

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
& Women's Bible Study**

March 2023

East Union Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pastor Bryant's Office Hours: Monday—Wednesday 8:30am-4:30pm Darcy's Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9am-2pm			1 <u>West Union</u> 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Worship	2	3	4 10am Gathering Thru Fellowship
5 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Women's Bible Study	6	7	8 8:30am Card Ministry 6:30pm Food/ Fellowship & Youth Mtg <u>West Union</u> 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Worship	9	10	11
12 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	13 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	14 10am Bible Study 7pm Dahlgren Annual Mtg	15 <u>East Union</u> 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Worship	16	17	18
19 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	20	21 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Coun- cil Meeting	22 8:30am Card Ministry <u>East Union</u> 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Worship	23	24	25
26 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	27 1pm Quilting Group	28 10am Bible Study	29 <u>East Union</u> 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Worship	30	31	

Words from Pastor Bryant

Dear Disciples,

How do you enter this season of Lent? With trepidation? Bated breath? Perhaps no visceral reaction at all? Lent is my favorite season of the church year—let me show you why.

There's a smell that permeates the earth this time of year. Like the season it is coupled with it doesn't last long—one week, maybe two. However, each year, it's present. As the days continue to grow longer and as the sun continues to rise higher in the sky the piles of snow that have buried sidewalks and fire pits and yards will slowly but surely melt.

By the time you're reading these words spring will be that much closer and with it the smell that signals my favorite time of year. Because when our snowpack finally begins to melt thanks to sunny days and warmer weather, the sidewalks and roads will become damp.

And as the days continue to lengthen and the afternoons continue to warm, those same surfaces will continue to heat at a faster rate than the ground itself. And soon enough, the melted snow that rests on their surfaces will be warmed and give off a distinct scent.

Now that I try to describe it in words, I'm finding it near impossible. It's a humid, thick smell against the dryness of the late winter and early spring air. It's as if you can smell the meltwater evaporating off the warm pavement and before it escapes into the atmosphere above your head it first lingers around you: heavy, fog-like—filled with promise.

I can only describe it like this: it smells like spring. It smells like spring because it only appears when the earth is warming and the snow is melting. That scent of approaching new life only can be present in the liminal space between icy winter and muddy spring.

That's Lent to me. A time and space that is hard to describe—yet, a time and space that is needed, necessary, and beautiful. Because although this season of Lent involves a journey to the cross, there are markers and signs along the way that it doesn't end there.

Lent is a journey, not the destination. So it is with spring: it's less of a season and more of a transition. A transition from cold and desolation to the warmth and light of summer. So, how do you enter this season of Lent? Together, let's embrace and seek out the glimpses of new life we encounter along the way. Because they're there.

This journey to the cross is not the end—it's only the beginning.

Peace,

Pastor Bryant

Sunday School

March Schedule

3/05/23 Sunday School
3/12/23 Sunday School
3/19/23 Sunday School
3/26/23 Sunday School

Youth Faith Formation

March Schedule

3/1/23 Lent + YFF @ West Union
3/8/23 Lent + YFF @ West Union
3/15/23 Lent + YFF @ East Union
3/22/23 Lent + YFF @ East Union
3/29/23 Lent + YFF @ East Union

Women's Bible Study

Our last bible study will be on March 5th (Numbers 31-36). We will have a break until Fall.

Gathering Thru Fellowship

On Saturday, March 4th we will gather together at 10am in the Parish Center. We will be making beveled suncatchers. Starting in June, the Gathering Thru Fellowship will be on a break for everyone to enjoy the summer and will resume on October 7th.



Card Ministry Team

The Card Ministry Team is here for anyone in need of Christ's love through a card. The Card Ministry will meet on March 8th & 22nd at 8:30am.

Food & Fellowship/Youth & Ed Meeting

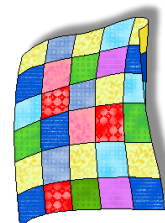
There will be a joint meeting on March 8th and April 19th at 6:30pm in the Parish Center.

Bible Study

Join Pastor Bryant each Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Parish Center as we gather around a cup of coffee and grow together in faith through conversation and scripture. Begins March 14.

Quilt Retreat

The quilting group is hosting a retreat on April 20th & 21st 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.





Lent

We worshiping with West Union again this year.

