

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

March 2026

East Union Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes- day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 “Questioning” 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	2	3 10am Bible Study	4 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	5	6	7 10am Gathering Thru Fellowship
8 “Understanding” 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	9 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	10 10am Bible Study 7pm Dahlgren Annual Mtg	11 8:30am Card Ministry 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	12	13	14
15 “Seeing” 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	16	17 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting	18 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	19	20	21 9:30am-12pm Feed My Starving Children
22 “New Life” 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	23 1pm Quilting Group	24 10am Bible Study	25 8:30am Card Ministry 6pm Lent Dinner 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	26	27	28
29 “Bittersweet” 8:50am Hymn Sing 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Egg Hunt	30	31 10am Bible Study				Pastor Bryant’s Office Hours: Mon—Wed 8:30am-Noon Darcy’s Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9am-1pm

Words from Pastor Bryant

Dear Disciples,

These 40 days of Lent, we let go. We let go of our egos, our need to be right, and our thirst for power.

These 40 days of Lent, we surrender. We surrender our will and our purpose to Christ.

These 40 days of Lent, we wait. Wait for the Kingdom of God to appear in majesty and might—and yet, while we wait, we patiently witness the kingdom in-breaking into our world.

These 40 days of Lent, we journey to the cross. We follow our Lord and Savior to that place of pain and suffering and death. For it is through the gate of death that new life is found. It is through the place we wish not to go that eternal joy is found.

These 40 days of Lent, we are reminded that we cannot do this thing we call faith and life alone. We need a Savior. We need a Shepherd. We need a God who so loves the world that he gave his one and only Son for us—for *you*.

And so, during these days of Lent, I encourage you to let go, surrender, and fix your eyes on the Savior of the world. For, together, we obediently follow our servant-leader on the path of humility and justice, suffering and death, so that when we pass through the threshold on Easter morning, all things will be made new!

Peace,

Pastor Bryant

March Theme

Our theme for this month is **Hope**. During this season of Lent, we find Jesus journeying with us in the midst of our brokenness and pain. We witness Jesus weeping at the sight of dead loved ones. And yet, in the midst of pain and suffering, grief and tears, Jesus reminds us that he is the light that shines in the darkness. He is the one that conquers death and delivers us into the joy of everlasting life.

Tuesday Bible Study

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



Wednesday Bible Study

The Wednesday group will resume meeting on April 8th for a 4-week series.



Sunday School

Classes are held for children ages 3 through grade 5 on Sundays from 10am-11am.

Schedule

3/1/26 Sunday School

3/8/26 Sunday School

3/15/26 Sunday School

3/22/26 Sunday School

3/29/26 Easter Egg Hunt

Gathering Thru Fellowship

We are looking forward to our next gathering on March 7th at 10am in the Parish Center. We will be doing chair yoga. All are welcome to participate or visit!

Card Ministry Team

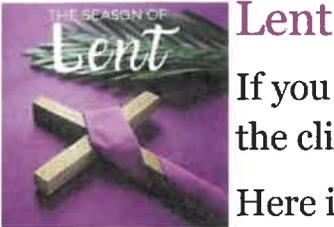
The Card Ministry Team is here for anyone in need of Christ's love through a card. The Team will meet on March 11th & 25th at 8:30am.

Carver Stories

Come to the Carver City Hall on March 15th, from 5pm-7pm, to hear interviews from Dick Diedrich, Jeanette Lenzen and Barbara Swanson.

Feed My Starving Children

We will be doing a congregational Feed My Starving Children event on **Saturday, March 21st** from 9:30am—12pm, meet at [18732 Lake Drive East, Chanhassen](#). Sign up on the clipboard on Sunday or call the church office. We are looking for 30 volunteers.



Lent

If you would like to help host a meal, call the church office or sign up on the clipboard on Sunday morning.

Here is an outline of the Lenten Season.

Midweek Lenten Services—Holden Evening Prayer (*March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th*)

- Meal @ 6 pm, Parish Center
- Service @ 7 pm, Sanctuary

Holy Week

We start Holy Week with Palm Sunday on March 29th at 9am. Maundy Thursday Worship will be at East Union on April 2nd at 7pm. Good Friday Worship will be hosted by West Union on April 3rd at 7pm.

Easter Egg Hunt

Bring your Easter baskets on March 29th, all the kids are invited for an egg hunt after worship.



Easter Worship

Celebrate Easter with us on April 5th at 9am!

Easter Special Offering

Your council has selected to designate the Easter Special Offering this year to the East Union General Fund. Please remember that you always have the option of directing your funds - simply state your preference on your check or offering envelope. Your offerings are always welcome and much appreciated.

