

## **East Union Lutheran Church**

15180 County Road 40

PO Box 283

Carver, MN 55315



## **EAST UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Carver, Minnesota

[www.eulc.org](http://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**

**May 2026**

**East Union Lutheran Church**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Pastor Bryant's Office Hours:</b> Mon—Wed 8:30am-Noon <b>Darcy's Office Hours:</b> Tues & Thurs 9am-1pm					1	2 10am Gathering Thru Fellowship
<b>3 "The Way"</b> 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	4	5 10am Bible Study	6 8:30am Card Ministry	7	8	9 8am-12pm Plant, Bake & Craft Sale
<b>10 "Together"</b> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	11 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	12 10am Bible Study	13	14	15	16
<b>17 "Witnesses"</b> 8:40am EU History Talk 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10am Roadside Clean Up	18	19 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting	20	21	22	23
<b>24 "Spirit-led"</b> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship	25 7:30am Memorial Day Service	26 10am Bible Study	27	28	29	30
<b>31 "Commissioned"</b> <b>Graduation Sunday</b> 8:50am Hymn Sing 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship & Mayor Talk						

## Words from Pastor Bryant

Dear Disciples,

Spring is here. And that means a few different things. It means the grass is starting to grow. Which will mean getting the lawn mower out. Picking up sticks. Raking leaves. Discovering what toys the kids left in snow piles that have long since melted.

Spring is here. So, that means bugs are back in force. Which will mean finding the bug spray. Killing spiders and ants. Saying hello to stink bugs and lady bugs as they slowly invade our homes.

Spring is here. So, that means officially packing away our winter items. Hats and gloves and mittens and snowpants and coats and sweatshirts all need to be tucked away. Deep into closets or under the stairs they must be stowed. And, in their place, summer items will appear.

Spring is here. And so that means we find ourselves in-between seasons. We're between the season of snow and hibernation and the season of warmth and life. We're caught in the in-between. And so that means we've got to get to work.

Such it is for the life of a follower of Jesus. We're always caught in the in-between. In-between the first arrival of Jesus and his second coming. We're caught in-between the powers of this life—Sin and Death—and the powers of the kingdom to come—new and abundant life.

And so that means we've got to get to work. With Easter far behind us and with the final resurrection to new life in the distant future, that means we've got work to do. We've got a Gospel message to proclaim. A light to shine in the darkness. Forgiveness to grant. Mercy to share. Peace to give. Hope to bring.

It's a season of change. And such is the case for the life of a Christian. It is always a season of change—for the Gospel message is one of constant activity. For the Spirit is always on the move. Jesus' hands and feet always attending to those in need. And our Creator God always breathing life into his world.

What an amazing opportunity we have each and every day—to join hearts and hands not only with one another, but with Christ in this season of change. A season that will change everything. For new and abundant life, through and in your Savior and Shepherd, Jesus Christ, is yours. And that changes everything.

Peace,

Pastor Bryant

## May Theme

Our theme for this month is ***Sent***. Christ is risen! New life is here! Now, this incredible message needs to be shared with the world. Together, we have been promised the presence of the Spirit that encourages us and equips us to be Jesus' hands and feet to a world in need. Together, we have been gifted with the very presence of God as we move out into his creation proclaiming the good news to all people!

## Tuesday Bible Study

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



## Sunday School

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

### Schedule

5/3/26 Sunday School

5/17/26 Last day of Sunday School

5/10/26 Sunday School

## Vacation Bible School

East Union VBS will be held July 27th—July 30th. Theme is Rainforest Falls, exploring the nature of God. Space is limited, please bring your registration forms to the office by July 13th. Volunteers are needed, contact the church office if you would like to help.



## Gathering Thru Fellowship

Our final Gathering will be held on May 2nd at 10am in the Parish Center. There will be a brunch served. We will break for the summer.

## 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 May 13th at 8:30am.

## Plant, Bake, Craft Sale & Quilt Raffle

Our Annual Spring Plant Sale Plus Homemade Bake & Craft Sale on May 9th from 8am – Noon. There will be hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, flowering annuals, fertilizer and potting soil. Plus, Crafts, Baked Goods and a Quilt Raffle. Quilt Raffle Tickets are available now. They are \$2/ticket, proceeds donated to the local food shelf. Please contact the church office to buy tickets. Winner will be drawn at our Plant Sale on May 9th.



