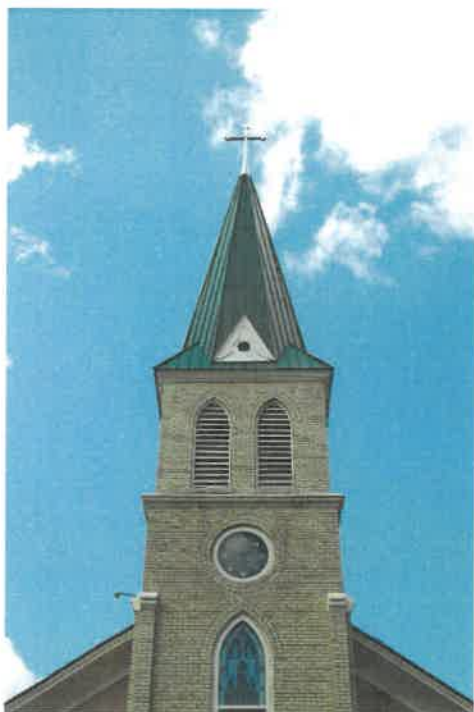


East Union Lutheran Church

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**

OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Gustavus Visit
4 "Fruits" 9am Worship-Communion/Baptism 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	5	6 10am Bible Study	7 6:30pm Bible Study	8 9am-5pm Quilt Retreat	9 9am-5pm Quilt Retreat	10
11 "Invited" 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	12 1pm Quilting Group 7pm Dahlgren Township Mtg	13 10am Bible Study	14 8:30am Card Ministry	15	16	17
18 "Kingdoms" 9am Worship-Communion 10am Fellowship 10am Schram Winery Visit	19	20 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Council Mtg	21 6:30pm Bible Study	22	23	24 4pm-6pm Trunk N Treat
25 "Identity" 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10am Sunday School	26 1pm Quilting Group	27 10am Bible Study	28 8:30am Card Ministry 6:30pm Bible Study	29	30	31

PASTOR BRYANT'S OFFICE HOURS:

MON – WED 8:30AM-NOON

DARCY'S OFFICE HOURS:

TUES & THURS 9AM-1PM

Words from Pastor Bryant

Dear Disciples,

I have a workbench in my basement. In order to get paint cans and tools and miscellaneous junk off the floor, I went ahead and built a shelf under the workbench to store those things. As with any project, what I thought was going to be difficult was actually easy and what I thought was going to be easy was actually difficult.

Bracing the outer rim with 2x2s was easy enough. Trimming the plywood to size to lay on top was easy enough. Installing more 2x2s and 2x4s to help provide more support was easy enough.

But right in the middle of that shelf a notch needed to be made. A cut needed to be made in that plywood in the front and back so it would fit in between the legs of that workbench. And so, with a little bit of math, a little bit of sketching, and a little bit of luck, the proper cuts were made.

Dryfitting the piece let us know that our measurements had been true and our cuts correct—all the time and effort to get it right was going to pay off. But, there was one contingency that we hadn't planned for.

See, when that piece of plywood went to be laid in place, the support beams that it was going to lay on were in the way. There simply wasn't enough space between the top of the workbench and the 2x2s below to angle that piece of plywood into place. No matter what direction we tried to lay it in—from the top, from the bottom, from the side—it simply wasn't going to fit.

There was only one solution: undo over a dozen screws that were holding in the 2x2 supports so we could move those out of the way. Because once those were moved out of the way, there was just enough room to sneak that piece of plywood in. And, once in place, those 2x2s could, for the second time, be screwed back into place.

The measurements were right. The cuts were right. There was simply one thing that couldn't be planned for and that meant that in order to make two steps forward, we had to take two steps backward. It meant that being right still meant we were, inexplicably, wrong.

Such it is with faith and following Jesus. Just when we think we've done everything right, just when we think we've got it all down, just when we think we've never been wiser or more right about what we believe—it's when we think we've reached the mountaintop of belief that we realize just how much we still don't know.

It's then that we realize faith isn't about knowledge, but about trust. It's only when we set down our armor—the need and desire to be right—that we can truly trust in Jesus. All of us, no matter what, rely on the mercy of Jesus. All of us fall short and for that reason it is faith that saves us, not perfect knowledge.

Together, let's have the courage to not have it altogether—for it is when we are at our weakest that Christ's strong and faithful presence surrounds us the most.

Peace,

Pastor Bryant

October Theme

Our theme for this month is ***Identity***. The Holy Spirit has gifted you with incredible talents and skills. The Spirit leads you forth every day to people and places that need what you bring to bear. As followers of Jesus, we've been called to continue what he started. We've been called to bear fruit--the fruits of peace, hope, joy, and love--for a world in need. Together, and with the Holy Spirit by our side, we have the incredible opportunity to be the light of Christ to all the world!

