

East Union Lutheran Church

15180 County Road 40
Carver, MN 55315

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EAST UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Carver, Minnesota

www.eulc.org

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m.

Worship

with Holy Communion on 1st, 3rd,
and 5th Sundays (hymn-sing on fifth
Sundays of each month at 8:50 am)

10:00 a.m.

**Coffee Fellowship/Sunday
School/Confirmation**

Coming in October!

Sunday, October 8 – Global Mission Sunday



Ibrahim Bitrus, PhD, a native of Nigeria, will be our guest preacher and presenter. Ibrahim is currently serving as our Synod Theologian-In-Residence while his wife is finishing her college education so they can return to serve their native country, he as a seminary professor, she as a high school science teacher.

A free-will offering will be taken at the door to help keep his family in the USA this year. If you pay by check, please make it out to "East Union Lutheran Church." East Union has pledged \$1000 this year to assist with their expenses and your support will go towards this pledge.

An Adult Forum with Ibrahim on Nigeria will be begin at 10:45 in the Parish Center after coffee and fellowship.

Sunday, October 15 – Bread for the World Sunday

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. Our work to change the conditions and policies that allow hunger to persist is supported by all major church bodies and sustained by generous contributions from individuals, families and congregations.



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Sunday, October 29 – Confirmation Sunday Celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation

As we observe the historic 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we will celebrate with six members of our congregation as Maddie Beck, Daniel Berg, Else Lillegard-Bouton, David Schultz, Faith Wickenhauser and Katie Winslow will affirm their baptism and their faith in Jesus Christ. Special Music, Choir Procession and much more as these young people join with Martin Luther in declaring their faith in Jesus Christ.

Sunday, October 29—Trunk and Treat Event at East Union

4:30-5pm Halloween BINGO

5-5:30 pm Crafts, games and hayrides

5:30-6pm Hotdog dinner

6-6:30 Trunk and Treat

October 2017

East Union Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Worship— Communion 10am Fellowship 10:30am Confirma- tion and Sunday School	2	3 7pm Youth & Education Meet- ing	4	5 1pm Audree Sells Celebration of Life	6 Quilt Retreat	7 Quilt Retreat
8 Global Mission Sunday 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:30am Confirma- tion and Sunday School	9 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	10	11 6pm Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen	12	13	14
15 Bread for the World Sunday 9am Worship— Communion 10am Fellowship	16	17 7pm Council Meeting	18 Communicator Submissions Due	19 4-6pm Fare for All at Crown of Glory in Chaska	20	21
22 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:30am Confirma- tion and Sunday School	23 1pm Quilting Group	24	25	26	27	28
29 Confirmation & Reformation 500 Sunday 9am Worship— Communion 10am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 4:30pm Trunk or Treat Event	30	31 Pastor Dave at 2017 Joint Minis- terium				30

Pastor Dave at Fall Theological Retreat

East Union Lutheran Church

The Communicator newsLETTER

Our vision: *We will be a wellspring of faith, hope, and love.*

Our mission: *We are a congregation inspired by Jesus Christ to bring God's message of faith, hope, and love into the world by creating a community open to all yearning for a relationship with God and neighbor, offering what the world does not offer; by embracing the gifts and needs of our members as we grow in our community in Christ; by honoring our past, facing our future with courage, and moving forward through grace.*



Contact us

952-448-3450

eastunionlc@gmail.com

www.eulc.org

News and announcements

Words from Pastor Dave

Here We Stand

Parish office hours

Mondays & Thursdays

9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Sunday Worship at 9:00 am

Pastor David Grant

952-448-3450 (office)

952-737-7474 (cell)

952-888-1216 (home)

pastordavidgrant@gmail.com

Pastor office hours

Monday through Thursday

9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Council

eulccouncil@gmail.com

Facebook

fb.me/eastunionlc

Five hundred years ago, on All Saints Eve, October 31, 1517, a young professor of Bible at Wittenberg University changed the world. His discontent with the current practices and theology of the church had been brewing for a long time. A friar authorized by the Pope named Johann Tetzel came to town and gathered a huge crowd just across the river. When he called out, "As soon as a coin in the coffer rings, the soul from purgatory springs" and sold pieces of paper called indulgences Martin Luther had enough, marched straight to the door of the church and bravely nailed "95 Theses for Debate."

