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East Side Lutheran Church

1300 East 10th Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1796
www.eastsidelc.org

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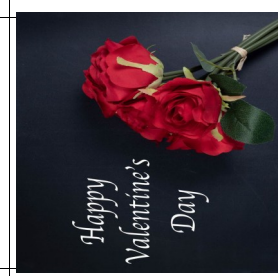
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Sioux Falls, SD

February 2025



WORSHIP SERVICES
Saturdays: 5:30 pm
Sundays: 8:00 am & 10:00 am
KXRB Radio at 11:00am on 1140 AM
or 100.1 FM on your radio dial
Facebook live services
& YouTube



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
2 SCOUTING SUNDAY Reception of New Members Pancakes 9-11am 8:00 and 10:00 am worship 9:15 am King's Choir 11:15 an Education Task Force 1:00 pm Cribbage Tournament	3	4 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn	5 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper 6:45 Confirmation/Adult Bible study 7:00 pm Adult Choir	6 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Food to You Distribution	7 4:00 pm Liberian Event	8 5:30 pm Worship
9 8:00 and 10:00 am worship 9:15 am King's Choir 9:15 am Youth Committee Meeting 11:15 Healing Service	10 9:00 am Quilters—Lower Level	11 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn 6:00 pm Charis Board Meeting	12 11:30 am WELCA Board Meeting 1:00 pm WELCA Bible Study 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper 6:45 Confirmation/Adult Bible study 7:00 pm Adult Choir	13 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study 1:30 pm Crossroads Conference		15 5:30 pm Worship
16 8:00 and 10:00 am worship 9:15 am King's Choir 11:15 am Annual Meeting No Sunday School	17 Newsletter Items Due Presidents Day	18 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship In the Barn	19 5:45 pm Bells 6:00 Supper 6:45 Confirmation/Adult Bible study 7:00 pm Adult Choir	20 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Women's Bible Study	21	22 5:30 pm Worship
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The Voice

This is the monthly newsletter of East Side Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

It can also be downloaded from our website.

East Side Lutheran Church

1300 East 10th Street, Sioux Falls SD 57103-1796

(605) 336-3597 www.eastsidelc.org

Staff

Rev. Layne Nelson Lead Pastor
Rev. Ray Heidenson Visitation Pastor
Wayne Wosje Business Manager
Gayle Lee Parish Secretary
Sue Hart Volunteer Coordinator
Tom Call Security
Nona Bixler Newsletter

Music Ministries

Paul R. Griffith Organist
Dr. Thomas Krause Director of Music
Katrina Mitchell Accompanist

Worship Services

Saturdays

5:30 pm

Sundays

8:00 am 10:00 am

Radio Broadcast: KXRB 1140 AM or 100.1 FM

Sundays, 11:00 am

OnLine: Facebook, YouTube, and ESL Website

Wednesday Night Family Meal & Bible Study

Join us every Wednesday evening for a fellowship meal from 6—6:45pm. Come join the fun, without having to cook! Stay for Bible Study at 6:45 led by Pastor Michael Molland

Radio Sponsorship:



For 80 years we've received cards, letters, phone calls and e-mails from those who enjoy "being with you" in Sunday morning worship through our radio ministry.

"You're the church on the radio!"

-Sioux Falls Resident

YOU make this possible! Your sponsorship allows this to happen AND can honor someone or something special in your life... anniversaries, birthdays, the memory of a loved one or simply gratitude of God's love. THANK YOU! If you would like to help support this special ministry call the church office at 605-336-3597.

11:00am on KXRB Radio (1140 AM or 100.1 FM)

Sponsor a radio broadcast - \$255/Sunday!

Feb 2—In honor of Merlin & Barb Goerhrings 50th wedding Anniversary—Given by Merlin & Barb Goerhring

Feb 23 —In memory of Douglas M Wilson given by Family

Online Sponsorship:



Did you know that people in SD, ND, NV, WY, TX OK, OH

(and other states) regularly worship with us online... and then share the Good News in their local community. YOU make that possible!

Sponsor an online broadcast—\$50/Sunday!

Feb 2—In honor of Merlin & Barb Goerhrings 50th wedding Anniversary—Given by Merlin & Barb Goerhring

Feb 16—In Honor of Layne Nelson's birthday by Lloyd & Peggy Nelson

Feb 23 —In memory of Douglas M Wilson given by Family

Sunday School News

As we move into the month of February we will be continuing Milestone projects along with special lessons for each classroom. Valentines Day is this month, and teachers will be focusing on God's love; we are always excited to share this with our classes.