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 meet on 10/7, 10/21 & 10/28 at 6:30pm.



Sunday School

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

Schedule

10/4/26 Sunday School

10/24/26 (Saturday) Trunk and Treat

10/11/26 Sunday School

10/25/26 Sunday School

10/18/26 No Sunday School

Love INC Winter Wear Drive

During the month of October, we are collecting the following:

- Winter Coats
- Snow Pants
- Warm Boots
- Hats
- Waterproof Mittens & Gloves



Adult and kids sizes, gently used or new items appreciated. Please no tears, stains or broken zippers. Donations will be collected until 10/25.

Quilt Retreat

The Quilting Group is hosting a retreat on October 8th & 9th 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.

Roadside Cleanup

It's that time of year again! Roadside cleanup is Sunday, **October 11th** right after worship. We need lots of volunteers, contact the church office if you can help. Wear sturdy shoes and bright colors.



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 14th & 28th at 8:30am.

Schram Winery

We are going to Schram Winery in Waconia after worship on Sunday, October 18th. All are welcome!

Trunk or Treat

It's not too soon to start planning that amazing, decorated truck for Trunk or Treat coming up on Saturday, Oct 24th from 4 to 6pm. We will have food, crafts, and hayrides as well as candy from decorated car trunks! Hope you can join us! Call the church office if you want to sign up to decorate your car or if you want to volunteer to help with the event. Thank you!

Cemetery Fall Cleanup

The Cemetery Committee is looking for volunteers to help with the fall cleanup on Thursday, October 29th starting at 10am. Please call the church office if you can help. Thank you!



Fall Swedish Meatball Dinner

Mark your calendars for our Swedish Meatball Dinner on November 1st from 4-6pm. Meatballs & gravy, potatoes, carrots & homemade desserts will be served.

Looking Into the Future:

- ♦ November 23—Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship
- ♦ December 13—Sunday School Christmas Program & Potluck
- ♦ January 31, 2027—Annual Congregational Meeting
- ♦ February 6, 2027—Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction

Thank you

Thanks to everyone who donated candy, helped decorate the float, walked in the parade, or cheered us on as we walked through the parade at Steamboat Days. It was a great community event!! Thank you to Fleet Farm for donating the seed packets!



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!

Thanksgiving Food Drive - The Food Shelf is also looking for some of the holiday staples that make the meal feel complete, including stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberries, cream of mushroom soup, and green beans!



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.



HALLOWEEN FUN FACTS

- **Nearly one-quarter of Americans say Halloween is their favorite holiday**

According to a 2021 YouGov poll, 23% of Americans say Halloween is their favorite holiday. More women than men say this (26% vs. 19%).

- **A pumpkin is actually a fruit, not a vegetable**

While most people might guess that those autumnal orange gourds are vegetables, pumpkins are actually considered fruit! It's technically a fruit because anything that starts from a single flower — as a pumpkin does — is classified botanically as a "simple fruit."



- **The record for the world's heaviest pumpkin is over 2,000 pounds**

A new record was set for the heaviest pumpkin in October 2023, when Travis Gienger presented a pumpkin weighing 2,749 pounds. As it was the year 2023, Gienger named the pumpkin "Michael Jordan" in reference to the player's iconic jersey number (#23). He also said that the pumpkin "started out basketball round."

- **The record for most pumpkins smashed in one minute is 52**

The Guinness World Record is currently held at 52 pumpkins smashed in one minute, a feat that was accomplished separately by two different contenders in 2020.

- **Most of the canned pumpkin in the world is produced by one company in Illinois**



Most pumpkin recipes — like pumpkin soup, pumpkin pie, and pumpkin muffins, to name a few — are made using canned pumpkin. And almost all of that canned pumpkin comes from Libby's Pumpkin canning plant in Morton, Illinois. The facility produces over 85% of the world's canned pumpkin.

- **There's a reason black and orange are the colors most associated with Halloween**

The Library of Congress reports that the colors of black and orange trace back to the Celtic festival of Samhain, a Gaelic festival marking the end of the harvest season and beginning of winter — or the "darker half" of the year. Thus, black represents the "death" of summer while orange represents the life of the fall harvest.



2026 Time and Talent

We have each been blessed with unique talents and passions. God calls us to use our gifts to serve God and our neighbors. Prayerfully consider how God is calling you to use your gifts and time in our East Union ministry.

Please complete one sheet for each person in your household. Return through offering plate or at church office.

