

*April 28, 2024 • 10:30am*  
*Love Your Neighbor as Yourself*

**WON'T YOU  
BE MY  
NEIGHBOR?**



 **Elk River** ELCA  
**LUTHERAN**  
Trusting in God's grace, an accepting,  
joyful community, serving God & neighbor.



# **WELCOME**

## **to Elk River Lutheran Church**

Welcome to Elk River Lutheran Church! Whether you are joining us in-person or online, we're glad you're here. Elk River Lutheran Church is a forward-thinking congregation made up of people of all ages. We are a pretty new church (formed in 2009), located in a remodeled bank building on the Mississippi River in downtown Elk River. Our mission is: *Trusting in God's grace, an accepting, joyful community, serving God and neighbor.*

We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and celebrate the work we're able to do together as a denomination (to learn more about the ELCA visit [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)). We welcome all people and as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation that welcome extends to the LGBTQ+ community.

Please fill out the enclosed Connection Form slip and drop it in an offering plate to receive more information about Elk River Lutheran or share prayer concerns.

### *Things to know for the service today:*

- **Bathrooms**, complete with changing tables for little ones, are located in the Fellowship Hall in the corner opposite of the main entrance.
- We welcome **kids** with their wiggles and noises in worship. We are also aware that as a parent, time away from wiggles and noises can be a blessing too. You will find our staffed nursery (For children 5 and under) by the entrance in the far corner of the fellowship hall.

We hope and pray you have a wonderful worship experience here today. To learn more about the many opportunities to participate and volunteer with the ministries of ERLC, visit our website:

<https://www.elkriverlutheran.org>

### *Worship Volunteers*

	<b>Sunday, April 28</b>	<b>Sunday, May 5</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	Jean and Anne Popovich	Greg and Debby Pouliot
<b>Ushers</b>	Michelle Hagberg and Tracie Klemenhagen	Viv and Jim Ayres
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Nevaeh Katzner	Justin Howland
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Rick and Nancy Bock	Katherine and Audrey Horner
<b>Sunday Morning Communion Setup/ CleanUp</b>	Debby Pouliot	Nancy Bock
<b>Communion Steward</b>	Greg Pouliot	Sarah Chur
<b>Mid-Week Communion Fill</b>	Nancy Bock	Christine Hansen
<b>PowerPoint Operator</b>	Shari Howland	Julie Parks
<b>Soundboard Operator</b>	Justin Howland	Bennett Johnson
<b>Switcher Operator</b>	Noelle and Bennett Johnson	Nick Campbell

*If you would like to serve, Great! Please contact Taylor Quinn so we can get you filled in. If you cannot volunteer for the upcoming Sunday, please contact Taylor @ [taylor@elkriverlutheran.org](mailto:taylor@elkriverlutheran.org)*

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## ***The Gathering of God's People***

Welcome

God's Work Our Hands

*Generosity Team*

Sharing of the Peace

Confession and Forgiveness

Gathering Song

***"Everlasting Love"***

## ***The Word of God Proclaimed***

Prayer of the Day

Kids Connect

Scripture Readings

Mark 12:28-34

Sermon

*Pastor Nathan Mugaas*

Song of the Day

***"Who You Say I Am"***

## ***Sharing & Receiving the Gifts of God***

Welcome New Members

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Holy Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Song

***"Great is Thy Faithfulness (Beginning to End)"***

Communion Blessing

## ***The Sending of God's People***

Community Announcements

Sending Blessing

Sending Song

***"God is For Us"***

Sending Dialog

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## Prayer Requests

### ***Praise the Lord*** (joys and answered prayers):

- New Members to Elk River Lutheran Church
- I'm thankful to all for the prayers, cards, calls and concern, offers of rides and Pastors calls and prayers on my over sixty year journey living with Crohn's disease. My church and my church family are awesome. ~John Severson