The printing press had just been invented. Soon those "95 Theses for Debate" were printed as pamphlets and quickly circulated across Europe. The spark had been lit and the flames of the Reformation burned like a prairie fire throughout the church.

The Pope realized this and called a meeting called the "Diet of Worms." All the leaders of Europe were there. It was basically a trial putting Martin Luther on the stand. All his writings were placed on a table and he was asked to recant, that is, take back all that he had written. If he did not, he would face excommunication and eternal damnation. He asked for time to meditate and pray about it overnight. The next morning, the audience was shocked to hear him stand and quietly but firmly say,

"Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures and by clear reason (for I do not trust in the pope or councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am



bound by the Scriptures I have quoted. My conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not retract anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. May God help me. **Here I stand.** I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.”

This was truly Reformation. How dare one man stand up against the authority of the Pope? How dare one man question the rulings and teachings of the Church, the most powerful institution on earth? Luther had been convinced by Scripture that it was Jesus Christ alone who saved and this was by grace, not works. “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—” (Ephesians 2:8)

The editors of Concordia Publishing House write eloquently, “We are saved by God, by grace alone, through faith alone, on account of Christ alone. And so with Luther, we, too, can and should say, ‘Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.’”

Time changes things. Yet some things should never be surrendered. The three *solas* of great Reformation movement still remain:

Sola Scriptura (“Scripture alone”): The Bible alone is our highest authority.

Sola Fide (“Faith alone”): We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ.

Sola Gratia (“Grace alone”): We are saved by the grace of God alone.

As a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, on this historic 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we proudly stand in the great heritage of the Reformers and boldly proclaim to the world, “Here We Stand!” Amen.

Grace we will never surrender.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Dave



September Pastoral acts

- September 10 – Dedication & Blessing of Viola Loehrs Prairie
- September 23 – Vernis Strom Memorial Service
- September 29 – Jeff Schafer & Kimberly Roden Wedding

Fall Bazaar

This year’s Fall Bazaar will be taking a one year hiatus. But we are planning something new and exciting for next year. Stay tuned!

EULC cookbooks

Cookbooks are still available. They include over 89 pages of recipes and feature our Sunday School kids artwork. Call, email or phone the Parish Office if you would still like one and haven’t received one. You can also contact Erica Wirtz directly.



Free-Will Offering – East Union to help Nigerian Family

Ibrahim Bitrus, PhD, is a native of Nigeria. The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria is our Companion Synod. He and his family sacrificed everything so he could come to the United States and complete his PhD. His goal is to return to Nigeria and teach in the Lutheran seminary. After he completed his studies at Luther Seminary, he was asked to serve as a “Companion Synod Theologian in Residence” in our Minneapolis Area Synod. This was a two-year commitment which began in 2015.

His wife Julecy has been studying hard during this time at Metropolitan State University to complete her degrees in biology and chemistry. She is nearly a straight "A" student. Her goal is to return to Nigeria and serve as a high school teacher. Unfortunately, the radical Islamic group Boko Haram invaded the part of the country where the Bitrus family lived and her transcripts and credits were lost. So she needs one more year to finish her education. The Synod Council has approved the Bitrus family staying another 10 months so Julecy can complete her degrees. However, congregations and individuals need to raise the approximate \$40,000 in costs. Our Congregation Council has pledged \$1000 to help the Bitrus family. You can help us reach that goal with any gift you can give. Just mark your check and your envelope with "Bitrus Family Fund." Thank you for your support for this worthy cause!

Thank you from the Hallins

We want to thank all of our friends at East Union Lutheran Church for the many prayers, kind words, cards and memorials on behalf of our mom, Carolyn Hallin. Special thanks to all those who helped at mom's service. All you did to help make the service a lovely tribute to mom. We know mom meant a lot to so many of you. East Union was a very special place to her. The people here made her feel so welcome when she joined and the love she had for East Union grew out of the friendships she made with so many of you. We are forever grateful to all of you who played such an important role in her life.

-- The family of Carolyn Hallin

Help us "coat" our community in love!

Love INC is working with local churches, organizations, and families to collect clean, new or gently used coats, gloves, hats, scarves, snow pants and boots, and dollars to support the coat drive program from now until October 22nd at various locations around Eastern Carver County. Infant, toddler, youth, men's and women's coats are accepted. The process is simple: drop off your extra coat(s) and winter wear and Love INC takes care of the rest! All donated coats will be given to local children and adults in need. If you do not have a coat to donate, you can help provide a warmer winter by texting "WARMCOAT" to 41444 to donate \$10. Our goal is to collect 1000 coats and \$500 during our coat drive. For a list of donation drop-off sites, please visit www.loveincecc.org.

