's Supper, or who belong to a religious community that is not in Altar & Pulpit Fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are requested to consult with the presiding minister before communing.

EGL WHY Statement: "God has established EGL to proclaim Christ, receiving and sharing His gifts in Word and Sacrament."

Children in Worship

"Let the little children come to me." Jesus delights in faithful parents bringing their children to hear His Word. EGL gladly joins Christ in that joy! Thank you for bringing your children with you to worship! You are welcome to sit wherever you want. While some find it best to sit in the back with their children, for easy access to the cry room, others find their children are better behaved when sitting near the front so that they can see what is happening in the chancel. If your child needs a moment to settle down, ask an usher to point you to the nursery or cry room. But please bring your child back soon so that he or she can be with us as we receive Christ's gifts and as we collectively raise our voice in prayer and song. Be sure to sing the hymns and join the liturgy's responses so that your child learns from you what should be done in church. If you are without children, encourage parents with little ones and offer assistance as needed.



Scan the QR code (left) to give online to Elm Grove Lutheran Church, or visit egl.org/give.

9:00 Preservice

**Clarinet Concerto No. 2 in E_b major, Opus 74,
Movement III-Alla Polacca — Carl Maria von Weber**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds – Paul O. Manz

Hymn of Invocation

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

Introit

Psalm 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1

P Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

C his praise in the assembly of the godly!

P I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up

C and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

P O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,

C and you have healed me.

P O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;

C you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

P Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,

C and give thanks to his holy name.

P For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

C Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

ALL Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

C his praise in the assembly of the godly!

Kyrie – Collect of the Day

pp. 152 – 156

(Hymn of Praise – This Is the Feast)

First Reading

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.

²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. ⁸And Stephen, full of

grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .
²And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . . ⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him.
⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

P Christ has risen from the dead.

C [God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

P He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

C he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

1 Peter 2:2–10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 14:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going."
⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"
⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ¹²Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Office Hymn

526 You Are the Way; through You Alone

Sermon

"No Other Way" (John 14:6)

Nicene Creed - Prayer of the Church

pp. 158-159

Offering

You Are the Way; Through You Alone – Keith Kolander

(Those who are not communing may put their attendance card in the offering plate.)

Offertory – Agnus Dei

pp. 159 – 163

Hymns During Distribution

629 What Is This Bread

517/518 By All Your Saints in Warfare, stz 1, 7, 16, 3

- 1 By all Your saints in warfare,
For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle
That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory
Reflected from Your throne.
- 7 St. Stephen, Martyr (December 26)
Praise for the first of martyrs
Who saw You ready stand
To help in time of torment,
To plead at God's right hand.
Like You, our suff'ring Savior,
His enemies he blessed,
With "Lord, receive my spirit,"
His faith, by death, confessed.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.
Text: Public domain

- 16 St. Philip and St. James, Apostles
(May 1)
We praise You, Lord, for Philip,
Blest guide to Greek and Jew,
And for young James the faithful,
Who heard and followed You.
O grant us grace to know You,
The way, the truth, the life,
To wrestle with temptation,
To triumph in the strife.

- △ 3 Then let us praise the Father
And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow'r and glory
And praise to God alone.

687 Thine Forever, God of Love

Post-Communion Canticle - Benediction

pp. 164 – 166

(Post-Communion Canticle – Thank the Lord)

Closing Hymn

661 The Son of God Goes Forth to War

Postlude

The Son of God Goes Forth to War – Flor Peeters

ALTAR PARAMENTS: White, the color of light and joy, adorns our chancel today. Christ, the Lamb of God, is victorious over sin, death, and the devil and so we rejoice!

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Bruce and Karla Bessert with thanksgiving to God in memory of their mothers, Gertrude Bessert and Eda Kirschenmann.