Midweek Lenten Services

- Wednesdays, March 1 & 8 @ West and March 15, 22 & 29 @ East
- Meal @ 6 pm, Parish Center
- Service @ 7 pm, Sanctuary
- Service structure: Holden Evening Prayer



Maundy Thursday

- April 6 @ 7 pm at West Union

Good Friday

- April 7 @ 7 pm at East Union

Looking Into the Future:

- ♦ Sunday, April 23rd—Pancake Breakfast
- ♦ Saturday, May 13th—Annual Plant Sale
- ♦ Monday, May 29th—Honor Guard Service
- ♦ Sunday, June 18th—Ice Cream Social

Easter Flower Order Form

Flowers are available for you to purchase for the Easter Sunday altar. If you wish to give in honor or memory of someone, please fill in the information below. Place form, along with your payment, in the offering plate or turn it into the Parish Office. You may take home your flowers following the 9am Easter service. All orders are due by Sunday, March 19th. Thank you.

FLOWER/PLANT	QTY	COST	TOTAL
Easter Lily		\$15.00 ea.	\$
Tulips		\$12.00 ea.	\$
Hyacinth		\$12.00 ea.	\$
Daffodil		\$12.00 ea.	\$
Mum		\$14.00 ea.	\$
Hydrangea		\$25.00 ea.	\$
TOTAL COST			\$

In Honor of: _____

and/or

In Memory of: _____

** If ordering multiples, please note if specific flower types should correspond to a specific honor or memory.
Thank you.*

Given by: _____

2023 Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make this year's Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction a success. We had a wonderful array of silent auction items including 2 raffle items. Congratulations to Tami Johnson who won the lovely quilt made and donated by



Sybil Haas. Gary Lokken was the lucky winner of the jar of coins donated by Mike Coleman (fun fact: Gary purchased the very first ticket!). Be sure to note the long list of company donors hanging on the door at the parish center. Thank you to Jan Lundquist for spearheading the auction and to anyone who donated, bid on, or purchased the auction items. All donations, whether for the auction or supplies for the meal are greatly appreciated. The menu this year included both meat free and gluten free options. Thank you to the Food and Fellowship committee for taking care of the food this year. Another new addition this year was a crafting room for the kids organized by Mel Simonson – Thanks Mel.

The event brought in approximately \$4,500 which will in part be used to send our confirmation youth on a Mission Trip to Chicago this coming June. We served almost 150 meals – which is up from 100 last year.

Again, many thanks to everyone who participated and if you would like to be involved in next year's event you can contact anyone on the Youth and Education Committee.

Council Updates

It's a new year and a new council! Thank you to outgoing council members Alyssa Leistiko, Jane Matthesen, and Gordon Decker for their years of service. Your valuable contributions to the guidance of our church is greatly appreciated.

Your 2023 Council consists of Tom Simonson - President, Chris Hallin – Vice President, Rochelle Hasse – Secretary, Tom Strobel, Barb Steers, Ted Wirtz, and new members Rick Beck, Jeanne Lundquist and Kathy Schallberg.

Welcome - we are looking forward to working with you on council. (Sorry for the missing picture of our new members!)

Rick Beck

“I am married to Connie and we are blessed with 3 children and 5 grandchildren. We live on County Road 50 between East Union and West Union. I retired from the postal service in October 2021 after serving as a rural letter carrier. I enjoy yard work, hiking, canoeing, and watching sports.”

Council Updates—cont'd

Kathy Schallberg

“I was born in Edina, but my family moved to Minnetrista when I was in 1st grade. I was a real tomboy and spent a lot of time fishing or going to the Twin’s games with my Dad. I have a son from a previous marriage who has just recently given me a precious granddaughter. I am hopeful there’s more on the way! Rich and I moved to the area in 2002. We were drawn back to attending church around 2015 after I had some health issues and he had a close friend pass away. East Union Lutheran has filled a void in us spiritually and given us a sense of belonging. We both enjoy reading and watching all Minnesota sports. Especially hockey! Go Wild!”

Jeanne Lundquist

“I’ve been a member of East Union Church since I married Paul Lundquist on March 22,1980. We moved into the family farm house in October of the same year. We live across the street so it was natural that we are very involved. Paul’s family has history at East Union for generations. I taught 8 years of Sunday school when my boys were young. I was on council for 6 years many years ago. I also enjoy being involved in the Food and Fellowship committee. I’m looking forward to being a part of the future growth of this wonderful little church.”



Prayer List

Reminder if you would like someone added to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Also, please let the office know if someone can be taken off the list.

Facebook Prayers & Devotions

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

Electronic Newsletter

Reminder newsletters will be emailed out. If you would still like to receive a copy in the mail or have changed your email, please let the office know.

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 <http://www.eulc.org/Giving>, or on our website.



