



"Sharing the Light of Christ"



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

STAFF AND CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor: Reverend Mary E. Zupansic

pastor@firstenglishlutheranwausau.org

Parish Administrator: Debra Kluetz

parishadmin@firstenglishlutheranwausau.org

Minister of Music: Daniel Larson

Pianist: Hal Osborn

Custodians: Shawn & Jenny Blaschka

Sunday School Superintendent: VerJean Detert

Church Council:

Officers:

President: Mike Vaningan

President-Elect: Sharon Hunter

Past President: Cindy Hermel

Treasurer: Marla Zumann

Recording Secretary: Sheri Fochs

Council Members:

Jenny Blaschka

Angela Greenfield

Neil Juedes

Michael Klapperich

Jim Kraft

Paula Lorbiecki

Liz Oestreich

Kalynn Pempek

Dina Santangelo

Nicholas Schumacher

Your comments, questions and concerns are important to us. Feel free to talk to any member of our staff or Church Council.

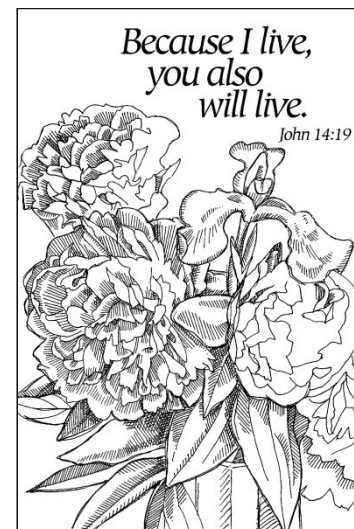
A WORD FROM PASTOR MARY



Dear siblings in Christ, as we celebrate the miracle of Easter, may you be filled with hope, joy, and renewal. Let the promise of the Resurrection remind us that, no matter what challenges we face, God's love brings new life and endless possibilities.

I pray that you find peace in your hearts, strength in your faith, and kindness in your actions. May the light of Christ shine brightly within you and guide your steps every day. Happy Easter to you and your loved ones!

God's Peace,
Pastor Mary



A SIMPLE EASTER PRAYER

"Good and gracious God, we give you praise for the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. The sadness of his death has given way to the bright promise of eternal life. As we celebrate this Easter season, change our lives and hearts to be messengers of joy and hope. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen."



Good Friday: A Cross-Shaped Love
 Good Friday invites us to pause and remember the weight of Christ's sacrifice. As we reflect, may we hold close the truth that his love reaches us in every season — steady, unwavering and full of mercy.

Sunday, March 29:
Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday
 Worship at 9:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 2:
 Worship at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3:
 Two worship opportunities at
 1:15 and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 5:
The Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day
 Worship at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

April 12: 2nd Sunday of Easter
 Worship at 9:00 a.m.

April 19: 3rd Sunday of Easter
 Worship at 9:00 a.m.

April 26: 4th Sunday of Easter
 Worship at 9:00 a.m.

Thursday Night Worship:
 April 2 (Maundy Thursday), 9, 16, 23, 30
 in the sanctuary – 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday: Hope That Changes Everything
 He is risen! Easter calls us to celebrate with joy and gratitude. Christ's resurrection reminds us that darkness does not win and hope is always rising. We rejoice together in the good news that transforms our lives.



First English Mission Statement

*Our mission is to grow in faith,
 serve our neighbors, and
 support one another.*



8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 (closed for lunch: Noon – 1:00 p.m.)

Deadlines:
 Bulletin: Wednesday afternoon
 Next deadline for the May Lantern: April 20.



Tuesday, April 7, 6:30 p.m.
We'll gather in Fellowship Hall.

ELCA WOMEN

Charity Circle... Tuesday, April 11, 9:00 a.m.
in the Bethany Room

Shalom Circle...
Thursday, April , 6:45 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

OUR THANKS TO

- Nancy Henricks
- Cindy Petzke
- Deb Kufahl
- Scott Kufahl
- Bobbie Levine
- Lois Stasko

...for designating their Thrivent Choice Dollars for March to First English.

AFTER WORSHIP COFFEE HOURS

The new sign-up sheet is on the narthex table if you would like to provide after-worship treats on Sundays.



We extend our worship experience by staying after worship to share some fellowship with each other, especially with a treat! You don't have to provide fancy treats are just fine, and there is always someone around to help with making coffee! Thanks!