### ***In Sympathy***

- Family and Friends of Rev. Ronald Nielsen, father to Pete Nielsen
- Family and Friends of Gary Chouinard, brother of Paul.
- Family and Friends of Curt Finkelson, Sheila Larson's father.
- Family and Friends of Carol Voight, John Severson's sister. Service at ERLC on Wed 4/17 at 1pm
- Family and Friends of Irene Peck. Grandmother of Jeff Schrock
- Family and Friends of Nancy Naig
- Family and Friends of Cynthia Day, mother of Justin Day
- Family and Friends of Jenny Stanley's Uncle Don who passed away from Covid Pneumonia
- Family and Friends of Tony Guimont, Patrick Guimont's younger brother

### ***For Support***

- Kathie Nielsen, Pete Nielsen's mother
- Ruth Ann Cook

### ***Health concerns***

- Rick Hansen, fractured collar bone healing
- Dariusz Pruchnik, Mike's Dad. Recovering from heart attack, emergency appendectomy and navigating recent cancer diagnosis
- Steve Dollar, broken ankle. Brother-in-law to Vicki Sackmeister
- John Ayres, brain cancer & surgery
- Carol Black
- Sharee Kampa
- Mary Wells, in hospice
- John Severson
- Garnet Novotny - cancer
- Carol Sindelir, Val Nelson's sister
- Fonda Whalen, dementia
- Bonnie Swedal
- Marie Abrahamsson, cancer, Pauline Kuhn's cousin
- Linda Retel, ongoing treatment for inoperable brain cancer (friend of Pauline Kuhn)
- Diane Harding, ALS diagnosis
- Brian Harding
- Diane McGrath, pancreatic cancer
- Ken Bucher
- Kris West, daughter of Bob and Sue Hagen
- Duane Jerde

### ***Share Your Prayer Concerns:***

- Email [linda@elkriverlutheran.org](mailto:linda@elkriverlutheran.org)
- Fill out on your connection form
- Contact the church office at (763) 595-1216
- Fill out form on church website at [elkriverlutheran.org](http://elkriverlutheran.org)

*Generally, prayer requests will run for 3 weeks. If more time is needed, please call the church office*



## **LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE**

**Won't You Be My Neighbor?**

**Apr 28 - Love Your Neighbor as Yourself**

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### **CONNECT**

Spend some time checking in. What are highs and lows since you last met? How can your group members pray for and support each other this week?

### **GROW**

- Mister Rogers famously wears his special sweater and sneakers in each episode of his show. Do you have any favorite articles of clothing you love wearing?
- Share your thoughts on the following quote:
- “When we love a person, we accept him or her exactly as is: the lovely with the unlovely, the strong with the fearful, the true mixed in with the façade, and of course, the only way we can do it is by accepting ourselves that way.” -Fred Rogers
- Read Deuteronomy 6:4-5
- Commonly referred to as the Shema in Jewish tradition, this passage directs followers in ways to live out their faith. What do you hear in this text?
- Some neighbors are harder to love than others. Think about the saying, “If you were them, you'd be them.” How can this idea that everyone is shaped by their life experiences and environment shape our empathy for others?

### **PRAY**

Holy God, you have uniquely created each of us, you love us, and you have blessed us with a beautiful day in the neighborhood. Open us to hear your word, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



## April 28, 2024

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### Amy Cox, Douglas

Amy and her son, Douglas have lived in Elk River for 13 years. We are excited to find a church home! Amy is the librarian at Meadowvale Elementary School, and Douglas is in 8th grade at Vandenberg Middle School. In my spare time, I enjoy reading, listening to jazz, and traveling with my husband and son. Douglas plays on the Elk River tennis team, and also enjoys video gaming and hanging out with his friends (he does NOT enjoy math tutoring, but we make him go anyways). I grew up in the ELCA church, Trinity Lutheran, in Cedarburg, Wisconsin. Douglas became interested in finding a church home with me this past winter after attending church with friends. My husband was raised in a predominantly Jewish household and therefore will not be joining, but may be seen at Christmas and Easter.