Finance and Stewardship

- ☐ Serve on finance committee
- ☐ Assist with tracking/counting offering
- ☐ Internal Audit

Worship and Music

- ☐ Serve on worship and music committee
- ☐ Become a lector
- ☐ Serve on Altar Guild
- ☐ Join hand chimes choir
- ☐ Join adult choir
- ☐ Provide special music
- ☐ Assist with seasonal decorating
- ☐ Usher
- ☐ Run AV during church service

Youth and Education

- ☐ Serve on youth and education committee
- ☐ Assist/teach Sunday School
- ☐ Assist with Vacation Bible School
- ☐ Assist/lead adult bible study
- ☐ Assist/participate in youth programs
- ☐ Assist with the spaghetti dinner
- ☐ Assist with spaghetti dinner silent auction

Food and Fellowship

- ☐ Serve on food and fellowship committee
- ☐ Assist with ice cream social
- ☐ Assist with fall dinner
- ☐ Assist in serving at funerals

Care and Creation

- ☐ Serve on care and creation committee
- ☐ Assist with Roadside Clean up

Cemetery

- ☐ Weed spraying
- ☐ Tree trimming
- ☐ Fall cleanup
- ☐ Records and map project
- ☐ Assist with lawn mowing and watering

Property

- ☐ Serve on property committee
- ☐ Help with general maintenance & upkeep
- ☐ Provide skilled assistance (plumbing, etc.)
- ☐ Provide landscaping assistance

Outreach and Evangelism

- ☐ Serve on outreach and evangelism committee
- ☐ Assist with marketing
- ☐ Assist with Facebook page
- ☐ Assist with website
- ☐ Assist with outreach programs (blood drive, back to school kits, etc.)
- ☐ Assist with card ministry
- ☐ Assist with towel ministry
- ☐ Assist with annual plant sale

Administrative

- ☐ General office support (as needed)

Church Council

- ☐ Become a member of church council

Add your own talents

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____



Committee Descriptions

Finance and Stewardship

The finance and stewardship committee is responsible for determining and presenting the annual budget. The committee works with each committee to help develop the annual budget. In addition, works with the Church Council regarding disbursement of funds.

Worship and Music

The worship and music committee discusses and plans worship services throughout the year. In addition, assisting with other aspects of the worship service including providing special music, seasonal decorating, ushering and many other aspects of the worship service.

Youth and Education

The youth and education committee provides vision and guidance in educational ministry of all ages. This includes identifying programs and festive materials to support family and youth, plan Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, Confirmation, Adult Education, and the church library.

Food and Fellowship

The food and fellowship committee is dedicated to bringing the EULC and the broader community together for fellowship in the hopes of deepening our relationship with Christ. The committee shall provide opportunity for gathering to include dinners, seasonal events, and will facilitate fundraising events as needed. We will also provide coffee, lemonade and other supplies needed for Sunday morning fellowship. The committee will also provide a minimal amount of help with funeral luncheons. We will try to provide kitchen assistance with preparing coffee, etc. Food will need to be provided by the family by a catering service.

Care for Creation

The Care for Creation committee assists the congregation to live in an environmentally sensitive manner and provide a positive influence on the community.

Cemetery

The Cemetery Committee is responsible for the care of the cemetery and church grounds. We administer the management of burial plots, records, and cemetery finances. Our group interprets and implements cemetery rules and facilitates short and long term cemetery planning.

Property

The property committee is responsible for the care and maintenance of the church property. This committee coordinates general repair activities and purchases the services and supplies required to maintain and improve church properties, including snow removal and custodial service. The property committee works with the care and creation and cemetery committees to help maintain the grounds and landscaping around the church.

Outreach and Evangelism

The outreach and evangelism committee provides leadership and guidance to help our congregation in the community as well as sustain our rich history in Carver. Through community events and opportunities, such as the local parade, providing food, clothing, and school supplies for local families in need. The committee also provides marketing opportunities to help outreach into the community.

Church Council

The Church Council is a group of dedicated EULC members who have been elected to be the chief governing body of the congregation. They have responsibility for the financial life of the church and the strategic direction of the congregation. The church council meets monthly and each council member participates in serving on one of the other committees and provides regular updates at the council meeting.

