

SEASONS

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



Volume 24, Issue 7

July 2026



A Prayer for the Nation's 250th Anniversary

O Lord our God, the source of all wisdom, liberty, and justice,

We come before you with hearts full of gratitude as we mark the 250th anniversary of this nation. We thank you for the gift of democracy, for the freedoms we enjoy, and for the generations of people who have faithfully labored, served, and sacrificed to build our communities.

Lord, in a world often marked by division, we pray for the leaders of our land and for all who are in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern with integrity, humility, and a deep respect for every human being, recognizing that all are created in your image. Deliver us from the perils of discord, political strife, and injustice. Help us to listen to one another, to seek the welfare of our neighbors, and to advocate for the vulnerable.

Confirm our liberties in the rule of law and bind our nation together in a common pursuit of peace, truth, and equality. Preserve our republic from all threats, both from within and without, and give every citizen a profound sense of responsibility and love for their country. Amen.

From Your Pastor

We are now in the "green season" of the Church Year, otherwise known as the time of the Church. And, if you're anything like me growing up, this time of the Church Year seemed, well, a little boring. Certainly not as exciting as the bells of Christmas, the special services of Lent, or the soaring voices of Easter. The time of the Church lasts all through summer and deep into fall. Why so long? What's the point of these weeks? As we continue through these summer months, I think it's a wonderful time to ponder the "green season" anew.

First of all, notice what comes just before this green season: Pentecost. On Pentecost, we give thanks to God for the sending of His promised Holy Spirit upon the apostles after Jesus ascended into heaven, resulting in thousands coming to faith. On Pentecost, we give thanks to God for the birth of His Church. Secondly, notice what comes just after this green season: Advent, when the Church Year begins anew. In Advent, we ponder not just Christ's first coming at Christmas but ultimately his second coming on the Last Day. The end of the story, in other words. Now, why is the green season so long? One answer is this: because this is the time of the Church we live in day in, day out. This season is our lived experience. We, like the apostles before us, live in the time between Christ's resurrection/ascension and his second coming, between Pentecost and Advent. We continue to dwell in the place where the forgiveness, life, and salvation of Jesus Christ are shared in the place He has chosen to dwell in, His body, the Church. We continue to live in the time when the Church goes out, witnessing, loving, and sharing the good news to the ends of the earth. And in this green season, we ponder anew the identity of the Church and its mission to save through the Word and Sacraments Christ has graciously earned and delivered.

The green season is not the offseason of the Church Year. It's not the open window to skip church and fellowship activities. The green season is a precious time for us to ponder anew what it means to be the Church. To be the Church is to be a part of the story of salvation, a recipient of the gifts of God, a partaker in the foretaste of the feast to come. To be the Church is to be called by the Good Shepherd into one treasured, precious flock. To be the Church is to live out that calling and go beyond our walls, caring not just for our brothers and sisters in Christ but for our neighborhoods, communities, and all people, especially those who don't know the Church. As we keep gathering this summer in worship and fellowship, in study and prayer, in mission and outreach, here's a few things you can especially do as a member of the Church:



Pastor Teggatz

- First and foremost, join us in the worship and community life of Elm Grove Lutheran. Consider joining us for a Bible study or fellowship event outside of Sunday morning.
- Pray for the mission of Elm Grove Lutheran, as we continue this summer to receive and share the gifts of God in Word and Sacrament.
- Pray for our circuit, district, and synod, especially our synodical convention this month, as we seek to walk together as the Church to remain faithful and proclaim Christ.
- Pray for our missionaries and mission projects here and around the world, that God would equip them to share Christ through word and deed.
- Share your ideas for ways we as Elm Grove Lutheran can continue to gather together, serve together, and grow together. We'd love to hear from you!

This is the time of the Church. The green season is our season! Let's live it, EGL!