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### Nancy Etter

Nancy and her husband Wayne raised their three sons in Ramsey and have resided in the same house for 43 years. Their sons Michael (Chewy, Grantsburg WI), Jason (Danielle, Isabella 13, Ramsey MN) and Matthew (Bridget, Landyn 16, Madison 8, Lily 2, Monticello, MN) still live relatively close, which is great. Nancy enjoys spending time with her family. Nancy was born in Wisconsin and moved to Rosemount Minnesota in the 9th grade. When Nancy retired she had been working at the Minnesota State High School League for almost 25 years as a Administrative Assistant. Nancy enjoys quilting and reading. Summer is her favorite season as she spends time in the swimming pool with her children and grandchildren.



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### Sharon Finkelson



Sharon comes to us from Alexandria MN where she attended Calvary Lutheran Church. She has 3 children of which her youngest is Sheila Larson also a member at Elk River Lutheran. Sharon is new to the Elk River area so please welcome her!

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### Ann and Jim Lauinger

We are Ann and Jim Lauinger. We moved to Otsego from St Cloud 3 years ago. Jim is in management at Nystrom Building Products, and Ann works for American Family Insurance. We have 2 adult children. Our oldest, Izzy, lives and works in the Twin Cities. Our youngest, June, is in her 2nd year at the University of Denver. We have a cat, and a high maintenance bull dog.



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### Carley Sorenson and Nellie Taylor



## News & Opportunities



### *Varty's Greenhouse Fundraiser: May 5<sup>th</sup> 5-8pm* **Fundraiser for the 2024 High School Youth Mission Trip**

We 'll gather at the greenhouse, and sing our hearts out while purchasing beautiful plants! A huge THANK YOU to Varty's for hosting us and making a generous donation to ERLC youth as they prepare for the summer mission trip.



### *Women's Book Club starting May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm*

Join us for enriching literature and fellowship!

When: 1st Mondays from May thru August at 6:30 PM at Elk River Lutheran.

The First Meeting will be May 6th at 6:30pm and will be a chance to get to know each other and discuss what books to read during the summer months. *All are Welcome!*

Contact amyanderson75@gmail.com for more details



### *Save the Date: ERLC Block Party - Sunday May 19*

**Joint Outdoor Worship Service at 9:30am followed by Block Party from 11am-1pm**

Once again we will kick off the season by worshipping outdoors and throwing a party for our community. Food, Games, Live Music, Bounce House and Entertainment for All



### *Understanding Estate Planning and Elder Law: Presentation and Dinner*

**Wednesday, May 15 | 6:30pm**

**Guest Speaker: Steve Helseth** (Estate Planning Attorney from Bolt Law Firm in Anoka)

In this presentation, Steve will cover the basics of wills, trusts, health care directives, powers of attorney, probate, and elder law. With elder law, Steve helps people understand what elder law is and when you should call an elder law attorney. This can be a very valuable presentation for those later in life, making sure they have the right plan in place when leaving a legacy to their loved ones, charities or organizations. It can also be a great opportunity for people with aging parents to learn what they need to know. This is a free event sponsored by the ERLC Mission Endowment Fund, but spaces are limited, so please register today at [bit.ly/3PvyBFA](https://bit.ly/3PvyBFA)



## *This Week at Elk River Lutheran*

### SUNDAY

#### **New Member Sunday**

**8:30am Traditional Worship with Kids Connect**  
**9:30am Fellowship Hour**  
**10:30am Contemporary Worship with Kids Connect**

### MONDAY

**6:00pm Cup of Cheer** (Pour Wine Bar and Bistro) –  
Doors Open at 5:15pm  
**6:00pm Worship Band Rehearsal**

### TUESDAY

**9:00am Quilting** (*Lower Level Quilting Room*)  
*Mission Quilts are made for Lutheran World Relief. All skill levels welcome.*  
**10:00am Text Study** (*Lower Level Community Room*) *Studying the bible text for the upcoming Sunday Worship along with the preaching pastor. All are welcome. Come once or come every week*  
**6:00pm Riverside Ringers Rehearsal**  
**7:00pm AA Meeting** (*Community Room*)

### WEDNESDAY

**6:00pm Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal**  
**6:30pm Confirmation**  
**6:30pm High School Youth**