Pringles cans anyone?

Does anyone have empty full-sized Pringles cans? Does anyone *want to empty* a full-sized Pringles can? When they are empty, please bring them to church or the parish office. Pastor Dave needs about 60 empty (and clean) Pringles cans for a children's sermon in November. Thanks!

Upcoming events

Youth & Education Committee Meeting, October 3 at 7pm

The Youth & Education Committee will be meeting on October 3 at 7pm in the Parish Center Library. All current and interested committee members are welcome to attend.

Audree Sells Celebration of Life, October 5 from 1-4pm

Our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Audree Sells. Her Celebration of Life will be on Thursday, October 5 from 1:00pm—4:00pm in the Parish Center.

Quilt Retreat, October 6 & October 7

The Quilters will host a quilt retreat on Friday, October 6 & Saturday, October 7 in the Parish Center.

Guest from Nigeria, Ibrahim Bitrus, October 8

Ibrahim Bitrus, theologian in residence at the Minneapolis Area Synod, will be preaching and hosting an adult forum after coffee and fellowship. Ibrahim is a native of Nigeria, the companion synod of our synod. We welcome him as we hear more about his story and the country of Nigeria.

Quilters Group, October 9, from 1-4pm

The Quilters meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month from 1pm to 4pm. For questions, please contact Evelyn Grimm, 952-448-9465 or Janet Schultz, 952-448-3728.

Feed My Starving Children, October 11 from 6-7:30pm

We will be hosting a Congregational Feed My Starving Children event at the Chanhassen Feed My Starving Children on Wednesday, October 11 from 6 to 7:30 pm. Please sign up on the clipboard during worship to participate or contact the office.

Council Meeting, October 17 at 7pm

The Council will be meeting on October 17 at 7pm in the Parish Center Library.

Newsletter submissions due, October 18

If you have content for our monthly newsletter, please send to the Parish Office at eastunionlc@gmail.com before October 18.

Quilters Group, October 23, from 1-4pm

The Quilters meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month from 1pm to 4pm. For questions, please contact Evelyn Grimm, 952-448-9465 or Janet Schultz, 952-448-3728.

Confirmation, October 29

We will celebrate with six members of our congregation as Maddie Beck, Daniel Berg, Else Lillegard-Bouton, David Schultz, Faith Wickenhauser and Katie Winslow will affirm their baptism and their faith in Jesus Christ.

Trunk or Treat, October 29

Save the date! On October 29, we will be hosting our annual Trunk or Treat. We hope to have a great turnout and make it a great time for the kids.



Chicken Dinner, Sunday, November 5

Save the date! On November 5, we will be hosting our annual Chicken Dinner.

Quilt Raffle, Sunday, November 5



A photograph can never do some things justice! This quilt is a perfect example of that. See it up close in the Parish Center.

This Full Size Bed Quilt donated to East Union by Audree Sells is all hand quilted making it a real gem. Hand quilting results in a quilt that is softer and more comfortable than anything produced by a machine could ever be. It's a quilt that is meant to be used.

Besides that it's stunning! There's tons of interest in the details when you look at the rainbow of fabrics that Audree used in this quilt while at the same time creating a harmonious and beautiful whole.

Raffle Tickets will be sold for \$2.00. The raffle will take place at the Chicken Dinner on Sunday, November 5th. **Don't miss your chance to win!** After all, "The best kind of sleep beneath heaven

above, is under a quilt handmade with love."

EULC Congregational BINGO, Sunday, November 12

Save the date! On Sunday, November 12, we will host our first ever Congregational BINGO event.

Plan now for future events

Thanksgiving Worship on Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m.

An ecumenical worship service in Belle Plaine. All are invited.

Location will be announced soon.

Christmas Eve Day and Night

9:00 am Advent Worship – *We prepare for Christmas*

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion

Cordially invite your family and friends to celebrate Christmas with us!

Christmas Day – No Worship Services

**Save
the
Date**



Service opportunities

Can you make a meal?