Participants

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Pianist/Organist
Clarinet
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team

Pastor Skovgaard
Pastor Teggatz
Richard C. Ewert
Mikayla Zientek

6:30 Rick Wegner, 9:00 Doug Greik

6:30 Kirk Midtbo, 9:00 James Drabiszczak

6:30 Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Diane Olson, Jim Olson

9:00 Anthony Bagwell, Pam Ganswindt, Andrea Kysely,

Steve Nelson, Shelly Skovgaard, Cathy Tuttrup, Matt Zientek, Mikayla Zientek

6:30 Sherri Bond, Jean Kruse

9:00 Nancy Ewert, Julie Leaf

Altar Guild

SERVING NEXT WEEK

THURSDAY, MAY 7 (6:30 P.M.)

ELDER: Paul Haut

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Kirk Midtbo

USHER TEAM 2: Chase Hipke, Connor Hipke, Rob Hipke, Thomas Hipke, Tyler Hipke, Carter Klein, Ian Klein, Michael Klein, Ann Wilcox, Christine Wilcox

SUNDAY, MAY 10 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: Bruce Bessert

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Steve Hipenbecker

USHER TEAM 3: Dan Berry, Caleb Nelson, Laura Traas, Aislyn Wegner, Jake Wegner, Randy Wegner, Rick Wegner, Ryan Wegner

EGL in the Word (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

First Reading: Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a,51-60

We see two scenes in these verses: (1) the institution of the office of deacon in the Jerusalem church and (2) Stephen's trial and testimony. The first scene (6:1-9) documents the need for an additional office in the church to be set up to continue and improve the Jerusalem church's aid of the poor in their midst. Greek-speaking Jews (Hellenists) in the congregation are being neglected in the daily distribution, whether by lack of time/resources, prejudice, or both. Thus, the church sets aside seven young men (Stephen being one of those men) to carry on that important missional work. Stephen quickly comes to the forefront of the narrative and is taken to trial for his faith in Jesus (see 6:8-15), where he will give testimony to the history of Israel and their rejection of God's mouthpieces, ultimately the Word made flesh himself (7:52). This leads to Stephen's stoning (the first martyr of Acts) and the introduction of Saul.

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:2-10

These verses from Peter are dripping with Old Testament references. The central image here is a house built of living stones, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone. We can think of these verses as the implications of Jesus' parable of the tenants in the gospels (see Matthew 21:33-46; Luke 20:9-18). Because Jesus is the cornerstone that conquers, we too are built up in his house as living stones to live for him. As Jesus tells that parable, he cites Psalm 118 and a few prophets to point to himself as this stone that will preserve the faithful and destroy the faithless (see Psalm 118:22-23, Isaiah 8:14-15, Isaiah 28:16, and Daniel 2:44-45 for more). All in all, for those who reject Christ, they will be caused to stumble (1 Pet 2:8). But for we who have been called by the Holy Spirit and his gospel, the descriptors keep coming: chosen race, royal priesthood, holy nation, people for his own possession, God's people, mercied ones (see Hosea 2:23 for yet another prophetic reference!).

Gospel: John 14:1-14

Our text from John links these three readings regarding the Word of God. The leaders of the Jerusalem church are concerned about prioritizing the preaching of God's Word (Acts 6:2). Peter points to that Word as the "pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation" (1 Pet 2:2). And it's that Word that Jesus is preparing his disciples to both receive and share in John's account of the Last Supper the night before he is betrayed (John 13-17). Jesus' disciples are fearful. They're uncertain. They're troubled, both about Jesus and about themselves. It's no wonder, then, that these chapters are full of words of comfort, reassurance, peace, and strength, not only for the coming days but for the rest of the disciples' lives of ministry. Our verses focus especially on the relationship between the Father and the Son and the main point is this: to see the Son is to see the Father, and even more, the only way to see the Father (and be saved) is to look to the Son, who is the way, the truth, and the life (14:6). To look to the Son and thereby see the Father is to have a place prepared for eternity (14:2-4). Verse 14 can often be understood out of context to make God out to be a divine vending machine who grants every prayer. However, in its context, we should understand this invitation in the context of God's will and the ministry of the Word ("Thy kingdom come...thy will be done").

