

East Union Lutheran Church

15180 County Road 40

PO Box 283

Carver, MN 55315

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Carver, MN



EAST UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Carver, Minnesota

www.eulc.org

952-448-3450

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m.

Worship

with Holy Communion on 1st, 3rd,
and 5th Sundays

10:00 a.m.

**Coffee Fellowship, Sunday School
& Women's Bible Study**

January 2023

East Union Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship	2 3pm Abraham Baptism	3	4	5	6	7 10am Gathering Thru Fellowship
8 9am Worship 10am Pastor Bryant Installation Celebration 10am Sunday School 10:15am Women's Bible Study	9 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	10	11 6:30pm Youth & Ed/Food & Fellow- ship Joint Meeting 6:30pm Youth Faith Formation @ WU	12 9am-5pm Quilt Retreat	13 9am-5pm Quilt Retreat	14
15 9am Worship w/ Baptism- Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Women's Bible Study	16	17 6:30pm Council Meeting	18 6:30pm Youth Faith Formation @ WU	19	20	21
22 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Women's Bible Study	23 1pm Quilting Group	24	25 6:30pm Youth Faith Formation @ WU	26	27	28
29 9am Worship-Communion 10am Annual Congrega- tional Meeting	30	31				Pastor Bryant's Office Hours: Monday—Wednesday 8:30am-4:30pm Darcy's Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9am-2pm

Words from Pastor Bryant

Dear Disciples,

The calendar has turned to a new year. The shortest day of winter has come and gone. The busyness of Thanksgiving and Christmas are behind us. Now, we're often told to focus on the new possibilities that 2023 will bring.

Every January is a wonderful time to have this reset: To refocus, set new goals, and find renewed energy in pursuing change in our lives. But, how many of these New Year's resolutions come to a crashing halt by the time February rolls around?

I don't know about you, but I often struggle to follow through on my New Year's resolutions. I have no problem making a list of goals I would love to accomplish, but here's the thing: how often are our goals only focused on the new? How often are our goals singularly focused on making radical changes in our lives or picking up habits that we've either never done before or are horribly out of practice?

What if our focus for the new year wasn't solely focused on the new and instead also included renewal? Instead of picking up new habits, what if we refined old ones? Instead of forcing radical change upon ourselves that only comes to a screeching halt in one month's time, what if we tweaked a current habit that's already an active part of our lives?

Think about it: when Jesus called the first disciples, did he ask them to pick up brand new skill sets and radically change their habits? No, instead Jesus simply asked them to shift their focus, to renew their mission: instead of fishing for fish, fish for people.

They're fishermen by trade and so Jesus says, "There's a skillset I could use—let's simply put a renewed focus and energy on a habit and vocation that's already present." It's incredible what a renewed sense of purpose and passion can do for our lives.

In this new year, we don't need to upend our lives seeking out the new—instead, Jesus calls us to refine what is already present. It might not feel like we're making tremendous progress—like you, I too have grandiose dreams and plans of a hoped for future. However, in order to reach the end of a long journey we must first take one step at a time.

Together, let's put renewed focus on the gifts and skills we've received from Jesus. We'll find that radical change happens when we make one more call, send one more card, offer one more minute, or give one more dollar. Radical change doesn't happen overnight, it's a journey. A journey you're already on and it's a journey I look forward to making with you into the future at East Union and with our neighbors both near and far.

Peace, Pastor Bryant

Sunday School

January Schedule

1/08/23 Sunday School

1/15/23 Sunday School

1/22/23 Sunday School

1/29/23 No Sunday School

Youth Faith Formation

January Schedule

1/11/23 @ West Union

1/18/23 @ West Union

1/25/23 @ West Union

Women's Bible Study

On January 8th, we will start studying the book of Numbers. We meet on Sundays in the library at 10:15am.

Gathering Thru Fellowship

We will gather to make snowmen on January 7th at 10am in the Parish Center. We are asking for a small donation to cover the costs of materials. All are welcome to visit or create, coffee will be on!

Pastor Bryant Installation

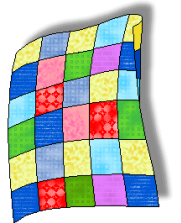
Please join us for cake to celebrate Pastor's installation during Fellowship on Sunday, January 8th.

Year End Committee Reports Deadline

Reminder to all committee chairs that year end committee reports will be due to the church office by **January 10th** to allow Darcy enough time to assemble the Annual Report.