### THURSDAY

#### **Minneapolis Synod Assembly**

**10:00pm Genealogy Group** (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room)  
**6:00pm Choir Rehearsal**

### FRIDAY

#### **Minneapolis Synod Assembly**

**9:00am Women's Coffee** (*Panera, Elk River*)  
**9:00am Men's Breakfast** (*Coborns, Elk River*)

### SATURDAY

#### **Minneapolis Synod Assembly**

**8:00am Men's Bible Study** (*Zoom Bible Study*)  
Find a link at:  
<https://www.elkriverlutheran.org/adult-ministries.html>

### NEXT SUNDAY

**8:30am Traditional Worship with Kids Connect**  
**9:30am Fellowship Hour**  
**10:30am Contemporary Worship with Kids Connect**  
**5-8pm ERLC Day at Varty's Greenhouse**

## ***Thank You!***



Last Sunday we received over \$670 for the quilting ministry. What a generous outpouring of support! We will be sending 88 quilts to Lutheran World Relief to distribute to people in need. We also want to thank all who have donated fabric, sheets and other supplies that we have used in making quilts and school bags.

Join us on Tuesdays at 9am for a couple of hours of fun to help tie and sew quilts. All are Welcome!

~ The Quilters

# The Greatest Commandment

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Mark 12:30-31 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Mark 12:28-34



R S Q E M D D G J E Q G I K K  
 R T B F W B U V R I K C D P I  
 V R B S E C O N D E M C E Y N  
 A E J D B K S C B L A A F C G  
 M N X P R M O V M N T T G C D  
 E G S Y V A U P I H E G E P O  
 P T H W L X L P N C A Y X S M  
 A H Q X E E L V D M C Z O E T  
 J T C J R R H O J D H Q Y D Z  
 A M W H Y Z K X V N E H N T Y  
 R S K E N L C J L E R K I O Q  
 L A W A Y O U R S E L F Z E K  
 C R H R S N E I G H B O R E O  
 L D M T H S I M P O R T A N T  
 I P Q U E S T I O N S G Z C N

MIND	SOUL	YOURSELF	ANSWER	QUESTIONS
NEIGHBOR	IMPORTANT	STRENGTH	TEACHER	KINGDOM
GREATEST	LOVE	LAW	SECOND	HEART

## Greatest Commandment Coloring Page



One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

Mark 12:28 (NIV)

## Meet the Staff

### **Pastor Nathan Mugaas**

763-242-8347

[pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org](mailto:pastornathan@elkriverlutheran.org)

### **Pastor Anne Schaefer**

952-250-6974

[pastoranne@elkriverlutheran.org](mailto:pastoranne@elkriverlutheran.org)

### **Linda Nielsen**

Office Manager

763-595-1216

[linda@elkriverlutheran.org](mailto:linda@elkriverlutheran.org)

### **Taylor Quinn**

Director of Music Ministry & Worship

763-595-1216 X1202

[taylor@elkriverlutheran.org](mailto:taylor@elkriverlutheran.org)

### **Nick Campbell**

Online Broadcast Specialist

### **Lisa Griffin**

Staff Pianist

### **Lori Sundman**

Bookkeeper

### **Nursery Attendants:**

Clara Anderson, Emma Anderson  
and Amy Brown

## Meet the Church Council

**President:**

Kent Larson

**Vice President:**

Tom Werk

**Treasurer:**

Julie Marie Haugen

**Secretary:**

Matt Glasoe

Amy Anderson

Zoey Day

Sue Hales

Kelli Horner

Conni Natwick

Jeff Schrock

## Confirmation Links



Confirmation Worship  
Notes Form



Confirmation Volunteer  
Form

## **Ways to Give**



### **Cash / Check**

Offering plate is  
by the entrances  
to the sanctuary



### **Mobile Giving QR Code**



### **Text to Give**

Text Give to  
(612) 324-8257

### **Additional Ways to Give:**

- **Automated Recurring Giving:** Set up online via website give button, via the Tithe.ly phone app or by contacting the church office
- **Stocks:** consider donating stocks through a conversation with your financial advisor and the church.

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## **Elk River Lutheran Church**

729 Main Street – Elk River, MN 55330

(763) 595-1216

[www.elkriverlutheran.org](http://www.elkriverlutheran.org)

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9 am – 4 pm; Fri Closed