

# English Lutheran News

OUR CHURCH IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

April 2024



## English Lutheran

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English Lutheran Church

Sunday, April 14, 2024

@

11:00 am

**Our Mission:**

**Called to be shepherds, doing God's work, daily.**

## **We Are Witnesses to all that Jesus Did**

*“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that Jesus did...” [Acts 10:38-39]*

Acts of the Apostles has been my go to book of the Bible for 2024. In January, many in our Synod joined in a “read a chapter of Acts each day” reading plan. Lent began February 14 and continued through March. Our congregations in Christians in Action joined others from our Synod in a series: “Altered by the Holy Spirit” as we heard from Acts either in our personal devotions or on Wednesdays for afternoon Bible study or evening worship. Now as we enter the Easter season in April and most of May, we have another opportunity to hear more from the book of Acts.

There is so much in Acts that reminds us that the Holy Spirit goes ahead of us. Before Philip spoke to the Ethiopian eunuch, the Holy Spirit had already inspired this Ethiopian court official to read the prophet Isaiah and to ask questions. Then the Holy Spirit moved him to ask, “what is to prevent me from being baptized?” [Acts 8:36]

Before Peter speaks to Cornelius, an angel appeared to Cornelius and told him to send for Peter. Meanwhile, the Holy Spirit told Peter to go with the people who were searching for him, because the Spirit had sent them. [Acts 10:3-6, 17-20]

Now as we enter the Easter season, we’ll hear several times when Peter tells different groups of people a summary of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. Whether you have also been diving deep into Acts in 2024 or whether you are just dipping your toe into these stories of faith, I invite you to reflect on these passages that will accompany us in worship in April and May.

Acts 10:34-43 Peter speaks to the people gathered in Cornelius’ home

Acts 4:32-35 The believers care for one another

Acts 3:12-19 Peter speaks to people amazed that a man can walk

Acts 4:5-12 Peter speaks to those questioning how he healed the man

Acts 8:26-40 Philip baptizes the Ethiopian court eunuch

Acts 10:44-48 Peter baptizes Cornelius’ household

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Matthias is added as an apostle

Acts 2:1-21 The Holy Spirit gives the Christian community a mission

May the Holy Spirit go ahead of you, open you to the changes that faith in Jesus Christ will bring to your life, and give you the boldness to be a witness to all that Jesus does.

In Peace, Pastor Kristi Weber

# Christians in Action Update

On Saturday March 9th, the Leadership Team of Christians in Action along with council members, rostered leaders, synod lay ministers, and our intern pastor gathered for a retreat at Emmanuel Lutheran in Gackle. Over the course of the day, intentional time was spent reviewing and reflecting on the activities of Christians in Action since February 2021. Think back...

- February 2021- 19 congregations gathered to consider the possibility of working together in some way.
- November 2021- Eight congregations began a discernment process with a consultant and began intentional sharing of ministry resources for Advent and Lent.
- September 2022- Christians in Action formally launches with a Name, website, coordinated preaching schedule and appointed congregational coordinators.
- February 2024- All eight congregations approved the creation of a new legal corporation “Christians in Action Ministry” to facilitate our growing mission.

Additional time was spent reviewing our organizational structure, reflecting on our past goals and refining them for the coming year, and visiting with each other about the blessings and challenges of ministry in our communities today.

Each Congregation leadership team also spent time working together to refine a congregational goal for the year.

Congregations participating in Christians in Action Ministry:  
Atonement, Jamestown Christ the King, Ellendale Emmanuel,  
Gackle English, Medina Montpelier, Montpelier St. John’s,  
Jamestown Trinity, Jamestown Zion, Kulm



## I'm a Lutheran



We are Gil and Pat Everding, residents of Medina, and members of English Lutheran Church. Pat grew up and was confirmed at the Ypsilanti Lutheran Church. Gil grew up closer to Montpelier, but his family attended the congregation in Millarton with WW Keller. He remembers traveling every Saturday up to Jamestown for confirmation class at St. John's, where he was confirmed. The old Millarton Church building is the building that now stands at the Frontier Village in Jamestown. Gil and Pat married at St. John's, which was where their children were baptized. Work took them to many different places before they settled in Medina in 1966 and joined English Lutheran.

Both Gil and Pat are retired now. For a time, Gil worked with heavy equipment and moved often. Once their children got to school age, they wanted to settle down for the school years. They opened and ran Gil's Bar in Medina (now the Decoy Bar) for 32 years. Although they don't miss the bar, they do miss the people. "You can't believe some of the things that you hear [in a bar]." Gil says that he believes that 99% of people are good and decent, but then you watch the news and are reminded of the bad ones. He believes that there were bad people before, in the old west, and in more recent times, but that there are so many more people today that more things happen.

Pat prays that everyone remains healthy and both remember their community in prayer. They remember how they trusted the whole community when they were raising their children. Everybody looked out for everybody, and those eyes kept tabs on all the community youth.

One of the things that is a struggle these days is the recognition that they used to know everybody, but don't anymore. The appearance of the community is important and it is sad to see the ways that some yards and buildings are not maintained. There used to be more pride in the way things looked in Medina. Gil served as mayor for four years and Pat spent many years on the Beautification Committee and the Parade Committee. Pat recalls the year that flowers were planted for blocks along Main Street and the way that they brightened up the town. It took a lot of work and it was a challenge finding committed volunteers











## The NEW Christians in Action Book Club Needs Readers!

Do you love to read? Do you like to have conversations about the books you read? Has a book (other than the Bible) strengthened your faith? One of the hopes we have for Christians in Action Ministry is to build relationships across our congregations. With this in mind the CIA Book Club is forming. The first meeting(s) will be during the last week of April / first week of May and we will be discussing the book “Ask Me for a Blessing (You Know You Need One)” by Adrian Dannhauser. There will be options to meet in person or over Zoom depending on your preference. Each month we will pick another book to read and discuss. Everyone is welcome!