Next Week's Readings (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

First Reading- Acts 17:16-31

Epistle- 1 Peter 3:13-22

Gospel- John 14:15-21

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone: 262-797-2970 Fax: 262-797-2977 Website: www.egl.org
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 3, 2026 – Volume 78, Number 5.1
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

S	9:00 a.m. Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Glimpse into TLCHS/Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 2:00 p.m. AGO Board Meeting (BAAC) 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)	6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) 6:30 p.m. Foundation Meeting (228) 6:30 p.m. TLCHA Board (229)
M	11:00 a.m. New Berlin PD Training 6:00 p.m. Empower Volleyball (Gym) 7:00 p.m. Barbershop Group (FH)	W 9:30 a.m. Garden Ladies Meeting (WFH) 10:00 a.m. LWML (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Versiti Blood Drive (FH) 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC)
T	7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study	T 6:30 p.m. Divine Service 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 **151** people that attended services last week in person and **88** households streamed the services for a total of **239**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT:

budgeted offerings for April 2026: \$54,444
 actual for April 2026: \$84,670.65

fiscal year budgeted offering: \$735,000
 actual year through April 26: \$643,119.65

PICKLEBALL: Our next pickleball open gym is **Sunday, May 17, from 3:30-5:00 p.m.** Please stay tuned for future dates as we revise the schedule a bit!

UPCOMING VOTERS' ASSEMBLY: On May 17 we will have our annual Voters' Assembly following the 9:00 a.m. worship service during the Bible Study hour. Copies of the proposed 2026-27 budget are available on the credenza in the back of the church.

CELEBRATE OUR NATION'S BIRTHDAY: In July we have a great opportunity to invite friends, coworkers, and neighbors to visit our church for a special musical event scheduled for 3 p.m. Saturday afternoon, June 20. Our own Rick Ewert and former EGLer Prof. Aaron Wunsch from the Julliard School will team up for a program of music celebrating our nation's independence. We hope to welcome many visitors from our community and the region to a concert of organ and piano favorites plus some hymn singing. Open up this code below on your smartphone and copy it into emails or social media posts, together with your personal invitation.



SUNDAY SCHOOL: How wonderful it has been to share the Good News with all our Sunday School friends. We encourage all families to read the word

at home as Sunday School ends May 10. Praising God for all the learning hearts! – Sunday School Staff

CONFRONTING DEATH AS A CHRISTIAN:

The TV program 60 Minutes broadcast an interview last Sunday (April 26) with former Nebraska Sentaor Ben Sasse (R). What makes this interview unique among the regular parade of talking heads on TV is that Sasse is a conservative, confessing Christian who is in the final stages (apparently) of metastatic pancreatic cancer. He addresses his upcoming death with a level of honesty rarely seen in public life, balancing his regrets of not being there for his daughters as they get married and his teenage son as he grows up with a recognition that his cancer is not an accident (because "there are no maverick molecules in the universe"). In fact he articulates the point that his cancer is actually an opportunity to think about ultimate things. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcT9O5Sjmd0>

GLIMPSE INTO TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL:

Today Latin has fallen into the abyss of 'by-gone' and 'old-fashioned' ideas which most people never think about nor do most schools teach. Come and learn why Latin is neither 'by-gone' nor 'old-fashioned' and why it stands as a pillar of learning for the students at Trinity Lutheran Classical High School. Kantor Andrew Hopfensperger (the Latin tutor) will lead a presentation on the necessity of Latin within the school as well as its place within broader society during the first half of the adult Bible study hour on Sunday, May 3, at 10:30 a.m.

COFFEE DONATIONS: The money that is donated during the time of fellowship after Church on Sundays is being donated to the signage project.

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. Thank you so much, currently we have already reached \$33,000 and will be able to begin this project starting with the sign in the front of the church. Graphic boards showing the proposed signs and locations are in the back of the church. "Let your light shine before others..." (Matthew 5:16)

GREEN TEAM: Spring has arrived. Flowers are blooming and grass is growing. The Green Team here at EGL is always looking for helpers to cut grass, or assist with trimming and landscaping the campus of our church. Please consider volunteering, even if it's just acting as a fill in or back up for our cutting crew, or possibly assisting our gardening ladies with their planting areas. If interested, please contact Jim Olson at 262-501-2818 or email at jolson830@gmail.com. Thank you!