On Sunday, June 21, Pr Harold Senkbeil was recognized for the 55th Anniversary of his Ordination. He received his B.A. from Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, IN in 1967 and went on to earn an M.Div. (1971) and an S.T.M. (1986) from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. In 2001 he was recognized by Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in the bestowing of the degree of Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*. Dr. Senkbeil is a 1988 recipient of the Servus Ecclesiae Christi Award. He served as Pastor at EGL from 1987 to 2002. Our congregation gifted him the stained-glass panel shown above. He co-founded DOXOLOGY with EGL member, Bev Yanke. Praise God for 55 years of service to the Lord!

BEAUTIFYING AND UPDATING OUR PROPERTY



The original wood front doors on our church served us well for over 70 years. However the time had come that for safety and accessibility reasons, it was time to replace them. In early June, beautiful sturdy new doors, matching our new lower level doors, were installed. Like those doors, these doors are equipped with an accessibility feature to automatically open them.



The Green Team grass cutters above, left to right: Jim Olson, Dennis Braun, John Schaefer, Terry Hoffman, Dan Berry, Doug Grelk and Dan Anderson.

Thank you Green Team and Gardeners!

Every Spring a group of dedicated EGL members volunteer to mow and maintain our lawn and plant and water flowers. Carole Braun applies for Thrivent dollars to buy the annuals and the group of gardeners meet at Shady Lane Nursery to purchase flowers. The end of May they weed and fortify the beds with compost that Dave Bennett kindly supplies by the trailer load. During the summer, the gardeners water and weed their respective beds.

The Green Team also benefits from Thrivent dollars that are used to help maintain the equipment they use to care for our property during the summer.



Gardeners, left to right: Helen Moore, Linda Seroka, Luanne Schaefer, Cynthia Midtbo, Carole Braun, Judi Pritchard, Jean Bennett, Irma Witzke, Joan Knuteson. Not pictured, Meg Grelk and Linda Hoffmann.





The morning group of LWML will not be meeting during the months of July and August. This may be a good time to read the interesting articles in the summer issue of *The Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. The theme for this month is "Blessings in Disguise," with the theme Bible verse Genesis 50:20, "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive as they are today."

The evening group of LWML is scheduled to meet on Monday, July 6 at 1:00 p.m. in the Friendship Library. The mission project will be cutting and sewing of fabric to make eye glass cases to be used by MOST mission trips. While at these mission trips, local people are given eye tests and fitted with donated glasses. There also is time for reaching the people with the Gospel message.

To help LCMS pastors' families the National LWML Grant #25 **Pastoral Wellness for \$15,000** will provide opportunities to come together at Camp Linn Haven in the mountains of western North Carolina for a week of



Camp Linn Haven in the mountains of NC

mental, physical, and emotional respite at no cost to the participants.

Elections results from the recent LWML-SWD Convention held at the Sheraton Hotel in Brookfield, WI are as follows:

The goal set for mites was \$220,000 – with \$165,000 for the District and \$50,000 for National.

Election of officers:

President: Joan Anderson

Vice President of Organizational Resources: Michelle Prince

Vice President of Gospel Outreach and Christian Life: Jill Jones

Recording Secretary: LuAnn Roman

Financial Secretary: Susan Kemnitz

Junior Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Dr. Timothy Prince

To God be the glory!

Our Elm Grove LWML appreciates the contributions of mites that many congregation members donate for the spread of that Gospel message of Jesus Christ. Thank you!

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

Barbara Kurth

Sharing Christ in the Heart of Milwaukee

Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, Milwaukee

At Holy Ghost Lutheran Church, the mission to share Christ shapes everything we do. We see God at work through worship, outreach, and community care as we carry the Gospel into the heart of Milwaukee.

Every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., members go out for neighborhood evangelism, sharing the Gospel and building relationships with families throughout the community. This commitment to meeting our neighbors where they are remains central to our calling.

On Sundays, we gather for Bible class and Sunday school at 9:00 a.m., followed by worship at 10:00 a.m. These gatherings strengthen faith and equip members for the work of evangelism and confirmation.