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'"

John 11:25-26 (NRSV)

KITS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Hello all- I will once again be needing your help with my continued work with LWR Kits. I have decided to try and assemble some School Kits as well as the Personal Care Kits.

Donations of:

DARK colored bath size towels (20-27"x 40-52")

OR School kit items:

- *70-80 sheet SPIRAL Notebooks Wide or Collage Ruled (280-320 sheets total)
- *30 centimeter ruler
- *blunt scissors
- *pencil sharpener
- *#2 pencils w/erasers (unsharpened)
- *black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- *box of 16 or 24 crayons
- *2 1/2" erasers



I will be accepting items until mid August. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. There will be a basket in the narthex under the table. Thank you for any donations you can provide! -- Lori Heyne

FOLLOW FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH WAUSAU on Facebook and Instagram!

It is a pretty cool way to get some interesting links and notes, along with photos, thoughts and ideas during the week...and to stay connected with our church family.



COMMUNION CARDS

First English members:

For our recording keeping purposes, please fill out a communion card **once per calendar year**. Thank you!



GREAT JOB - REALM SIGN UP

We're excited to share that 42% of our members who use email have created accounts with our Realm online church ministry and communications tool. This is great progress! Thank you!

The first step to get set up with Realm is to receive an email from Sharon Hunter inviting you to click on a link and set up your account using your email address and a 15-digit password.

We're happy to help. Feel free to contact any member of the Technology Task Force to get started:

- Sharon Hunter: shunteratdpi@msn.com or 715-212-1672
- Cindy Hermel : clhermel@hotmail.com or 715-573-0720
- Michael Klapperich
mjklapperich@yahoo.com or 715-551-1873
- Kalynn Pempek:
kmpempek@gmail.com or 715-571-0325
- Pastor Mary Zupansic
pastor@firstenglishlutheranwausau.org – 920-671-4338

WE EXTEND A SINCERE THANK YOU

to everyone who made our Lenten season, Holy Week and Easter Sunday so meaningful...

- **Our musicians:** Dan Larson, Hal Osborn, Scott Mijal, and the Handbell Choir for beautiful music at our worship services.
- **All worship assistants** during our worship services: lectors, communion servers, ushers, assistants during worship, acolytes, greeters, and altar guild members – your service made our worship time together welcoming and running smoothly.
- **All who set up, prepared and served** our Lenten Lunches. They were delicious and lovingly served. Thank you to those who came and enjoyed them and for your freewill offerings.

- **To our shepherds** who delivered flowers and visited with our homebound members. Your kindness will long be remembered.

THANK YOU ALL!

THANK YOU

Our Wednesday Lenten luncheons were a success because of many generous hearts and hands.



First, a sincere thank you to our lead chefs and organizers: Cindy Hermel, Thursday Night Worship Team, Lynne & Dina Santangelo, Lori Heyne, Deb Woller & Deb Kufahl, Joan Buckmaster and Dawn Kramer.

Second, to our set-up and clean-up crews: Virg, Tom, LeRoy, Neil & Sue Juedes, Scott Kufahl, Cindy Hermel, Thursday Night Worship Team, Lynne & Dina Santangelo, Lori Heyne, Deb Woller & Deb Kufahl, Joan Buckmaster and Dawn Kramer.

Third: to all those who attended and shared in fellowship.

- Worship & Music Committee



THE 2026 FLOWER CHART

is on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you want to provide flowers for our Sunday worship in memory of a loved one or a special occasion, you may sign up on your desired date.

TREASURE SALE NEWS...

Treasure Sale 2026 will be held June 11, 12, & 13.

PLEASE do not bring microwaves, appliances, broken furniture or housewares. If we receive a microwave,



we won't sell it and it is then our expense to take it to recycling. We will not sell damaged items, and we end up throwing them away.

We accept clean clothes for all ages, housewares, collectibles, books, linens, DVDs, CDs, and more...**all in good condition**. If you donate linens, please mark them with what size they are. This is very helpful.

We also accept small appliances in working condition, and furniture.

Your donations can be brought downstairs in the hallway by the Sunday School rooms. There is a sign on the door. Thank you so much for your donations!

THE 2026 CHRISTMAS TREASURE SALE

will be held **November 6 and 7** in Fellowship Hall. You may bring your donations for this sale as well.

LET US REMEMBER...

those in our congregation who are confined to their homes or are in nursing home or assisted living facilities due to illness, rehab/therapy, or are just unable to attend worship or fellowship activities. They would love and appreciate hearing from their church family with a card, visit, note or phone call.

