

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

10:15 a.m.

Women's Bible Study

October 2023

East Union Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Member Sunday 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Women's Bible Study	2	3 10am Bible Study	4 8:30am Card Ministry 6:30-8pm Youth Faith Formation @ WU 6:45-7:45pm Bible Study/Adult Faith Formation @ EU	5	6	7 10am Gathering Thru Fellowship
8 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Roadside Cleanup 10am Sunday School 10:15am Women's Bible Study	9	10 10am Bible Study	11 6:30-8pm Youth Faith Formation @ WU 6:45-7:45pm Bible Study/Adult Faith Formation @ EU	12	13	14
15 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10am First Communion Class 10:15am Women's Bible Study	16 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	17 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Meeting	18 8:30am Card Ministry	19 9am-5pm Quilter's Retreat	20 9am-5pm Quilter's Retreat	21
22 9am Worship 10am Congregational Meeting	23	24 10am Bible Study	25 6:30-8pm Youth Faith Formation @ WU 6:45-7:45pm Bible Study/Adult Faith Formation @ EU	26	27	28 4pm-6pm Trunk or Treat Event
29 8:50am Hymn Sing 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School 10:15am Women's Bible Study	30 1pm Quilting Group	31 10am Bible Study/				Pastor Bryant's Office Hours: Mon—Wed 8:30am-Noon Darcy's Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9am-2pm

Words from Pastor Bryant

Dear Disciples,

We're welcoming new members this month! What a joyous occasion to give thanks to our God for blessing us with incredible people who have been gifted by the Holy Spirit for ministry in this world.

It's also a humbling reminder that we need one another. All of us (yes, you!) are the hands and feet of Jesus and we have all been called to share the gifts we've been given with our neighbors. It reminds me of a food pantry I worked with a few years back.

Like any volunteer organization it had mission-critical volunteers: Folks who went out and gathered donated food, purchased necessary supplies, and then sorted and sifted through all the donations that had been received.

Folks who looked at what food the pantry had in stock and planned out that week's hot meal based on what food was on the shelves—quite the feat some weeks. Folks who came in early to set up and prepare, to cook and bake and serve food to dozens of people who walked through the doors.

And once it was all over, it started all over: Gathering food, sorting through food, and the following week cooking it up yet again. Those were the “visible” people—the volunteers who were obvious to everyone who passed through.

However, there were also volunteers who quietly sat at the tables where food was being eaten. They struck up conversations, they listened to the week's troubles and joys, they answered questions, they developed deep and strong friendships.

When all the volunteers were recognized one Sunday, the folks whose job it was to sit and listen didn't feel they deserved the same accolades as those who cooked the food or collected the food. They argued that without those folks they wouldn't have a job to do.

Perhaps. However, as Jesus says, “life is more than food.” (Luke 12:23) While food may sustain our bodies, the relationships we build with one another sustain our hearts and souls. The volunteers who thought less of themselves because they *only* listened to folks as they passed through—those volunteers were arguably doing the *most* important work.

It takes us all: Behind the scenes and in front of the crowds. Complicated and intricate work that requires talent and experience and tasks that simply require a willingness to try and do.

Thank you for leaning into your God-given gifts (both large and small) and joining hearts and hands—for together we are the body of Christ. What a joy it is to come together in worship and fellowship as we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ!

Peace,

Pastor Bryant

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 October 4th & 18th at 8:30am.



Sunday School

Classes are held for children ages 3 through grade 5 on Sundays from 10am-11am. If you are interested in helping with the Sunday School Program talk to Mel at church or call her at 320-304-1557.

Schedule

10/1/23 Sunday School
10/8/23 Sunday School
10/15/23 Sunday School

10/22/23 No Sunday School
10/29/23 Sunday School

Youth Faith Formation

We are partnering with West Union to offer Youth Faith Formation (YFF) @ WU on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8pm.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation (AFF) will be held @ EU on Wednesday evenings from 6:45-7:45pm.

Schedule: 10/4, 10/11 & 10/25



Bible Study

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

Women's Bible Study

Our first Bible Study will be on October 1st at 10:15am in the Parish Center Library with introduction to the study of Deuteronomy (nearing his death & Moses gives the Israelites a new path to faithful living). We will continue meeting on Sundays 10/8, 10/15 & 10/29.

Gathering Thru Fellowship

We will gather on October 7th at 10am in the Parish Center for a Make-N-Take. We will be making Whitewash boards with a saying/quote. Free will donations are accepted to cover the cost of materials. All are welcome to visit or create, coffee will be on!

Roadside Cleanup

It's that time of year again! Roadside cleanup is Sunday, **October 8th** after worship. We need lots of volunteers, sign up on the clipboard or call the church office if you can help. Wear sturdy shoes and bright colors.

First Communion Class

Pastor Bryant will host a First Communion Class on Sunday, October 15th at 10am. Please talk with Pastor if you are interested.

Quilt Retreat

The quilting group is hosting a retreat on October 19th & 20th 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.



Trunk or Treat

It's not too soon to start planning that amazing, decorated truck for Trunk or Treat coming up on Saturday, Oct 28th from 4 to 6 pm. We will have food, crafts, and hayrides as well as candy from decorated car trunks! Hope you can join us! If you have craft items (construction paper, etc) or candy you would like to donate, please leave them at the parish center marked "for Trunk or Treat". Sign up on the clipboard if you would like to decorate your car or if you can help in the kitchen. Thank you!



