

East Union Lutheran Church

15180 County Road 40

PO Box 283

Carver, MN 55315



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

June 2025

East Union Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 “Onward” 9am Worship, celebrate Graduates—Communion 10am Fellowship	2	3 10am Bible Study	4	5	6	7
8 “Empowered” 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Outreach Meeting	9 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	10 10am Bible Study	11 8:30am Card Ministry	12 9am-5pm Quilt Retreat	13 9am-5pm Quilt Retreat	14
15 “Relational” 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship	16	17 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting	18	19	20	21
22 “Healed” 9am Worship 10am Fellowship	23 1pm Quilting Group	24 10am Bible Study	25	26	27	28
29 “Discipleship” 8:50am Hymn Sing 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship	30					Pastor Bryant’s Office Hours: Mon—Wed 8:30am-Noon Darcy’s Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9am-1pm

Words from Pastor Bryant

Dear Disciples,

With summer nearly upon us, I believe a word of thanksgiving is in order this month. You have accomplished so much during this past program year—words and actions that have brought about the life-giving presence of Christ to everyone you’ve met. I want you to know that no act of kindness is too small and they never go unnoticed.

Our parsonage will soon have a renter in it again and this is in no small part due to the countless folks who spent their time and money on the house. It is a home to be proud of and this is thanks to decades of faithful upkeep.

You have reached out to the community in a variety of ways. From the plant sale, spaghetti dinner and silent auction, pancake breakfast, homemade cards, roadside clean-ups, Memorial Day prayer service, countless donations to the food shelf, your support of the towel ministry, and hosting blood drives. Your passion and devotion to these activities is evident and the hospitality and warm welcome you share with those who enter these doors is well-known to all!

You shepherd the youngest among us with Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. You give them space on Sunday mornings to be themselves. It is no small feat to raise a child in the faith and your words of encouragement, bright smiles, and leading by example are the guiding stars for all the kids who call this place home.

You care for the buildings and grounds with utmost care and respect. What a joy it is to spend time in a place and space that shouts the glory of God through its beauty and history.

Thank you. Thank you for embracing the ministries of this congregation in large and small ways. For it truly takes us all to be the hands and feet of Christ both for our community and for the wider world.

Thank you for allowing the Holy Spirit to move you in ways that bring about grace and joy and laughter and love for the folks around you.

Peace,

Pastor Bryant

June Theme

Our theme for this month is ***Discipleship***. With Jesus ascended to heaven and the Holy Spirit now given to us all, we're reminded of the task put before us: to be Jesus' hands and feet to a world in need. To heal the sick, be messengers of peace and hope, and to stand strong in the face of adversity. For the path of discipleship is not always easy, but with the Spirit by our side, we will succeed!

Tuesday Bible Study

Bible Study continues every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. in the Parish Center. All are welcome!



Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study will start up again in the Fall.

Graduation Sunday

Congratulations to our East Union Lutheran Church Graduates! Join us on Sunday, June 1st as we honor our High School Graduates Brayden Berg, Sean Haas, Gavin Holasek, Lillian Leistiko, Kaleb Meyer, Shelby Olson, Rebecca Sandeen, Connor Schueren, Olivia Wieland and College Graduate Alyssa Lundquist during worship and celebrate with cake during fellowship.

Heritage Scholarship Fund

We received three essays for this year's \$1,000 scholarship. The Youth and Education Committee reviews these essays (without names attached) and decide on a winner. The Heritage Scholarship Fund was created in late 1999 at East Union Lutheran Church, making this the 25th year. Each year our graduating high school seniors have had the opportunity to win \$1,000 towards their continuing education. Each year's recipient's name is added to a plaque hanging in the Parish Center.

The scholarship is currently funded through donations from our members. Thank you to everyone who has donated to this worthy cause over the years! Your donations are greatly appreciated and will help ensure the continuation of our program.



Card Ministry Team

The Card Ministry Team is here for anyone in need of Christ's love through a card. The Team will meet on June 11th at 8:30am.

Quilt Retreat

The quilting group is hosting a retreat on June 12th & 13th from 9am-5pm each day. If you are interested in joining, please call the church office, cost is \$10 per day. Bring your own lunch.

Red Cross Blood Drive



Would you like to save a life? Join us and the Red Cross on **Tuesday, July 8 from 1-7 p.m.** in the Parish Center to do just that by giving blood! Sign-up on the Red Cross's website: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=eulc>

If you've never given blood before, have no fear! The donation process is painless and once you've given you'll receive a couple snacks as a tasty reward! We're looking forward to hosting the Red Cross as together we save lives!