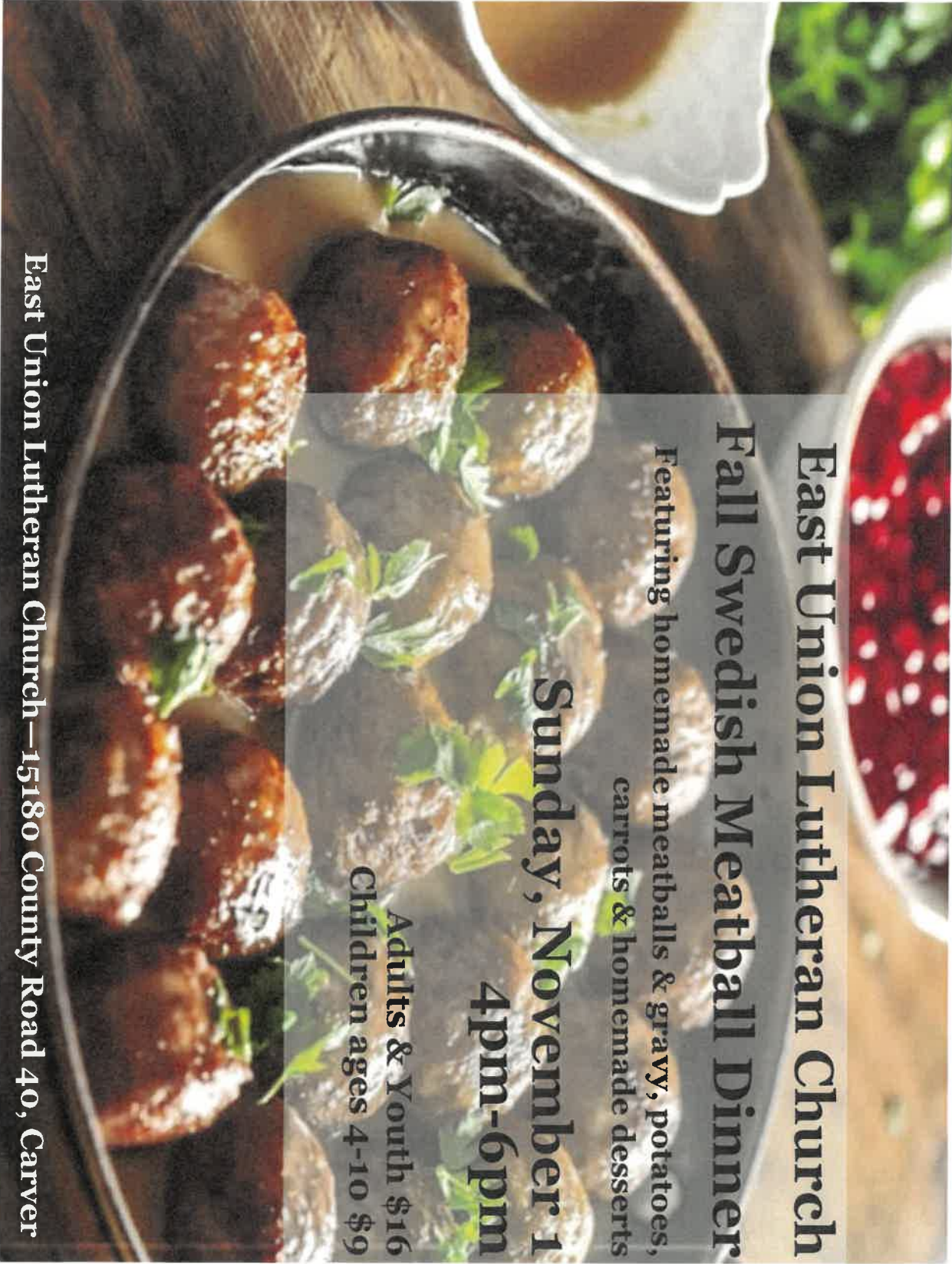


HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

Join us for an afternoon of fun! We will have crafts, face painting, hay rides, cake/book walk, food, and of course trunk or treating!

**Saturday, October 24th
4:00-6:00pm**

**East Union Lutheran Church
15180 County Road 40, Carver**



East Union Lutheran Church

Fall Swedish Meatball Dinner

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

Sunday, November 1
4pm-6pm

Adults & Youth \$16
Children ages 4-10 \$9

East Union Lutheran Church—15180 County Road 40, Carver

NATIVE DAKOTA. SWEDISH SETTLERS.

How do our stories interweave in this place?



Saturday, November 7

9 AM - 2 PM

Cec Eckhoff Alumni Hall

Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, MN

Join us in honoring connection, community, and learning as we share the culmination of an 18-month Storytelling & Sensemaking process Gustavus has engaged in with Dakota relatives and community groups. Through reflections, disruptive truths, and conversation over shared meals, we will tell new stories about Gustavus, celebrate Dakota culture, and consider what it means to be a good relative. All are welcome.

Scan the QR code to RSVP & learn more



Sponsored by the Council for Independent Colleges & the Lilly Endowment, Inc.