Each Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., our Community Care Center serves those in need through food pantry, clothing pantry, and Bible study ministries — caring for the body while pointing to Christ. We gather again for prayer service at 6:00 p.m. and choir rehearsal at 6:30 p.m.

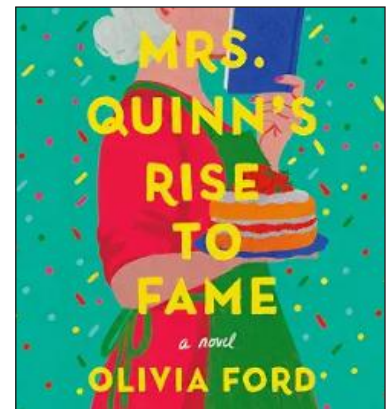
Please keep this mission in your prayers and consider partnering with us through volunteer support and community connection as we share the love of Christ in Milwaukee. For more information, please contact: elijahndon@hotmail.com.



Used with permission of the South Wisconsin District Mission and Mercy Moments.

Book Discussion Group

Thursday, July 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC is the scheduled date and time for our discussion of the book, **Mrs. Quinn's Rise to Fame**, written by Olivia Ford. The setting is in Kittlesham, a small English town, where Jenny Quinn age 77 secretly enters a baking contest for a well known British TV show, "Britain Bakes." She rises to fame as she continually wins show after show. Married to Bernard for almost 60 years who is in failing health, she is concerned about a secret from her youth that could be uncovered.



Introducing Milwaukee's Ethnic Pastors to Reformation Sites

Benediction Lutheran Church, Milwaukee



Benediction Lutheran Church sponsored a Paul Gerhardt–Martin Luther tour in May, led by Pastor Don Hougard. The tour featured sites from the hymnwriter Paul Gerhardt in commemoration of the 350th anniversary of his death, along with several important locations from the life of Martin Luther, including Torgau, Wittenberg, Eisleben, Erfurt, Wartburg Castle, and Worms.

The tour included daily devotions and a service at the Lutheran Center in Wittenberg in which Rev. David Emmerich preached. Twenty participants attended the tour, which was specially designed to introduce Reformation sites to Milwaukee's ethnic pastors. Revs. Kasongo Gui Kabeo, Faiv Neng Herr, and Samuel Lee were able to attend thanks to a grant from the South Wisconsin District, and seminarian Glody Kasongo attended thanks to a generous grant from Benediction.

Learn more about Benediction's ethnic ministries at benediction-lcms.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/benedictionlcms.

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To subscribe to the monthly electronic newsletter, go to swd.lcms.org/mission.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

By Release:

Anthony Bagwell to Beth Messiah Synagogue in Menomonee Falls.

By Death:

Doris Moore



"Let Your Light Shine" Signage Project

A reminder that we continue to raise funds for new signage for our property. Along with our new doors, updated signage communicates that we seek to improve our campus for the sake of His mission.

The Elm Grove Lutheran Foundation has offered a **matching gift opportunity**. For **every \$2 you give**, the Foundation will contribute **\$1**, up to **\$25,000!** Our goal is **\$75,000**. If placing a check in the offering plate, please note for "Signage Project".



Patients THANK YOU

Thank you for giving blood and hope! Because of you, a patient here in our community has another chance. And because of you, their loved ones have more precious time together — more hugs, more laughter, more moments they never have to miss.

Every time you give blood, you give someone's story a tomorrow. Just ask Marty, a longtime donor who never imagined he'd need blood himself. After a leukemia diagnosis, Marty relied on transfusions to survive. Today, he's back to donating and encouraging others to do the same.

"It's so easy to donate. You're there not even an hour, and you don't realize what a huge, amazing gift it is that you could actually be saving someone's life."

Your kindness makes stories like Marty's possible. Because you show up, patients and their families have the hope — and the time — they're counting on. Thanks for being part of our community of lifesavers who show up in Wisconsin when it matters most.