Sunday School Calendar

February 16th - No Sunday School (President's Day Weekend)

April 12th – Eggstravaganza

April 13th – Palm Sunday, children will sing in church

April 17th – 5th grade students first communion on Maundy Thursday

April 20th – No Sunday School (Easter Sunday)

May 11th – Last day of Sunday School (Mother's Day)

—Blessings, Jackie Swiden, Sunday School Director



BINGO is Coming!!!

We are in need of prizes for people of all ages for our BINGO party, March 2 from 2:00—4:00 pm in the Fellowship hall.

Prizes should be new or very gently used items. Prizes are needed for children and adults of all ages. Your donations can be brought to the church office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Fellowship Committee
Carla Midden

Evangelism at East Side

When you think of Evangelism I am sure you think to yourself “oh no I cannot do that” or “that seems pushy” or “what would I even say”; but really we all most likely do this naturally when we are talking with friends or family about something that has happened recently at church. It does not need to be a BIG SCARY thing to do; it is more about sharing that Jesus plays an important role in your life.

Ray Schut and Jim Smorada have undertaken a written and video series titled *A Portrait of a Spiritual Quest* and guess what, this is evangelism!

Thank you to Bob Folschow for being willing to be the first East Side member featured in the series. If you have had a chance to chat with Bob or Jan about his 3 part video series you saw pure joy shining in their faces. We are looking forward to the upcoming interviews with others sharing their Journey with all of us.

Don't be surprised if you are the next person asked to share your story and we can't wait to hear it.

-Brenda Schut



As hearts simultaneously break and rejoice... please hold the following ESL families in prayer:
Allen Kulbel

The following have been Honored this month to the glory of God through gifts given in their memory or honor to the work and ministry of East Side Lutheran.

Thank you for your generosity.

Alice Kruse given by

- David & Barbara Ingalsbe

Faye Boom given by

- Gene Siebert

Elsie Wagner given by

- Reggie & Shelly Huber

Allen Kulbel given by

- Kay Dammer

(gifts given as of January 25th)



Calling all Stampede Hockey Fans! East Side will be taking part in Faith Night at the Stampede on March 1st.

We can purchase discounted tickets for \$10. As an added

bonus East Side will cover the cost for our youth that sign up from the funds raised through the Life Light parking lot rental. Sign up and payment for adults is due by February 14th, see the bulletin board for sign up.

Attention Spring Cleaners

We all do a little cleaning and organizing this time of year so when you come across that cotton fabric you no longer want don't throw it out. The quilters would welcome the fabric so that more quilts can be sewn.

THE EMPOWERED CAREGIVER SERIES

COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY

Dementia affects a person's ability to communicate, making it hard to convey their wants and needs to the people around them. Caregivers can learn how to use a person-centered approach to communicate more effectively at any stage of the disease.

Topics in the program include:

- ◆ How dementia affects communication.
- ◆ Using a person-centered communication approach.
- ◆ Tips for communicating with family, friends and health care professionals.

Tuesday, March 25 5-6pm

Dow Rummel Village Gathering Hall

For Questions: Gina Reiser 605-575-0250 or ginareiser@dowrummel.om

Visit alz.org/CRF to explore additional caregiver education programs in your area.

Sponsored by the Alzheimer Association

Annual Meeting

East Side Lutheran Church

Annual Meeting will be held on

Sunday February 16th at 11:15am

in the sanctuary. Your Annual Report should have arrived in your email last week. If you need a paper copy, simply contact the church office.

Finance Committee Minutes January 16, 2025 Respectfully submitted, Brian Ensberg

Present: Pam Alexander, Doug Gravning, Doug Jacobson, Brian Ensberg, Pastor Layne Nelson, Wayne Wosje.

Opening Prayer: Brian Ensberg began the meeting with prayer.

2024 Budget Outcome: The 2024 fiscal year ended with a surplus of \$55,315. The successful appeal and expense control made this possible. Over \$159,000 was contributed in November and December. \$34,666 of this was directly attributed to the appeal. In addition, the Eckert gift of \$30,000 to operations during the first quarter played a pivotal role in budget success.