Fall Swedish Meatball Dinner

Mark your calendars for our Swedish Meatball Dinner on November 5th from 4-6pm. Meatballs & gravy, potatoes, corn, & homemade desserts will be served.

Looking Into the Future:

- ♦ Saturday, November 4th—Gathering Thru Fellowship
- ♦ Sunday, November 19th—First Communion Celebration
- ♦ Sunday, December 17th—Sunday School Christmas Program
- ♦ Christmas Eve Candlelight Services—December 24th at 4pm & 5:30pm
- ♦ Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction—February 10, 2024



Welcome New Members

We are excited to welcome our new members: Pastor Bryant, Katie, Hazel & Harvey Bakkum, Kyle & Laurie Bakkum, Cheryl Hubbard, Jon & Patricia Johnson, Todd & Linda Johnson, Curt & Joan Kruse

Council Meeting Minutes

Each month's minutes are posted in the parish center after being approved at the following month's meeting. If you have any questions about the meeting minutes please contact Rochelle Hasse, Council Secretary.

Christmas Eve Special Offering

Your church council is seeking recommendations for this year's Christmas Eve Special Offering. Historically, this offering has been given to outreach programs (not kept in-house) split three ways - a local charity, a regional charity, and a global charity. The 2022 offering was split between the EveryMeal Program (providing weekend and holiday meals to school aged children) and the ELCA Synod Africa Drought Fund. If you have any ideas on where this offering should go, please let anyone on the council know. The decision will be made at the council meeting to be held on October 17. Your input is valued and appreciated.

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!

Address Changes

Please notify the church office if you have changed your address/phone number so we can keep our records updated. If you would like to receive a birthday card, please email the office as well with your birthdate. Thank you!

Worship & Music Committee



We are looking forward to a great year of service music and special music with all the talent we are blessed with here at EULC! The choir kicked the year off on Rally Sunday by providing special music for the service – the members of the choir did a joyful, exuberant piece called “Halle, Halle, Halle”.

We also have some great music lined up for October --



October 1 – special music will be provided by a brass ensemble (members of the Minnesota Valley Community Band)

October 15 – special music will be provided by a flute ensemble who are also members of the Minnesota Valley Community Band

October 22 – Our EULC chime choir will provide special music

October 29 – Our EULC choir will provide special music

If you are interested in joining the choir or the chime choir, or providing any type of special music, please feel free to reach out to Ann Decker or Barb Steers or simply join us for our rehearsals!



In addition to the music, our committee also takes care of other aspects related to the worship service, including communion preparation; reading the lessons each Sunday, changing banners and paraments. If you would like to participate in the Altar Guild or reading scriptures in 2024, watch for sign-up clipboards going around during the services in November and December or contact Barb Steers. (contact Barb or Ann by emailing the church office at eastunionlc@gmail.com)

Property Update

Update on Parish Center Furnaces and Air Conditioners:

Air Conditioners- total of 4; 3 are 28 years old, 1 was replaced in 2018

Furnaces – total of 4 - all 28 years old

2022 -Annual inspections - 2 air conditioners in the Parish Center were bad and unrepairable. The 3rd needed to be charged to bring it to a working state, which was completed. It was agreed upon to hold off and wait for the next inspection and look at furnaces as well as new air conditioners in 2023.

January 2023, - annual meeting - we received approval within our budget to replace 2 of the 4 furnaces and 2 of the four air conditioners - with a cost of \$36,000.

2023 -spring inspections - 2 of the furnaces needed repairs which was completed. It took one month to find parts for one of them, which made the property committee concerned as all the 4 furnaces and 3 of the 4 air conditioners were 28 years old. All these units only had a life expectancy of 20 years.

Based on the concerns of the Property Committee we presented a proposal to replace all 4 furnaces and three of the 4 air conditioners with new units at the September Council meeting. Church Council agreed that it was the right decision.

Approval needed from the Church members - we are requesting your approval to use additional funds to replace the remaining 2 furnaces and 1 air conditioner not covered by the original bid. We received 4 bids and are still negotiating final prices but will need roughly \$14,000 more to cover the additional cost to complete the project.

****We have scheduled a Church meeting to get congregation approval of the needed funds for October 22, after the 9am service. Hope to see you there.****

Bring your questions or concerns to the meeting and we will try to address them as best we can. We will then vote on approving or rejecting that proposal.

Sincerely

Gary Lokken and Tom Simonson

A Halloween-themed illustration on a dark teal background. Several candies are hanging from white spider webs. The candies include a red and yellow striped candy, a round red and white swirl candy, a yellow and white striped candy, a white bell-shaped candy, and a white spider hanging from a web. A small orange and yellow candy is also visible.

Trunk or Treat

Join us for an afternoon of fun! We will have crafts, games, hay rides, food and of course trunk or treating!! Don't forget to tell your friends too! Make sure you dress up in your favorite costume!

Food & Drinks

Hotdog, Chips and fruit will be served, along with spooky drinks

Saturday, October 28th
4:00-6:00pm

East Union Lutheran Church
15180 County Rd 40 Carver, MN 55315



East Union Lutheran Church

Fall Swedish Meatball Dinner

Featuring meatballs & gravy, potatoes, corn, & homemade desserts

**Sunday, November 5
4pm-6pm**

Adults & Youth \$14
Children ages 4-10 \$7

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Road 40 Carver