If you'd like to make a meal for Heidi and her family go to the Meal Train website for Heidi at <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/3lqz4y> and sign up. If you want help signing up through the Internet come to the Parish Office and we'll be glad to help you. You can follow along on this difficult journey through her CaringBridge site – www.caringbridge.org/visit/heidigusenius

Do you have a sewing machine that works?

If so, would you be willing to donate it to homeless and very poor young girls and women in Africa? Bring it to the church. Through Love, Inc. of Eastern Carver County we are working with Pathways to Hope Africa, a non-profit organization that works with homeless and marginalized women in Uganda. They are starting a sewing center for young girls and women. Sewing machines are needed for this worthy cause.

Miscellaneous

Prayer list

Through prayer we open ourselves, our hands, to receive all God has to give us, and in prayer we open our hands to give away that which we have been given, to be blessed and to bless. If you would like to submit a prayer request, please contact the Parish Office at 952-448-3450 or eastunionlc@gmail.com.

Email list

Want to receive church announcements, events and opportunities right to your email inbox? Send us an email at eastunionlc@gmail.com and we will get you added.

EULC building usage

We would be excited for you to use our space for your next big event. Please visit our website at www.eulc.org or contact the Parish Office for more information.

Cemetery

Would you like to buy a burial plot in our beautiful cemetery? Visit our website at www.eulc.org for more information on the Right of Purchase for Burial Rules.

Acolyte schedule

October Acolyte schedule

October 1—Elsa Lillegard-Bouton
October 8—Katie Winslow
October 15 —Alex Haas
October 22—David Schultz
October 29—Riley Haas



Introductions to the Gospel readings for

October 1 Matthew 21:23-32 *A parable of doing God's will*

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God, such as prostitutes and tax collectors going before others into God's kingdom. In the reading from Ezekiel the people question whether the ways of the Lord are unfair; instead they are to repent and turn to the Lord. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, looking to the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.



October 8 – Global Mission Sunday - Matthew 21:33-46

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a parable of the vineyard, an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread, that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

October 15 – Bread for the World Sunday - Matthew 22:1-14

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God that surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

October 22 Matthew 22:15-22 *A teaching on giving to the emperor and to God*

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

October 29 - 500th Anniversary of the Reformation - John 8:31-36

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one.

Special Thank You's in October

We thank all of you for your support and gifts to the mission and ministry of East Union. Here are just a few special thank-you's we want to share.

Thank you to the family of Alfred Haas for the donation of Minnes-Skrift Öfver Skand. Ev. Luth. East Union-Församlingen, an original copy of the history of our congregation in Swedish, published in 1908 in honor of the 50th Anniversary of East Union. The book originally belonged to their grandfather John Edwin Beckman.

Thank you to the family of Carolyn Hallin for the donation of a beautiful original watercolor painting by Rev. Robert Kruger in 1981. Pastor Kruger is a former pastor of our congregation.

Thank you to Melissa Pantlin for organizing our Reformation 500 bookstore and labelling all the books. Melissa also helps organize our wonderful church library.

2017 Council Members

Name	Phone	Email	Role
Breann Rasmussen	952-492-5161 (home) 612-296-1050 (cell)	Breann_Rasmussen@cargill.com	President
Erica Wirtz	952-479-7228 (home) 612-685-0060 (cell)	erica.j.wirtz@wellsfargo.com	Vice President
Nanette Mellgren	952-873-2851 (home) 612-245-6923 (cell)	nanm@frontiernet.net	Secretary
Josh Bugbee	952-856-0327 (cell)	joshua.bugbee@gmail.com	Member
Larry Cruse	952-361-6995 (home) 952-913-6658 (cell)	lcrusecarver@gmail.com	Member
Sean Haas	952-769-7068	sean.haas79@gmail.com	Member
Kent Hasse	952-448-7758 (home) 612-867-3620 (cell)	kenthasse@winsstrat.com	Member
Nadine Lundquist	952-368-4105 (home) 612-616-2168 (cell)	lundy4020@gmail.com	Member
Jamie Scott	952-994-1611	jlscott00@yahoo.com	Member
Tom Steers	952-556-1153 (home) 952-567-3521 (cell)	tbsteers52@gmail.com	Member
Jason Wieland	507-276-3733 (cell)	jweel5@hotmail.com	Member
Mark Winslow	952-368-7173 (home) 612-963-8699	winspeed@comcast.net	Member