Cady Home

1805 N. 6th Ave., Wausau WI 54401

- Michelle Detert Room 4

Mountain Terrace Senior Living

3402 Terrace Ct. Wausau WI 54401

- Diane Zuelke Room 133

Primrose Retirement Community

2100 Townline Rd. Wausau WI 54403

- Kathie Peterson Room 228

Rennes Health and Rehab

4602 Barbican Ave. Weston, WI 54476

- Sue McKee #235

- Dennis & Laurayne Nicoliasen #121

Rennes Health and Rehab

4810 Barbican Ave., Weston, WI 54476

- Ila Barttel #206

Sylvan Crossings on Evergreen

1605 Evergreen Rd., Wausau WI 54403

- Dolores Hintz Room 13

Wood Aven Living Community

1821 N.4th Ave. Wausau 54401

- Gary Klingbeil Room 110

AT HOME...

- **Audrey Fellbaum** 1204 Spruce St.

Wausau, WI 54401 715-845-9552

- **John & Karen Otto** 6401 Teagan Lane

Weston 54476 715-241-6369

- **Delphine Saeger** 151700 Fern Ln.

Wausau 54401 715-298-3210

- **Eleanor Thorpe** 2901 N. 7th St. Apt. W102

Wausau 54403 715-298-1865



Hope is Alive



**Worship Assistants - Ushers
Communion Set-up / Assistants
Communionware Washers / Acolytes
Greeters / Lectors**

TO THOSE WHO ASSIST IN WORSHIP

FYI...this note is just to let you know Sharon Hunter is scheduling the weekly Thursday and Sunday worship service volunteers. If you cannot serve when you are scheduled, please find someone to take your place and let Sharon know so the correct name is reflected in the bulletin. We truly appreciate everyone who helps to make our worship service meaningful. Reach Sharon at shunteratdpi@msn.com or 715 212 1672.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

- April 2 (Maundy Thursday): Lynne Santangelo
- April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) Pat Seivert
(10:00 a.m.) Kalynn Pempek
- April 12: Connie Vaningan
- April 19: Lynne Santangelo
- April 26: Pat Seivert
- May 3: Lynne Santangelo
- May 10: Pat Seivert
- May 17: Kalynn Pempek
- May 24: Connie Vaningan
- May 31: Lynne Santangelo

ACOLYTES:

- April 2 (Maundy Thursday) -
- April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) Brooklyn Detert
(10:00 a.m.) -
- April 12: Annabelle Oestreich
- April 19: Kynslei Koehler-Dahlquist
- April 26: Kaedyn Hadley

- May 3: Brooklynn Detert
- May 10: Annabelle Oestreich
- May 17: Kynslei Koehler-Dahlquist
- May 24: Kaedyn Hadley
- May 31: Brooklynn Detert

LECTORS:

- April 2 (Maundy Thursday): Dawn Kramer
- April 3 (Good Friday): (1:15) Sue Juedes
(6:00) Connie Vaningan
- April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) Sheri Fochs
(10:00 a.m.) Karen Briggs
- April 12: Sue Juedes
- April 19: Dawn Kramer
- April 26: Kalynn Pempek
- May 3: Sharon Hunter
- May 10: Lynne Santangelo
- May 17: Pat Seivert
- May 24: Lette Becker
- May 31: Karen Briggs

LECTORS: (Thursday Evening Worship)

- April 2 (Maundy Thursday): Dawn Kramer
- April 9: Marla Zumann
- April 16: Cheri Breneman
- April 23: Maralee Moellendorf
- April 30: Bobbie Levine
- May 3: Barry Levine
- May 10: Marla Zumann
- May 17: Cheri Breneman
- May 24: Maralee Moellendorf
- May 31: Bobbie Levine

GREETERS:

- April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) C Hermel/L Kittel
(10:00 a.m.) L & L Lewis
- April 12: Gene & Lynn Schulz
- April 19: Lois Stasko / Sharon Hunter
- April 26: Mike & Connie Vaningan

May 3: Matt & Dawn Schumitsch
May 10: Amy Abitz and Eli Akey
May 17: Shawn & Jenny Blaschka
May 24: VerJean Detert/Angela Greenfield
May 31: Cindy Hermel / Linda Kittel

COMMUNION SET-UP:

April 2 (Maundy Thursday): Deb Kluetz
April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) Dawn Kramer
(10:00 a.m.) VerJean Detert
April 12: Deb Kluetz
April 19: Dawn Kramer
April 26: VerJean Detert

May 3: Deb Kluetz
May 10: Dawn Kramer
May 17: VerJean Detert
May 24: Deb Kluetz
May 31: Dawn Kramer

ALTAR GUILD:

April: Sue Juedes
May: Deb Kluetz

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

April 2 (Maundy Thursday): Cheri Breneman
April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) Deb Kufahl
(10:00 a.m.) Sharon Hunter
April 12: Lette Becker
April 19: Sue Wolf
April 26: Jenny Blaschka

May 3: Shawn Blaschka
May 10: Youth Service
May 17: Lowanne Brokaw
May 24: Angela Greenfield
May 31: Joan Heahlke

COMMUNIONWARE WASHERS:

April 2 (Maundy Thursday): Lynne Santangelo
April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) D Kluetz/D Kramer
(10:00 a.m.) Lynne Santangelo

April 12: Neil & Sue Juedes
April 19: Lonnie & LeAnn Lewis
April 26: Deb Kluetz / Dawn Kramer

May 3: Bob & Pat Seivert
May 10: Lynne Santangelo
May 17: Neil & Sue Juedes
May 24: Lonnie & LeAnn Lewis
May 31: Deb Kluetz / Dawn Kramer

USHERS:

April 2 (Maundy Thursday): M & C Vaningan.
Sharon Hunter
April 3 (Good Friday): S & D Kufahl / S Wendorf
April 5 (Easter): (8:00 a.m.) E Zabel/B Lampe
D Chapman
(10:00 a.m.) -

April 12: Sue & Neil Juedes / Jenny Blaschka
April 19: Gene & Lynn Schulz / Deb Kluetz
April 26: Lori & Matt Heyne / Matt Schumitsch

May 3: M & C Vaningan / Sharon Hunter
May 10: Scott & Deb Kufahl / Steve Wendorf
May 17: D Chapman/B Lampe/E Zabel
May 24: Neil & Sue Juedes / Jenny Blaschka
May 31: G & L Schulz/D Kluetz/L Brokaw

Subs: Shawn & Jenny Blaschka, Lowanne Brokaw, Matt & Lori Heyne, Sharon Hunter, Sue & Neil Juedes, Deb Kluetz, Deb Kufahl, Mike Vaningan, Earl Zabel



A GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER: LET ME CLING TO THE CROSS

Help me to cling to the cross,
be crucified to the world by it,
and in it find deepest humiliation,
motives to patience and self-denial,
grace for active benevolence,
faith to grasp eternal life,
hope to lift up my head,
love to bind me for ever
to him who died and rose for me.

May Christ's shed blood make me
more thankful for your mercies,
more humble under your correction,
more zealous in your service,
more watchful against temptation,
more contented in my circumstances,
more useful to others.

EASTER THOUGHTS

- **God's Faithfulness:** Resurrection is God telling us, "You indeed are my beloved children, and my love is everlasting".
- **Silence and Trust:** After the resurrection, we are called to leave behind the "whys, wheres, hows, and whens" and simply trust.
- **Joy:** Easter joy is a "little bubble of something that just wells up in you like the bubbles in sparkling water," a foretaste of eternal life.

CROWN
of thorns
CROWN
of glory

*"There is something infinitely
healing in the repeated refrains of
nature—the assurance that dawn
comes after night, and spring after the
winter."*

–Rachel Carson

WHAT IS EARTH DAY?

Ever wonder how Earth Day began? The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970, when San Francisco activist John McConnell and Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson



separately asked Americans to join in a grassroots demonstration. Dealing with dangerously serious issues concerning toxic drinking water, air pollution, and the effects of pesticides, an impressive 20 million Americans—10% of the population—ventured outdoors and protested together.

President Richard Nixon led the nation in creating the Environmental Protection Agency, which was followed with successful laws, including the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

McConnell originally had chosen the [spring equinox](#) (March 20, 1970), but Nelson chose April 22, which ended up becoming the official celebration date. (Given that the date of the spring equinox changes over time, it may have made things more complicated to go with the astronomical event rather than just a calendar date.)

Today, not only is Earth Day meant to increase awareness of environmental problems, but it is also becoming a popular time for many communities to gather together to clean up litter, plant trees, or simply reflect on the beauty of nature.