Vacation Bible School

East Union VBS will be held 7/28—7/31 from 9am-3pm. Grades K-5th grade are eligible. Volunteers are needed, call the church office to volunteer. Theme is Epic Australian Adventure. Space is limited, please bring your registration forms to the office as soon as possible.



Looking Into the Future:

- ♦ August 10th—Classic & Unique Car Show (and unique people)
- ♦ September 14th—Rally Sunday
- ♦ October 1st—Blood Drive
- ♦ October 4th—Gathering Thru Fellowship
- ♦ October 25th—Trunk or Treat

Thank you

The Confirmation room has been refreshed for the Card Ministry Group. We would like to thank Sandy McGraw, Jim Stai, Connie & Rick Beck for washing, priming, and painting the walls and help putting the room back together. It looks great for the ladies to make their cards. The Lord is good to all.

*Thank
you*

Fellowship with Mayor Courtney

Thank you to all who came to our fellowship with Mayor Courtney Johnson. We had a great discussion.



Honor Guard Memorial Day Service

Thank you to the Chaska American Legion for leading our service. Breakfast was served to almost 80 people and the free will offering raised \$440 for the food shelf. Thank you to everyone who helped serve the breakfast and to all who attended.



Church Softball League

Summer has nearly begun, and with it, the return of the East Union Steeple People! Church softball league will begin Monday, June 2, and will continue to be played on Monday evenings at Chaska Lions Park. We will be receiving the official schedule this week. We have many returning players from last year but would be open to adding new interested players to the roster. Please contact Ryan Bohn or the church office if you are interested. If you don't want to be on the roster, please come to our games and cheer us on!!

Tithely

Tithely is an easy way that you can contribute to East Union online. Your gift is safe and secure and goes directly to our church. Go to <https://give.Tithe.ly/my-church> to get started. Search for East Union Lutheran Church, select the link to "give now" and you are ready to go. Enter the amount you want to give, the fund you want to give to, select the frequency of giving, enter your contact details, and payment information to give. Select "sign up" to create an account to track your gifts, set up recurring giving, and more. Reach out to Chris Hallin if you have any questions.

Parsonage Renovation

Thank you to all who donated their time, materials, labor and dollars towards our renovation project. If you would like to make a specific donation to the expense of **renovating the parsonage**, you may either send a check designating "parsonage renovation" in the memo line or submit an offering through Tithe.ly and select "parsonage renovation" as the fund.

Food Shelf Donations



Please remember our neighbors in need. There is a grocery cart in the Parish Center ready to accept donations for the local food shelves and for brown paper grocery bags as well as empty egg cartons. If you have extra, please put them in the grocery cart. Thank you for your donations!

Carver County Local News

For all of you missing the local newspaper, Carver County has a free, online newspaper! It's called "**Carver County Local News.**" To find the newspaper, go to: cclocalnews.org and subscribe for free!

East Union Group Visits Gustavus Adolphus College, submitted by Todd Johnson

Did you know that Gustavus Adolphus College was once located in East Union? Well, in a sense...

Pastor Eric Norelius established the St. Ansgar Academy in 1862 in Red Wing, Minnesota, but on-going funding almost immediately became a problem. Thus in 1863, it was necessary to move the school to a new location. That new place was East Union, Minnesota, at the site of East Union Lutheran Church. The first pastor of that church, Pehr Carlson, ran a grist mill on nearby Bevens Creek and used the income to support the fledgling school. The Academy shared the site with the church until in 1875, when it moved again for a final time.



St. Ansgar and the Augustana Synod accepted an offer of a larger site and guarantee of support in St. Peter, MN, and with acreage and plenty of room to grow, the school quickly became a larger institution. It would eventually be renamed Gustavus Adolphus College. And even though St. Peter failed to become the state capitol (another story), it had become a fast-growing new home for many new Minnesota settlers, including some who were Carver County refugees of the 1862 U.S.-Dakotah war.

Those early ties between East Union Lutheran Church and Gustavus Adolphus College were often celebrated through the decades that followed. Especially memorable were visits by musical groups from the college, performances that were appreciated at the country church with Swedish roots. Sadly, this association faded somewhat over the years. But both institutions remained interested in the shared history, and recently efforts to renew the engagement have begun.

In the fall of 2024, a group from Gustavus came to visit East Union Lutheran Church. And on April 23, 2025, at the invitation of Gustavus, a delegation from the church, led by pastor Bryant Bakkum and Outreach committee chair Cheryl Hubbard, were invited to visit the college.