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE - Wednesday, May 6, 2:00 p.m.- 06:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. One blood donation can save up to 3 lives! Every donation creates a ripple of hope. Make a lifesaving difference today—schedule your appointment:

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11621257 or contact Rick Ewert: BloodDrive@egl.org/262-289-9333. All attempting donors receive a coupon for free cheese curds from participating local restaurants.



USHER HELP NEEDED: We are in need of help with ushering during our worship services. If you are interested in joining an usher team please contact the Church office.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Thursday, May 21 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC is the next meeting of

our group. The book to be discussed is ***The Frozen River*** written by Ariel Lawhon, a historical mystery taking place in Maine in 1789. It is about a midwife Martha Ballard who investigates the murder of a man frozen to death in the Kennebec River. The author used the diary of Martha Ballard to create this suspenseful mystery. If you like to read, please join us. We welcome new members. Remember to bring suggestions for the 2026-2027 voting to take place in our June meeting. One suggestion for a fiction book and one suggestion for a non-fiction/historical fiction book.

LWML: The evening group will meet on Monday, May 4 at 1:00 p.m. in the Friendship Library for the mission project of putting together health kits for The Attic. The morning group of LWML will meet on Wednesday, May 6 in the BAAC at 10:00 a.m. Instead of a Bible study we will participate in the LWML Prayer Service for 2026 titled PRAYER, an inspiring prayer service.

EGL STAMMTISCH: Happy May, Guys! Spring is in full swing (if we don't get flooded away!), with all the usual activities (i.e. outside chores!), so take a break from your yard work and join your friends at May's EGL Stammtisch for our monthly "Guys Night Out!" We again will meet in the Bartelt Center (N side of the EGL facilities) for great conversation and great libation... in a fun atmosphere of Christian fellowship. If you are new to EGL and/or have not joined us before, please come on out and give it a try! Bring a friend and snacks to share! See you there!!! Thursday May 21 from 7:30 – 9:00 (ish)... for more info, please text or call Bruce Bessert at 414-526-8430.

ROCK OF AGES CLASSIC CAR AND BIKE SHOW on Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Blessed Savior Lutheran Church (15250 West Cleveland Avenue, New Berlin, WI 53151) Food and refreshments will be available. Proceeds are donated to the New Berlin Food Pantry.

LCEF ACCOUNTS: When was the last time you checked out LCEF.org? This is the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, basically the Synod's bank. On this site you can find all that you need, from information to forms, for steward accounts for your children, CD's, checking and savings accounts, church worker loans, as well as strategic, development, and real estate solutions support. Everything is financially competitive with the secular banks but has the added bonus of supporting the Church's ministries. What you may not have known is that the South Wisconsin District's LCEF office will be giving away prizes at the spring pastors conference for those SWD congregations that have the highest number of LCEF accounts to congregational membership. The prizes are significant cash awards to those congregations. Check out LCEF.org and support EGL at the same time!

LIVESTREAM HELP NEEDED: Are you interested in helping our livestream ministry advancing the slides or being the producer/camera operator? Please contact Mark Ewert or Pam Ganswindt for more information. Knowing our service flow is a plus.

CHRIST FOR YOU THIS WEEK ON KFUE AM850 & kfuo.org: A blessed Easter to you! On Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8 a.m. CT), tune in as we pick up the account of Joseph in our study of Genesis! Tune in for Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11 a.m. CT) as we wrap up our study in Numbers. This week, we'll be continuing with chapter 33. Don't forget to join us for The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9 a.m. CT)! We'll be checking in with the folks over at Lutheran Bible Translators, as well as continuing our new series, "Getting to Know the Council of Presidents." Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or in the KFUE Radio app!