Pancake Breakfast

There will be a pancake breakfast during fellowship on April 26th. Pancakes, sausage and fruit will be served. Free will offering. All are welcome!

Spring Plant, Bake & Craft Sale

Mark your calendars for our Annual Spring Plant Sale Plus Homemade Bake & Craft Sale on May 9th from 8am – Noon.

Looking Into the Future:

- ◆ April 4—Gathering Thru Fellowship
- ◆ April 19—Environmental talk during Fellowship by Jill Wasik
- ◆ April 26—Pancake Breakfast
- ◆ May 9—Spring Plant, Bake & Craft Sale
- ◆ May 17—History of EU talk during Fellowship by Kathy Coleman
- ◆ May 31—Carver Mayor talk during Fellowship
- ◆ June 23—Beth El Synagogue Visit
- ◆ August 9—Antique & Unique Car Show
- ◆ September 13—Steamboat Days Parade
- ◆ October 24—Trunk or Treat
- ◆ December 13—Sunday School Christmas Program



Thank you

Thank you to the great volunteer crew for helping with the spaghetti dinner and silent auction. We are always appreciative of the volunteers who step up to make our events successful and EULC a joyful and special place. We served 145 meals and together with the auction brought in almost \$6000. So, thank you again to everyone who helped in *any way*. You made this happen!

Thanks to all who donated toilet paper and Kleenex! Bountiful Basket and Carver Elementary School were very thankful! We donated 1,024 rolls of toilet paper and 148 boxes of Kleenex!!



Thank you to Marvin, Ole, Dwight, Kent, Tom, Dave, Gary & Jamie for cleaning the carpets in the Parish Center. Thanks for taking care of our church!!

Article from Minneapolis Synod Letter

East Union has been included in the Minneapolis Synod letter, which featured an article about God's work. The article and video (with a photo of us with our Steamboat days float) is available at <https://mpls-synod.org/2026/02/gods-work-their-hands/>

Card Ministry—Free Cards

Our committee has appreciated all the free card donations! We have an over abundance right now. There is a tote in the Parish Center for anyone who would like to give a card. Please take what you need.

Craft Donations for Plant & Craft Sale

We are starting to think about our Plant & Craft sale in May. We are looking for craft donations to sell at our sale. Thank you.

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. If you have extra, please put them in the grocery cart. Thank you for your donations!

BOUNTIFUL BASKET
CURRENT NEEDS - February 2026



- Hearty Soup
- Ready-to-Eat Meals
- Crackers
- Canned Chicken, Tuna & Salmon
- Canned Pineapple & Mandarin Oranges
- Coffee
- Healthy Kid Snacks
- Spices
- Fideo Noodles
- Masa Corn
- Flour
- Sugar
- Baking mixes
- Diapers (size 5 & 6)
- Baby Wipes
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Feminine Hygiene Products

We could also use your brown and plastic bags.
(P.S. We are OK on empty egg cartons at the moment)

Tithely

Use the QR code or go to [Tithe.ly Giving](https://Tithe.ly/Giving) 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.



You can create an account to track your gifts, set up recurring giving, and more. Reach out to Chris Hallin if you have any questions.

Quote of the Month

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” ~ Maya Angelou

Easter Flower Order Form

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 Church Office. You may take your flowers home following the 9am Easter service.

All orders are due by March 8th. Thank you.

FLOWER/PLANT (6" – 6.5" pot)	QTY	COST	TOTAL
Easter Lily		\$15.00 ea.	\$
Oriental Lily (Pink)		\$15.00 ea.	\$
Mum (Assorted)		\$15.00 ea.	\$
Cyclamen (Assorted)		\$15.00 ea.	\$
Begonia (Assorted)		\$15.00 ea.	\$
Kalanchoe (Assorted)		\$15.00 ea.	\$
Calla Lily (Assorted)		\$22.00 ea.	\$
Hydrangea (Pink or Blue)		\$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: _____

Daylight Savings Time Begins Again

Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour on Sunday, March 8!



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author



St. Patrick's Day – March 17

St. Patrick's Day is the feast day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Patrick was born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century. He was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but returned on his own around 432 A.D. to convert the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17, 461 A.D., he had established monasteries, churches, and schools all over Ireland. Many legends grew up about him. For example, one legend claims that he drove the snakes out of Ireland and also used the shamrock to explain the Trinity to the Irish people. Ireland came to celebrate his day with religious services and feasts.