## Plant, Bake, & Craft Sale Donations

**Plant donations**—We greatly appreciate donations of plants, flowerpots and gardening tools that are in good shape. Please have your plants potted and marked with the name and color.

**Baked good donations**—Please drop off your baked good donations on **Friday May 8th** from 9am-6pm at the Parish Center. Homemade baked goods only. Please package 6 to a plate, no prices on them (we will take care of it).

**Craft donations**—Please put prices on your hand made sewing or craft donations and bring them in on **Friday, May 8th** between 9am-1pm.

Thank you!

## East Union History Talk

Kathy Coleman, will be hosting a talk about our history on May 17th at 8:40am in the Sanctuary.



## Roadside Cleanup

It's that time of year again! Roadside cleanup is Sunday, May 17th. We need lots of volunteers, please contact the church office if you can help. Wear sturdy shoes and bright colors.

## Memorial Day Service

The Honor Guard will be here promptly at 7:30am for a brief service held in our cemetery on May 25th. There will be a coffee fellowship after the service in the Parish Center.

## Talk with the Mayor

We welcome Carver Mayor Courtney Johnson on May 31st. She will be hosting a talk during fellowship.

## Graduation Sunday

Join us on Sunday, May 31st as we celebrate with our 2026 High School Graduates. Please email your graduation photo and future plans to the church office by May 12th.

## Heritage Scholarship

If you are an EULC graduating high school senior with plans to continue your education next fall, don't miss out on the opportunity to gain a \$1000 scholarship towards your fees. Please contact the church office as soon as possible to get the application, which will be due by May 17th.



## Quilt Retreat

The quilting group is hosting a retreat on June 18th & 19th 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.

## Looking Into the Future:

- ♦ June 23—Beth El Synagogue Visit
- ♦ June 18th & 19th—Quilt Retreat
- ♦ July 27-30—Vacation Bible School
- ♦ August 9—Antique & Unique Car Show
- ♦ September 13—Steamboat Days Parade
- ♦ September 20—Rally Sunday
- ♦ October 24—Trunk or Treat
- ♦ December 13—Sunday School Christmas Program



## East Union Clothing

East Union clothing is for sale in assorted adult sizes. T-shirts—\$10, Long sleeve T-shirts—\$15, Zip up Pullovers—\$25. Shirts will be available for sale in the Parish Center before Fellowship and during our Annual Plant Sale on May 9th.

## Gustavus Visit

### BACK TO THE FUTURE II: OUTREACH VISITS GUSTAVUS CAMPUS

Starting from the premise that the (nearly) original campus of Gustavus Adolphus College (GAC) was at the site of East Union Lutheran Church (EULC), it naturally proceeds that any visit of our congregational delegation to the St. Peter campus of GAC constitutes a “Back to the Future” event.

And so, when our Outreach group, organized again by Cheryl Hubbard and led with her by Pastor Bryant Bakkum, paid a visit to our former tenants at their ‘new’ campus in St. Peter for the second time in as many years on April 11 (with apologies to that famous sci-fi franchise) it was “Back to the Future II”.

We met first for a snack and introductions in the library of the College Chaplaincy offices in Old Main (the original building at the St. Peter campus, dating from the time of the arrival of the college from East Union). We were welcomed there by GAC friends from our prior visit, Grady St. Dennis, College Chaplain, and Marcia Bunge, Professor of Religion and Endowed Chair of Lutheran Studies.

From Old Main we moved on to Christ Chapel, at the center of campus, where we enjoyed a private welcome and visit with the *very* new President of GAC, Dr. John C. Volin. The Chapel is to be the site of his Installation ceremony and Inauguration Service on April 17, 2026. (Both Pastor Bakkum and Barb Steers were able to inspect the Christ Chapel organ in the gallery on this visit, but sadly chose not to entertain us with a concert).

Dr. Volin spoke with our small group for over a half hour, despite his busy schedule, and he encouraged our continuing relationship with the college. As he is a native of Sioux Falls, SD, he has a valid claim as a neighbor of long-standing. He asked to meet each of us, one at a time, and spoke with us about his goals and aspirations for his tenure as President of the college, before leaving us with our guides, Grady and Marcia for the next steps in the visit.