More about “Ask Me for a Blessing (You Know You Need One)” by Adrian Dannhauser

*“Once a week Episcopal priest Adrian Dannhauser stands outside her Manhattan church beside a chalkboard sign that reads “Ask me for a blessing (because God knows you need one).” Passersby stop, chat, and ask for prayer: for a sick friend, an addicted son, an upcoming job interview, the state of our nation, or the grief of our world. Half of those who stop are in crisis. Someone always cries. A few are simply curious. Through the heartfelt, frank, and sincere stories of her unique ministry, Dannhauser offers glimpses into the tender, holy, and sometimes hilarious moments of sidewalk prayers. What is a blessing? Do you have to believe to receive one? Can you doubt while you pray? And can you extend grace to others while still desperately in need of it yourself?”*

Here’s how you can join the CIA Book Club:

- Go to [www.ndchristiansact.org](http://www.ndchristiansact.org)
- Click on the Resources Tab and choose “Book Club”
- Fill out the form with your information by Wednesday April 10th
- Read the book!
- You will be contacted by April 14th with information about meeting options!
- Come online or in person to the meeting that works best for you and talk about your faith and a great book!

**If you have any questions contact Pr. Susan Haukaas:  
Call / Text: (701) 320-1446 OR  
email: [pastorsusan@ndchristiansact.org](mailto:pastorsusan@ndchristiansact.org)**

## ELC WELCA March 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes

- Present: Julie Opp, Renae Olson, Ethel Heinle, Jennifer Hayes, & Brittney Dockter
- Purpose & Mission Statements read aloud
- Devotional and prayer led by Julie Opp
- **Secretary's Report** - minutes from February 11, 2024 meeting read and approved as read
- **Treasurer's Report**
- \$2800 in working fund
- need to speak with council about setting up an accounting for specific funding opportunities
- Expenses: bookmarks for Bold Women's Day, postage, stamps, envelopes and cardstock; Postage for cards sent by Kathy; Books for library bought by Renae and World Day of Prayer supplies.
- Gave support to Lucas Lytle for his trip to Equator, gave donation to Medina Post Prom
- NOLA information - clear bags and water bottles for attendees needed. Support our youth going by funding these items for purchase
- World Day of Prayer -March 2nd, 22 people attended event at ELC from all community churches; collected \$138 in donations to be sent in
- Benefit for Schelske Family - March 3rd; was a huge success in all aspects. Thank you everyone for coming to the event and supporting with camaradery, food dishes, desserts and donations to help Mike & Teresa Schleske!
- Menard's rebate - use to buy large coffee pot, a roaster, small tongs, & serrated knife for the kitchen
- Other members in congregation to support - Kurt & Linda Mayher - health battle; donate to cover gas, etc
- Youth workers who helped at the Schelske benefit did an amazing job clearing tables and helping keep the Fellowship Hall neat and tidy.
- There are no graduating seniors this year from our congregation.
- The Medina 125th Celebration - ELC asked to serve coffee & donuts before the parade (location?); Tea party on July 5th at ELC
- Guest Day - think about what to do? Continue to have these?
- Memorial Day Service luncheon - ELC will host in 2025
- Spring Round Up - April 20th at Riverbend Farm; register by 3-23-24; free to attend with child care, lunch and presenters & vendors
- Cluster Representatives needed for Grafton, Mayville, Wahpeton and Spirit Lake - if you know of anyone who might be interested let Renae Olson know.
- Collecting used stamps - leave a little bit of the envelope around the stamp and deposit them in the jar in the Narthex
- Katie's Fund -\$ 1 million campaign to become self-funding; supports efforts all over the country and world
- ELC World Hunger - help support the communities all over the world & USA by donating to color a picture of an animal; talk with Michelle about Sunday School participating
- Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by ELC WELCA Secretary, Jennifer Hayes



# BIRTHDAYS

## April

Everett Hayes	Apr 1
Daniel Olson	Apr 2
Joey Guthmiller	Apr 2
Alex Irlmeier	Apr 3
Lindsay Hoffmann	Apr 4
Janine Hofmann	Apr 9
Ceph Dockter	Apr 9
Teddi Shay Dockter	Apr 9
McKenzy Dockter	Apr 13
Liam Shipley	Apr 15
Travis Guthmiller	Apr 20
Dirk Otto	Apr 22
Kaden Schmidt	Apr 23
Bruce Dammell	Apr 30

## May

Ben Juelfs	May 1
Sharon Otto	May 3
Molly Harr	May 3
Luka Ann Dockter	May 4
Alice Opp	May 6
Ardis Hochhalter	May 7
Addison Hofmann	May 8
Mindy Kapp	May 10
Benjamin Juelfs	May 12
Micaiah Kliem	May 14
Katie Dewald	May 14
Jayme Andres	May 16
Eldroy Salinas	May 16
JaSondra Schmidt	May 18
Carley Kliem	May 18
Zachary Hofmann	May 21
Daven Dockter	May 25

## **Celebrating April/May Anniversaries**

Bryan & Kendra Behm	Apr 22, 2006
Pastors Erik & Kristi Weber	Apr 25, 1992
Eldroy & Dawn Salinas	May 17, 2003
Frank & Tammy Reis	May 21, 1982
Maynard & Adeline Link	May 26, 1963