2025 Proposed Budget: The 2025 budget represents a vision of the congregation. Budgeted growth over 2024 offerings is 19.3%. Budgeted growth over 2024 total revenue (less \$64,666 one-time gifts) is 12.9%. Budgeted increase in personnel expense is \$34,094. This includes raises for 7 staff, a part time new office position, additional pulpit supply funds and additional training funds. Total personnel expense as a percentage of total revenue is 51.7% which is within the acceptable range for Church personnel costs. Benevolence support will increase from \$3,536 to \$7,440. Budgeted property expense remains high. **After discussion, Pam Alexander made a motion to approve the 2025 budget and move it on to the Church Council for approval. Doug Jacobson seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Cell Tower Lease Review: The current American Tower lease generates \$1,453.44 per month which is deposited into the Endowment Fund. Our current lease runs to 2038. American Tower would like to double their footprint for a new generator. They have offered a one-time payment of \$4,000 and \$350 per month for each group they add. They may add 3 to 4 groups.

Doug Jacobson has been negotiating with American Tower on East Side Lutheran's behalf. Doug reported that American Tower has agreed to a one-time payment of \$4,750 and \$475 per month with a 3% escalator. This could generate \$1,425 to \$1,900 per month in addition to the original agreement. The agreement will run until 2038. They do not need additional space from what has been proposed. **After discussion, Doug Jacobson made a motion to proceed with an additional cell tower agreement and move it on to the Church Council for approval. Doug Gravning seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

The Finance Committee did not make a recommendation as to where the new revenue would go. Options discussed are the endowment fund and the general operating budget.

What is WELCA?

WELCA is **the women's ministry organization of the ELCA.**

- Our mission is to encourage women to act on their faith in Jesus Christ. WELCA members grow in faith, support each other, and engage in ministry.
- WELCA members promote justice and wholeness for all people.
- WELCA members gather for service, study, advocacy, and fellowship.

We would like to invite all women from East Side Lutheran Church to join us on Wednesday, February 12th, at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for Bible Study. Board meeting will be held at 11:30 am prior to Bible Study.

In Christ's Love,
the WELCA Board

President's Message

Is there something in your life that brings you a great sense of pride? Something that makes you throw your shoulders back, puff out your chest and pull your head back? It could be your kids, grand-kids, other family members. Maybe a job well done, a career well served or a new sports car. I have a lot of things that I'm proud of but, none more so than our church. You may think it's corny but I'm here to tell you, we've been through a lot together and we moved through it **together!**

I've known people in my life that will cut and run when the going gets tough. Not you! I've known others say "I can't do anymore than what I'm doing". Not you! Nope...not you! When you're asked to volunteer, you say yes. When you're asked to pray for others, you do it. When you're asked to help, you help.

Proof of that "will do" spirit is right in front of us. When you take Holy Communion you're given the bread and the wine that was made available by our Altar Guild. When you hear God's Holy Word, you're handed a worship bulletin, drink coffee and eat cookies in our Fellowship Hall, it was made possible by volunteers. You not only give of your time and talents, you give financially.

Our recent appeal was a tremendous success because of you and your pride in our church. Our church holds a special place in our heart that's different for each of us and we want it to succeed and grow and continue to spread the joy and good news of the gospel. Maybe it's just me but, I like to brag about my church a little. Not in a mean way but little things like...our Men's Bible Study is the best in town! Or...our Pastor is definitely cooler than yours!

It's alright to be proud of our church. But more importantly our church is proud of you. For all you do and how we do it **together.**

Ray Schut

Consecration Weekend February 1 & 2

There is extra excitement surrounding our Commitment Weekend this year February 1st and 2nd. Yes, our Scout Troops will be serving all you can eat pancakes and sausage from 9—11:00am on Sunday, so come hungry. But there is even more excitement than that.

There is a \$2,500 pledge from our Stewardship Taskforce if we turn in just 20% more commitment cards than we did last year. Please, no matter what you plan to give in 2025, turn in a commitment card so that we can reach this challenge.

Wait, there is MORE. We have been given a \$10,000 Match Challenge Gift. For the first \$10,000 more we receive in pledges over last year. We will receive a MATCH of \$10,000. That is amazing, and certainly something we do not want to miss out on.