Quilt Retreat

The quilting group is hosting a retreat on January 12th & 13th from 9am-5pm each day. If you are interested in joining, please call the church office, cost is \$5 per day. Bring your own lunch.



Annual Congregational Meeting

Join our East Union Lutheran Church community on **January 29th** after Worship for our Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Lunch will be provided in celebration of all that we have achieved this year.



Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction Donations



We are looking ahead to our Spaghetti Dinner on February 11th. We'd love your help to start thinking of donation items or have a business contact for the Silent Auction. Please drop off your items at the church office.

Super Roll Sunday

We are collecting toilet paper for our Annual Super Roll Sunday! Food shelves cannot spend donated money on toilet paper; they can only buy food. The only way they can stock up with toilet paper is if it is donated. Please bring rolls of toilet paper to the Parish Center by February 12.

Looking Into the Future:

- ♦ Sunday, February 11th—Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction—see flyer for details
- ♦ Wednesday, February 22nd—Ash Wednesday
- ♦ Saturday, May 13th—Annual Plant Sale
- ♦ Sunday, June 18th—Ice Cream Social



Facebook Prayers & Devotions

Join Pastor on Facebook each Monday for Prayers and Wednesdays for Devotions – <https://www.facebook.com/eastunionlc/>

Sunday School Director

We are looking for a Sunday School Director and teachers. If you are interested in sharing your talents with our Sunday School kids, please contact Rochelle Hasse.

Electronic Newsletter

In February we are going to start emailing the newsletter instead of mailing them out. With postage going up, we are looking at cost savings. If you do not have access to email or would still like a newsletter mailed to your house, please let the office know and we would be happy to keep mailing them to you.

Supporting your church

Your offering envelopes for 2023 are in the Parish Center for you to pick up. Did you know we also offer an online giving option? Find out more at this link or on our website. <http://www.eulc.org/Giving>



Towel Helpers Needed!



East Union has an active role in a Towel Ministry, part of ECC Love INC. Volunteering consists of filling towel orders and driving the towels to the client's home. You will receive training too!

Email Ann Decker: adeckerchaska@gmail.com if you are interested!

Food Shelf Donations

There is a grocery cart in the Parish Center ready to accept donations for the local food shelves. If you would rather give a monetary donation, please write "food shelf" on your check or envelope and put it in the offering plate. Thank you for your donations!

Church Newsletter

If you have an idea or want to contribute something for the newsletter, please email the church office eastunionlc@gmail.com. Thank you.

Church Mailing Address

Please remember to use the PO Box when sending mail to the church. Our address is PO Box 283, Carver, MN 55315.



East Union History....continued from December

Our first Pastor, Pehr Carlson was our leader for some 20 years. His brother A.J. Carlson owned a store in East Union, was the East Union postmaster, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and other civic endeavors. One of his sons E.E. Carlson started the first newspaper in the area and we have copies from 1895 to 1898. His sister Lydia saved them and put them in book form. They are a treasure trove of information of life in the 1890's. A.J. also kept a diary of his time spent in the Indian War and the Civil War. He put them in story form and had them printed in the East Union News. Speaking of the Civil War, we have grave sites for 31 of our veterans, a lot of them were in company H of the Minnesota 9th. Most of the people of our church came to this area starting in 1854, a long hard trip across the ocean and half America to try and stake out a new life in a wild undeveloped area and yet when the Indian uprising and then the Civil War began, many of them left their homes and families to help, spending about 3 years away fighting to preserve this country. This is remarkable.

At our 150th celebration in 2008, one of our events was a ghost tour. We chose 12 of the first members in the cemetery and brought them to life, telling about their lives and how their families were connected together. As an extension of that we are now attempting to generate a burial sheet for each person in our cemetery that tells when and where they were born, and who their parents, brothers, sisters and spouses were. We have 29 mini family trees that show how the people in our cemetery are all part of one big family and where they are buried. Our belief is that those aren't just stones around the church, they represent the lives of the people that started and brought this church forward through the years until this day.



Hosted by East Union Lutheran Church

Spaghetti Dinner *and Silent Auction*

**Saturday, February 11, 2023
4:00 – 6:30 p.m.**



Pricing

Adults \$10

Children (4-17) \$5

Ages 3 and under Free

Family \$25

***Take-out available**

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There will be something for everyone at this event. Baskets, gift certificates, and specialty items all up for bid. Dinner includes: spaghetti with homemade sauce, salad, bread, beverage, and homemade desserts.

***Need not be present to win the Silent Auction**