**Let's keep the story going.
Book your next donation today!**

SAVE THE DATE

**Blood Drive
Wednesday, August 12**



2:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
ELM GROVE LUTHERAN
CHURCH

<https://sl1nk.com/jx8e6lf>



A Concert for America



On Saturday, June 20, our church hosted members and guests for an Organ and Piano Concert celebrating America's 250th Anniversary. The gifted and accomplished artists who performed were our own Rick Ewert on the organ, and another son of the congregation, Aaron Wunsch, on the piano. Aaron grew up at EGL, and is the son of member, Duane Wunsch and his late wife, Ann. This event was conceived of and initiated by Pr Harold Senkbeil who enjoys a love of music and an appreciation of Rick and Aaron's talent. The musicians' professional excellence was recognized and drew an enthusiastic church full of admirers. Following the concert, attendees were invited to Fellowship Hall to meet Rick and Aaron and enjoy refreshments. Thanks to Pr Senkbeil, Julie and Kevan Leaf for the reception, their daughter Kierstan, who created the program, Helen Moore who developed advertising, Duane Wunsch for artists' planning, Ben Ewert for capturing video footage, Rev. Christopher Gillespie for audio engineering and Jim Olson for recruiting ushers. Thank you to Pastors Skovgaard and Teggatz for their prayerful support.



**A Concert
Celebrating the 250th
Anniversary of American
Independence**

Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church
Elm Grove, Wisconsin
3:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 20, 2026

Mr. Richard C. Ewert, organ
Dr. Aaron M. Wunsch, piano



Watch our website, EGL.org, for a high resolution video and audio recording of the concert.

Starry Nights Concert

On Friday evening, July 3, join fellow EGL members at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center in Brookfield for the first FREE Starry Nights concert of the summer to experience the Wisconsin Philharmonic Orchestra perform patriotic music in celebration of our nation's 250th anniversary of independence from Great Britain.

The music starts at 6:30 p.m. We will meet at 5:30/6:00 p.m. on the grounds in an area reserved for EGL. Water and soda will be available. You may either bring your own food, beer, and wine, OR purchase items from the food and beverage vendors on site. Remember to bring a chair or blanket! Contact Jim and Diane Olson: jolson830@gmail.com or 262-844-5572 OR Sharon Boudro: sboudro61@gmail.com or 262-402-4338 if you have any questions.



Play ball! On Saturday, June 13, EGL held a Brewers Watch Party and tailgate buffet in the Fellowship Hall. Big screen TVs were tuned to the Brewers vs Phillies game. Unfortunately the Philadelphia Phillies edged out the Brew Crew with the winning score, 9-8.

All who attended enjoyed the food and fellowship!



Thank You Coffee Servers! We all greatly appreciate those members who volunteer to bring treats and serve coffee on Sunday morning after the 9 a.m. worship service. It provides a valuable opportunity for fellowship, not to mention fuel for the day!

Please continue to volunteer. There is a sign-up sheet on the counter during coffee hour, or call Luanne and John Schaefer at 262-784-3106 or 262-617-0561 for information and available dates.





July Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries ("A")

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



July 1
Elizabeth Pond

July 2
Sharon Katzer

July 3
A-Ken & Lisa Schuppner
Jeraldine Bechtel

July 4
Andrew Alles
Eva Midtbo
Anna Myatt

July 5
Barb Stamm
John Thompson

July 7
A-Lamont & Kathryn Colucci

July 9
Aaron DeWitt
Kirk Midtbo

July 10
Stephanie Carstedt
Matthew Morateck

July 11
Jason Krueger
Patricia Morateck
Christine Rahardt

July 12
Sydney Anderson
Nathan Pfeifer

July 13
Jacqueline Hohn (90)

July 14
A-Andrew & Lianne Peters
Jim Olson
Susan Taylor

July 15
A-Ron & Brigid Harmeyer
A-Fred & Irma Witzke
Jacob Wunsch

July 16
A-Pastor & Rachel Teggatz
Bev Wegner

July 17
Tom Crowell
Claire Schuppner

July 18
A-Tom & Lynn Crowell
A-Tim & Teresa Stritesky
David Bangle
Emily Krueger
Bernice McCloskey (104)
Tim Stritesky