But here is the true excitement... Yes, it is hard for many people to talk about giving; and it is even hard for many people to just talk about money in general. But there is a tangible freedom we experience when we trust, and say to God... I offer this to you, and I trust you God, that you will be with me. In this way we experience the joy of giving.

Plus, there's the pancakes.

East Side Lutheran Congregation Council Meeting January 19, 2025

Present: Ray Schut, Jon Cisar, Danielle Champa, Brian Ensberg, Todd Brower, Brenda Schut, Gwen Oakland, Michael Molland, and Pastor Layne Nelson. Excused Absence Carla Middleden

President Ray Schut called the meeting to order at 11:12.

Opening Devotion - Pastor Layne Nelson led the council in devotions. He distributed an article from 1959 of the early history from the East Side LC Ladies Aid. He opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's Report: Jon Cisar moved; Gwen Oakland seconded to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2024, Council Meeting. Motion Carried.

President's Report: President Schut reported on upcoming events in February. February 2 will be consecration day, new member Sunday, and our inaugural cribbage tournament. He reported that the ESLC website will be updated. The website will have a link to order ESLC branded products. He reminded council members that their annual report articles are due this week.

Pastors' Report: Pastor Nelson reported on the events of last month. He reported on changes in staffing assignments, there were three funerals this last month, and he thanked Pastors Kari Sansgaard and Ray Heidenson for providing pulpit assistance this last month.

Upcoming events include the second stewardship mailing with Consecration Sunday and New Member Sunday on Sunday February 2. The ESLC Annual Meeting will be on February 16.

He lifted up the outstanding work the Altar Guild this past Christmas season. Planning is underway with new decorations for Christmas 2025. Temple talks are also scheduled for January. Ash Wednesday is March 5 this year.

Financial Report: Treasurer Brian Ensberg presented the following financial report: November/December Offerings were over \$159,000, an outstanding response by the congregation to the year-end appeal. We were able to rebuild the cash flow reserves and end the year at \$55,315 in the black. The key to this was a close annual expense control as well as member's generosity. Property expenses during the cold winter months are always high.

Brenda Schut moved; Danielle Champa seconded to approve the Treasurers report. Motion Carried

The Finance Committee met on January 16 and closely reviewed all money matters for the Congregation. They passed two motions for the council to act upon, the 2025 budget and the updated Cell Tower lease.

Brian Ensberg moved; Gwen Oakland seconded that the Cell Tower lease agreement update, negotiated by Doug Jacobson on behalf of the congregation, the council, and the Finance Committee be approved. The additional income (\$4750.00 onetime and \$475.00 per month additional payments) use designation will be determined later. Motion Carried.

Treasurer Brian Ensberg presented the proposed 2025 budget as

reviewed by the finance committee. The budget reflects goals that are important to the congregation driven by listening sessions, congregational responses to our survey, and the Stewardship Task force. The budget is 12.9% growth over 2024 (less 2024 one time gifts).

There are slight increases in personnel expenses that reflect the needs of the congregation as well as the outstanding work of all our staff during the year 2024. There are funds for another half time office person that allows the present staff to accomplish their assigned tasks.

Gwen Oakland moved; Jon Cisar seconded that the Budget be approved and presented to the congregation at the annual meeting for approval. Motion Carried.

Committees: Stewardship & Visioning – Jon Cisar reported the Stewardship Task met on January 7th reviewing our 2025 "Together in Faith" pledge drive. The first letter has been sent, and the follow-up letter with a congregational full color foldout brochure and pledge cards will be sent this week. Each week leading up to Commitment Sunday February 2 will have a mission moment at the start of service with a member of the church sharing a brief message.

Education – Gwen Oakland reported Sunday School and confirmation are going well. Planning is underway for the Eggstravaganza.

Outreach– Danielle Champa reported there were once again a large turnout 117 grateful families for January 2 "Food to you". 155 people were helped with the Church on the Street Frybread distribution in our parking lot.

Evangelism – Brenda Schut reported that we will be holding new member classes January 28 with new member reception on February 2. Tools for members to use for ESLC Evangelism are being developed.

Property – Todd Brower reported on approved boiler expenses as well as this summer's conversion to forced air heat and AC for the sanctuary. There are planned cement work for the summer for the islands in the parking lot. Members who want to contribute to help defray the cost may do so.