Irish emigrants to the United States transformed St. Patrick's Day into a largely secular holiday of revelry and celebration of all things Irish. Cities with a large Irish population staged elaborate celebrations including parades. Boston held its first St. Patrick's Day parade in 1737, followed by New York City in 1762. Since 1962, Chicago has colored their river green to mark the holiday, (although blue was the color traditionally associated with St. Patrick's Day). Irish and all those wishing to be Irish, commonly participate in the "wearing of the green" on this day or they wear a shamrock, the Irish national plant, in their lapel. People eat corned beef and cabbage and drink green beer to celebrate the day. In Ireland, the day remains a religious occasion, often observed with prayers for peace.



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Church History

Greetings! During a recent church council meeting, the two-acre piece of our church property commonly known as the “Prairie” became a subject of discussion. It seemed that many of us who are newer members (myself included) didn’t know the full history behind this unusual part of the church landscape. I expressed an interest in discovering more and approached Mike & Kathy Coleman (our Church’s history keepers) for this purpose.

This is what I found out:

Anna Viola Edblom Loehrs was born January 12, 1917 to Stanley and Anna Hall Edblom. She was baptized at East Union Lutheran Church on February 23, 1917. She was later confirmed at the church on November 23, 1930. In 1939, Viola married Ernst Loehrs at a ceremony at East Union Lutheran Church. Together they lived on a farm in San Francisco Township and were active members of the church.

After Ernie’s death on November 18, 1984, Viola continued to live independently on the farm, tending to her garden which was very important to her. She later lived in an apartment in Chaska, but continued to attend services at EULC every Sunday. She passed away on November 17, 2007 and was buried in EULC’s cemetery alongside her husband. She had attended EULC for 90 years!

Viola was a stylish, sweet, little old lady and upon her death bequeathed a sizable portion of her estate to EULC, at a time when the church was badly in need of funding. The prairie is dedicated to Viola for her 90 years of membership and financial support to this church. And she even donated the seed to plant the prairie, which were all native grasses and wildflowers that would have been present when the church was first built over 150 years ago.

The gift and dedication remain a loving testament to the importance of Viola Loehrs, and to all those saints whose service to the church has kept it vibrant and alive these many years!

Respectfully submitted by,
Kathy Schallberg, Member of EULC Council and Care for Creation Committee

P.S. The above info was provided by Mike and Kathy Coleman, and I extend my sincere thanks to them for their dedication to church history.

P.P.S. If you have an interesting story or fun fact that relates to Care for Creation please let Kathy know.

East Union gets back to its roots

BY MARK W. OLSON
editor@chaskaherald.com

When East Union Lutheran Church celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2008, the congregation decided to restore two acres of property back to prairie.

The patch of prairie serves a few purposes, said Kathy Coleman, with the church's Care for Creation Committee. It restores the land back to the way it was when the church was founded in 1858. It also provides a habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

She notes that a mother wild turkey and her brood made its home in the prairie last year. The native plants attract "tons of birds," she said. The prairie milkweed is essential for monarchs, butterflies and bees.

The deep roots of the prairie grass also act as a "carbon sink," Coleman said, drawing carbon out of the air and deep into the soil.

However, every three years, the church burns the prairie. "Burning actually puts all the nutrients that are in those plants back into the soil, plus it also helps to eliminate some of the invasive species that are coming in," said Jill Coleman Wasik, with East Union Lutheran Church.

So last Saturday, firefighters with Carver Fire & Rescue spent the morning lighting the field on fire (or at least most of it, since some was too damp to burn). The exercise gave the crew a chance to practice its skills at maintaining a prairie fire.

The crew also broke in its new 2015 all-terrain Polaris Ranger, which it had received the day before. The Polaris is meant to be used for everything from prairie fires to snowmobile accidents. "This is a good addition to the fleet for Carver Fire and hopefully it serves us well for the years to come," said Carver Fire Chief Dan Meyer.

CARE FOR CREATION

The prairie is only one initiative of the church's Care for Creation Committee.

With the loss of habitat for monarch butterflies, East Union Lutheran Church is distributing seeds for milkweed (essential to monarch habitat) to its congregation following April 19 church services.

The church also has quit using Styrofoam cups and paper plates, instead opting for china dishes. "We try to minimize our footprint," said Kathy Coleman. "We are trying to be good stewards of the environment."

For more information about the milkweed seed initiative, contact Coleman at (952) 448-3047.



Carver firefighter Kenny Schultz watches the flames burn down during a controlled prairie burn at East Union Lutheran Church last Saturday.

PHOTOS BY MARK W. OLSON



Above - Carver Fire Chief Dan Meyer stands next to Carver Fire & Rescue new all-terrain Polaris Ranger, during a prairie-burn exercise last Saturday. The machine cost about \$23,000, with the tracks, Meyer said.

Left - Carver firefighters maintain a perimeter of a controlled prairie burn last Saturday at East Union Lutheran Church.