A delicious buffet lunch followed this meeting, in the President’s Dining Room in the Johnson Student Union facility, where we were able to talk in more depth about our understanding of and hopes for this continuing association, including the possibility of a music event visit of some kind at EULC, and invitations to several events at the college to our parish, including a general campus tour next fall for anyone interested.

After the luncheon meeting, most of the group continued with a campus walking tour before saying goodbye until October, when we hope to be able to greet some of our GAC friends to a worship service at EULC!



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

**BOUNTIFUL BASKET**  
**CURRENT NEEDS - April 2026**



- Hearty Soup
- Ready-to-Eat Meals
- Crackers
- Canned Chicken, Tuna & Salmon
- Canned Pineapple & Mandarin Oranges
- Coffee
- Healthy Kid Snacks
- Tortillas
- Mac & Cheese Cups
- Ramen Noodles
- Spices
- Flour & Sugar
- Cooking Oil
- Brownie/Cake Mixes
- Baby Formula
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Feminine Hygiene Products

\*\*\* We also graciously accept (non-refrigerated) fresh produce including but not limited to\*\*\*:  
bananas, oranges, grapes, avocados, garlic, tomatoes, peppers, lemons and limes



We could also use your brown and plastic bags.

## 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

“When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive—to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love.”

~ Marcus Aurelius



## **MOTHER'S DAY—MAY 10, 2026**

Mother's Day always falls on the second Sunday in May. The history of Mother's Day dates back to the 1800's, when women's peace groups in United States often tried to establish holidays and regular activities in favor of peace and against war. A common regular activity was the meeting of groups of mothers whose sons had fought or died in the American Civil War.

As part of Mother's Day traditions, children send cards or gifts to their mothers and grandmothers or they may take her out for brunch or dinner. The official flower for Mother's Day is the red carnation. Another tradition involves displaying white carnations on the graves of mothers and grandmothers who have died.



## **MEMORIAL DAY—MAY 25, 2026**

Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday of May. This year that will be May 25, 2026. This is a federal holiday that honors military personnel who have died in service to our country. This day often also marks the unofficial start of summer and includes parades, ceremonies and remembrance activities.

Americans began to recognize Memorial Day in 1868 and it was established as a federal holiday in 1971. Originally, it was called Decoration Day because communities came together to decorate the graves of those who died in service to their country.

Many people wear red poppies on Memorial Day to symbolize remembrance and respect for those who died. This tradition was originally inspired by the 1915 poem "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae which honored those who died in WWI.



**PLUS**  
**SPRING PLANT SALE**  
**HOMEMADE BAKE & CRAFT SALE**  
SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026  
8AM-NOON

HUNDREDS OF HANGING  
BASKETS, VEGETABLES &  
HERBS

FLOWERING ANNUALS,  
FERTILIZER & POTTING  
SOIL

**\*\* QUILT RAFFLE \*\***

\$2 PER TICKET, PROCEEDS DONATED TO THE LOCAL  
FOOD SHELF

GET YOUR MOTHER'S DAY GIFT HERE!

**EAST UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**15180 COUNTY ROAD 40, CARVER, MN**





**Join us for Vacation  
Bible School!!**

**July 27th—July 30th,  
9am-3pm**

Grades K-5th grade are eligible, no registration fee.

Email registration forms to the church office  
(eastunionlc@gmail.com).

Space is limited, please register by July 13th!

Forms can be found on our website at:  
[www.eulc.org/Vacation-Bible-School](http://www.eulc.org/Vacation-Bible-School)



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

East Union Lutheran Church  
15180 County Road 40, Carver



# East Union Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School Registration 2026

*“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 27th thru July 30th, 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 by July 13th.

Please bring registration forms to East Union Lutheran Church. You may also email the completed form to [eastunionlc@gmail.com](mailto:eastunionlc@gmail.com) or mail it to:

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

Volunteers are needed, call the church office if you would like to help. Thank you!

God bless you and your family!



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: _____ _____
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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: _____ _____
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Name of parent(s) or adult contact: _____ Address: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____
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Name of parent(s) or adult contact: _____ Address: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____
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**Volunteers/helpers needed**

Please check if you would like to volunteer

Consent to use photos or video for VBS/church purpose \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 (insert child(ren)'s name) \_\_\_\_\_ 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: \_\_\_\_\_