After a pleasant welcome luncheon, where the delegation was greeted by college President Rebecca Bergman, the group was introduced to the day's hosts, including members of the Vocation Advisory Council and College Archivists. Discussions began on the mission of the visit, and on ways to cultivate continued ties between the college and the church.

A tour of the college included many sites, including Christ Chapel, Nobel Hall of Science and the Folke Bernadotte Library Archives, where stored records from the founding times of both institutions were shared with the group by college Archivist Jeff Jensen.



PHOTO - ST ANSGAR ACADEMY

East Union Group Visits Gustavus Adolphus College—cont'd

In another highlight of the meeting, Ursula Lindqvist, Professor of Scandinavian Studies and Comparative Literature, delivered a special presentation on the historic background of the founding period, focusing on a better understanding the U.S.-Dakotah conflict of 1862,

The delegation left with a sense of renewed connection, and the promise for continuing interaction between the college and the church, whose pasts are so closely connected.

When next you are southbound on County Road 40, and have occasion to pass that picturesque brick church just north of East Union, take a moment to glance to the opposite side of the road at the white frame one story structure with the large plaque above its front door, standing in front of a farmstead. You will be taking in a view that has endured for more than 150 years: the church and the college that joined in a common beginning. And if you'd like, come and worship with us!

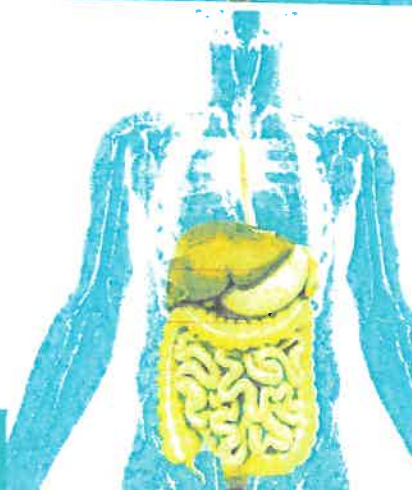


Info from ELCA website submitted by Kathy Schallberg,
Care for Creation Committee

Microwave + Plastic = Microplastics

WHY YOU SHOULDN'T MICROWAVE YOUR FOOD IN PLASTIC

- When food or beverages are microwaved in plastic containers, chemical additives from inside the plastic migrate into the food and tiny flecks of plastic known as micro- and nanoplastics are also shed into the food. Both of these can present health risks.
- Thousands of chemicals are added to plastics to give them color, texture, softness, or rigidity. Of the 10,500 chemicals known to researchers, 2,300 are considered “substances of concern” because they are known to cause cancer, disrupt neural development, and hijack hormonal signals throughout the human body.
- Even at room temperature, many of the chemicals in plastics migrate into food.
- Micro- and nanoplastics also shed from plastic packaging into food at room temperature.
- The process of chemical migration and the shedding of microplastic both speed up when plastic is heated.
- As early as 2003, investigators published articles demonstrating that the “use of commercial plastic packages for repeated microwaving is associated with the risk of increased migration of volatile substances into food.”
- Researchers testing baby food containers from two mainstream US brands found that polypropylene (#5) labeled as “microwave safe” released 4.2 million and 1.2 billion particles per square centimeter of plastic each, after being heated in a microwave.
- Many of the chemicals that leach out of plastics into food or are consumed as microplastics are endocrine disruptors (EDCs) meaning that they “disrupt” the hormonal signals that regulate vital body processes.
- As with other environmental toxicants, endocrine disruptors pose greater health risks for children than adults. They are particularly dangerous for newborns, toddlers, pregnant people, and the developing fetus.



MN Valley Community Band

Here is the schedule for The Minnesota Valley Community Band. Ann and Gordon Decker play in this band. These are free concerts in the nearby area.

MINNESOTA VALLEY COMMUNITY BAND

SUMMER CONCERTS

EVERYONE WELCOME

TUESDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2025 @7:00PM

Union Square Park, 201 S Eagle St, Belle Plaine, MN 56011

THURSDAY, JUNE 26TH, 2025 @7:00PM

Huber Park, 150 Fillmore St N, Shakopee, MN 55379

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9TH, 2025 @7:00PM

Faith Lutheran Church, 800 Waconia Pkwy N, Waconia, MN 55387

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16TH, 2025 @7:00PM

St. Victoria Catholic Church, 8228 Victoria Dr, Victoria, MN 55386

THURSDAY, JULY 24TH, 2025 @6:00PM

Firemen's Park, 3210 Chaska Blvd, Chaska, MN 55318

For More Information

Find Us At: <https://www.mvcb.org>



Image: Freepik.com

Father's Day Fun Facts

FATHER'S DAY—JUNE 15

Father's Day is celebrated on the third Sunday in June because of its historical roots. Sonora Smart Dodd, inspired by Mother's Day, spearheaded the movement to establish the holiday. Her father, William Jackson Smart, a Civil War veteran, raised her and her five siblings alone after her mother's death.