New Business As per IRS regulations, we need a yearly motion to designate what part of Pastor Nelson's compensation is housing allowance. Brian Ensberg moved; Gwen Oakland seconded that \$44,690.00 be designated as housing allowance for Pastor Nelson. Motion Carried. The council had an ongoing discussion on the upcoming annual meeting scheduled for February 16. Discussed were the nominations need and the elections. The agreement with our Boy Scout troop 208 has been renewed.

The council set April 27 as the date to invite Katie Chapman, Shetek Lutheran Ministries presented information on their ongoing capital campaign.

President Schut adjourned the meeting at 12:41 pm

The next meeting will be on February 9, 2025 at 11:15

Respectfully submitted, Michael Molland, Secretary



Portrait of a Spiritual Quest

AUTHOR'S NOTE: This brief profile of a member of East Side Lutheran Church is presented here because these folks are in the pews and you have noticed them for an hour each week. You are often aware when they are in church and when they are not because their presence shapes a bit of your sense of belonging in this faith community. This story may offer an insight, a bit of inspiration or answer a question you've wanted to ask.

Grace Peterson knows a thing or two about competition. She likes it. And she's good at it—in the classroom and on the basketball court.

"I grew up watching my brothers play. I would go to all their games," and rather quickly it became clear to Grace that she could do what her brothers did. So she began playing basketball. Her interest was blessed by a sunny attitude, physical strength and sufficient height; as a senior at Washington High School she sees the world from the vantage of a 6-foot-tall athlete.

That combination will take her to Augustana University next fall where she plans to play basketball and pursue a degree in special education. "I want to be a teacher," for students with unique physical needs so they can learn to play a game of their choice.

And although she likes winning, she prefers to work for it. Grace argues the more challenging the opposition, the better her effort becomes. She is not a fan of an easy win but a fan of playing well.

What's true at home and school is also true for Grace at East Side Lutheran Church. She has been part of our church community since forever. Her grandmother, Carla Midden, has been an active member as well and has served as a role model at church and on the basketball court. Grace's grandmother coached volleyball and that experience served as a common language encouraging, advising and directing the development of Grace, the contender.

"She taught me to believe in myself." And that lesson is delivered in regular conversations and texts after every game. "She was always there for me," Grace says.

Grace applies that experience to how she functions as a team member now. She knows she can't play basketball alone. She can't learn without teachers. She can't flourish without family. She knows she is good at what she does because others have made it happen. And for all of them, she prays.

"At night, I reflect on my day and the people I met throughout the day." It's a thought prayer, not just something she memorized. She remembers people who are sick. Her teammates. Classmates. Her family. And her grandmother who had a part teaching that routine. She watched her pray and follows the example of keeping others in mind.

And there is one other thing: Grace believes whatever talents she has are on loan from God.





Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

"It is good for us to be here!" Perhaps you have heard me say that before? This is the way I begin each worship service at East Side; *welcome to worship, it is good for us to be here!* I begin this way for 2 main reasons.

One, it is always good for us to come before our God and praise Him. As God's creation, our first job is to worship God. As the word itself states, that is the main point of going to church... is to go to "worship".

The second reason are the secondary benefits, the things we personally *get out* of worship (strength, peace, forgiveness, motivation, inspiration, knowledge, direction, etc.). These are the result of doing what comes natural to us as human beings... of doing what we were created to do, which is to worship God. So when we show up each weekend, it is truly, doubly good for us to be here.

Now, from time to time I have heard people say that once their lives settle down, or get back to normal, they will start coming to church. The trouble is, I believe they are getting things turned around. It is akin to saying, once I get healthy again I'll start going to the doctor. For it is when we put the worship of God first in our lives, that the rest of our lives begin to find balance and wholeness.

Now there is a THIRD reason I begin our worship services the way I do, and that is because I enjoy being with all of YOU! Truly. I enjoy being your pastor. God is palpable in the realness of our worship and in our fellowship with one another at East Side. We are real people dealing with real life, and God is in the midst of that. The smiles, the hospitality, the welcome, even the struggles... our humanness... are all evidence of this.

Thank you for making ME want to come to worship with YOU. May God be praised. Remember we are in this...

Together in Faith,
Pastor Layne

New Member Reception

The family is getting bigger! Please join in welcoming our New Members to East Side Lutheran the weekend of February 1 & 2. We are thrilled that God has led them to this place. Look for more information about them in the bulletin that weekend. How might you help them feel welcome in this place?