July 19
Mike Huxsol
Carter Klein
Teri Nitschke

July 20
A-Ben & Brae Nelson
Rachel Wunsch

July 21
A-Ron & Meaghan Hessenthaler
A-Mark & Karen Kennedy
Owen Krueger
Jean Kruse

July 22
Jeff Timm

July 23
Sue Knutson

July 24
Juliette Gresley

July 25
Emma Stroh
Ryan Wegner
Sue Wilcox

July 26
Kyle Schmalzer
Helen Schmidt

July 27
A-Mary & Prakash Mhambrey

July 29
A-Jim & Diane Olson
Amber Alles
Tyler Nelson

July 31
Jane Neill
Stacey Setzer



July

Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church Calendar - 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00am LWML 1:00 pm Sheeps- head (BAAC)	2 6:30 p.m. Worship C	3	4
5 9:00 a.m. Worship C 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. AA Meet- ing (FH)	6 Football Camp 9am-3pm 3:00pm-4:30pm Basketball (gym) 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors (228)	7 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) Football Camp 9am- 3pm 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC) 6:30pm TLCH Board (228)	8 Football Camp 9am-3pm 10:00 a.m. LWML (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheeps- head (BAAC)	9 Football Camp 9am- 3pm 6:30 p.m. Worship	10 Football Camp 9am-3pm	11
12 9:00 a.m. Worship C 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 3:30pm Pickleball (gym) 7:00 p.m. AA Meet- ing (FH)	13 3:00pm -4:30pm Basketball (gym) 7:00pm Board of Directors (228)	14 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC) 6:30pm Visitation Team Meeting (BAAC)	15 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheeps- head (BAAC)	16 9:30 a.m. Book Discussion Group (BAAC) 6:30 p.m. Worship C 7:30 p.m. Stam- mtisch (BAAC)	17	18
19 9:00 a.m. Worship C 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. AA Meet- ing (FH)	20 8am – 4:45pm Camp Sci-kids 3:00pm – 4:30pm Basket- ball (gym)	21 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) 8:00am -4:45pm Camp Sci - kids 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)	22 8:00am – 4:45pm Camp Sci-kids 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheeps- head (BAAC)	23 8:00am – 4:45pm Cam Sci-kids 6:30 p.m. Worship	24 8:00am – 4:45pm Camp Sci-kids	25
26 9:00 a.m. Worship C 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 3:30pm Pickleball (gym) 7:00 p.m. AA Meet- ing (FH)	27 8:00am -4:45pm Camp Sci-kids 3:00pm – 4:30pm Basket- ball (gym)	28 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228) 8:00am – 4:45pm Camp Sci-kids 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)	29 8:00am – 4:45pm Camp Sci-kids 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study (BAAC) 1:00 p.m. Sheeps- head (BAAC)	30 8:00am – 4:45pm Cam Sci-kids 6:30 p.m. Worship C	31 8:00am – 4:45pm Camp Sci-kids	

Come to Me, and I Will Give You Rest

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:25–30



Elm Grove Ev. Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122 - 2035
Phone (262) 797 - 2970 • Fax (262) 797 - 2977
Web Site: www.egl.org • E-mail: info@egl.org



Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor

Rev. Joshua D. Tegatz, Associate Pastor

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Call first)

The deadline for articles and photos to be submitted for the next *Seasons* is:

Wednesday, July 15

Submissions can be sent to 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 or call 262-786-1203, or email Meg Grelk, mgrelk55@gmail.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday

(Unless there is a fifth Sunday in the month, when Matins is sung)

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

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CONTACT

Dr. Brian German

Director of the Concordia Bible Institute

Brian.German@cuw.edu



The Beauty 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 contact the church office to request a date and to provide a message for the bulletin; 262-797-2970 or email info@egl.org.