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 Mailing Address

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



Recipes from Jamie & Lori

Jamie's Famous Sugar Cookies

2 C Flour

1/2 tsp salt

1/2 tsp baking soda

1/2 tsp cream of tartar

Mix together and set aside

3/4 C butter

3/4 C Sugar

1 egg well beaten

1 tsp vanilla extract

1/2 tsp almond extract

Cream butter, add sugar gradually and cream until fluffy. Add egg, vanilla & almond

Mix, add dry ingredients and mix

Shape into balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with a glass dipped in Sugar.

Bake @ 350° for 10-13 minutes. ENJOY

Recipes from Jamie & Lori—cont'd

Lori's Almond Bars

For the bars:

3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1 cup unsalted butter, softened
2 cups sugar
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon almond extract

For the topping:

2 tablespoons milk (any variety)
1 cup sliced almonds

For the glaze:

2 cups powdered sugar
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
2 tablespoons milk (any variety)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Generously butter (or use baking spray) on 18" x 13" baking sheet. Set aside.

In a medium bowl combine flour, baking powder and salt. Set aside.

In a mixing bowl, beat butter and sugar until light and fluffy, about 3-4 minutes. Add eggs and almond extract. Beat until combined. Slowly add in flour mixture. Mixing until well blended.

Press this dough into the bottom of your prepared baking dish. Use your fingers or a pastry roller to smooth the top of the dough.

Using a pastry brush, brush the milk to the top of the dough (you may not need to use all of it). Sprinkle with sliced almonds, pressing them lightly into the dough.

Bake for 20-22 minutes until done. You don't want to brown these bars.

Cool for about 5 minutes, then cut them with a knife into bars. If they are too soft to cut, allow them to cool a little bit more. Carefully remove them to a wire rack to continue cooling.

Once cooled, you can make your glaze by whisking the sugar with almond extract and milk. Drizzle over the bars and allow to set.

Note: To freeze these bars, prepare as directed and allow glaze to set completely. Then place them in a single layer in gallon zip lock bag. You can fit one dozen into the bag. If you want to add more, separate with wax paper or parchment paper. Thaw at room temperature before serving.

East Union History

Andrew John Carlson (A. J. Carlson) emigrated to America in 1854 at the age of 17. He spent 4 years in Illinois before coming here. His brother was the first pastor at East Union, Peter Carlson.

A. J. operated the Bevens Mill. He bought 80 acres across from the town of East Union. He joined the military and served in the Indian uprising, ending up in Mankato at the end. After that he was sent south and was in the Civil War until the end. Back in East Union he was a mail carrier and store owner for many years. A small newspaper was edited at the store was the first newspaper in the area called the East Union News. His story of his time in the Indian War and Civil War was published in a book called *Two Wars on the Frontier*. He was Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and a member of the Legislature. He also held positions at East Union Church.

A. J. was one of the major players in our church and the East Union area. One of his children was Lydia Scott from whom the members of the current Scott family are descended.

On Mustering out at Fort Snelling in 1987 by AJ Carlson:

Aug. 24, 1897 we received our final discharge after a service of 3 years and 4 days. Of those discharged today are 11 staff officers, 11 company officers and 380 enlisted men for a total of 402. Total enlisted in the 9th Minn Regiment was 1,076. That meant 674 men failed to answer the final roll call. 40 had been killed, 119 died in rebel prisons, 96 died from disease and 419 were previously discharged or transferred for disability. Our company, (H) had the largest number on the muster roll. My compensation for the three years was \$591.75 pay and Government bounty of \$100.00 for a total of \$691.75. The currency was worth about .50 on the dollar in gold or silver which meant I made about \$9.60 a month. There were about 2,778,304 enlisted on the union side and confederate side estimated at 2,000,000. It is estimated that 4,000,000 slaves were liberated and the United States was preserved as a result of this war.

On August 26, 1865 we went down to St. Paul to see General Grant who was in town and made a short speech. Then with many affectionate good byes and even some tears, we boarded the little steamer Molly Mohler and started up the Minnesota River arriving in Carver at 9:00 P.M.

Andrew Carlson



Spring Plant Sale

Homemade Bake Sale

Saturday, May 13th 2023 8am-12pm

Hundreds of hanging baskets, herbs,
potting soil, flowering annuals &
vegetable plants

Get your Mother's Day gifts here!

East Union Lutheran Church

15180 County Rd 40 Carver MN 55315



Back by popular demand:
Coffee truck and quilt raffle



New this year, learn how to plant a
pollinator garden. Apply for a
\$350 grant onsite.