While Ms. Smart wanted it on her father's specific birthday, June 5th, the local clergy and others favored the third Sunday in June for practicality, allowing more time for preparations. This combination of honoring her father's birth month and the practicality of the third Sunday led to Father's Day being celebrated in June. The first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910 in Spokane, Washington. President Calvin Coolidge endorsed the idea in 1924 and the day was officially recognized as a national holiday by Congress in 1972 and President Nixon officially designated the third Sunday in June as Father's Day.



Father's Day is celebrated in many countries around the world with some observing it on different dates such as March 19 in Spain and Portugal and August 8 in Taiwan. Father's Day is the fifth-largest card-sending occasion in America with almost 100 million cards sent each year. The card business will bring in about \$780 million this year. The necktie is the most popular of all Father's Day gifts.

FLAG DAY, JUNE 14

Don't forget, June 14 is Flag Day! Fly your flag proudly!

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed a resolution establishing the design of the American flag, also known as "Old Glory".

While celebrations had occurred prior, President Woodrow Wilson officially recognized June 14 as Flag Day in 1916, and it was formally recognized as a national holiday by Congress in 1949.



Join us for Vacation Bible School!!
July 28th—July 31st
9am-3pm

Grades K-5th grade are eligible, no registration fee.
Email registration forms to the church office
by July 1st (eastunionlc@gmail.com)

Please bring a bag lunch M-W, lunch will be
provided on Thursday

Space is limited, please register soon!



East Union Lutheran Church
15180 County Road 40, Carver



VBS Registration Form



East Union Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School Registration 2025

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven" Matthew 19:14

East Union VBS will be held from July 28th thru July 31st, Mon-Thurs from 9am-3pm. Grades K-5th grade are eligible, no registration fee. Please have students bring a bag lunch M-W, lunch will be provided on Thursday.

Space is limited - please sign up soon. Volunteers are needed, call the church office if you would like to help.

Please bring the registration form to East Union Lutheran Church by July 1st. You may also email the completed form to eastunionlc@gmail.com or mail it to:

East Union Lutheran Church
15180 County Road 40
PO Box 283
Carver, MN 55315

Please contact the Youth & Education Committee if you have any questions or if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!

God bless you and your family!



VBS Registration Form—cont'd

Are you members of East Union Lutheran Church? _____

Are you interested in learning more about becoming members? Y or N

Child's name: _____
Birthdate: _____ Age & grade: _____
Baptized? (Y or N) _____
Please list any allergies, dietary or special needs: _____ _____

Child's name: _____
Birthdate: _____ Age & grade: _____
Baptized? (Y or N) _____
Please list any allergies, dietary or special needs: _____ _____

Child's name: _____
Birthdate: _____ Age & grade: _____
Baptized? (Y or N) _____
Please list any allergies, dietary or special needs: _____ _____

Child's name: _____
Birthdate: _____ Age & grade: _____
Baptized? (Y or N) _____
Please list any allergies, dietary or special needs: _____ _____

Name of parent(s) or adult contact: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Name of parent(s) or adult contact: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Volunteers/helpers needed

Would you like to volunteer? ___yes ___no

Consent to use photos or video for VBS/church purpose ___yes ___no

Signature: _____

VBS Registration Form—cont'd

East Union Lutheran Church Accident Waiver and Release of Liability

The undersigned parent/legal guardian hereby gives permission to East Union Lutheran Church, for their child _____ to take part in the East Union Lutheran Church Sunday School program and related events.

Should my child require immediate or emergency medical care while engaged in an activity sponsored by East Union Lutheran Church, in my absence, I hereby grant East Union Lutheran Church authority to release my child for medical treatment to such medical personnel as East Union Lutheran Church determines appropriate under the circumstances.

In consideration for the privilege of allowing my child to participate in the above-named activity, I agree to release and hold harmless East Union Lutheran Church, its officers and agents, from any liability to or responsibility for bodily injury, damage or illness to the above-identified child while participating in any youth athletic or social activity which may be directly or indirectly sponsored by East Union Lutheran Church. Further, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless East Union Lutheran Church, its officers and agents with respect to any claim asserted by or on behalf of my child as a result of bodily injury, illness or damage.

Please read carefully, this permission slip is a legal document which includes release of liability and indemnification.

Date

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Phone Number: _____

Second Emergency Contact: _____

Second Emergency Contact Phone Number: _____