

Karen's Corner

Dearly beloved,

We recently celebrated Christmas and all the promise it brings, the long-awaited Messiah. In the carol "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" it reads in verse one...Born to set Thy people free... In verse two: Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, and born to reign in us forever.

The Bible verse John 3:16 is considered the essence of the Gospel, the Good News capsulated in one verse. John 3:16 in the Amplified Bible reads: "For God so [greatly] loved and dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] only begotten Son, so that whoever believes and trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish but have eternal life.

We are now entering the Lenten season. A season when we take time for repentance, reflection, and preparation for Easter. The verse above emphasizes God's intense love, the gift of Jesus, and the promise of eternal life for those who trust Him.

The cost, the ransom, which is our deliverance, is represented in Holy Week when Jesus sets out communion in the last supper. We are told to do this in remembrance of Him. On Good Friday we remember he laid down his life – this is my body given for you; this is my blood poured out for you. And in a triumphant resurrection on Easter Sunday we hear the angel say, "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said." Our part is to believe in, trust in, rely on and cling to His finished work on the cross and resurrection. He was born to reign in us forever.

In His service,
Karen

Celebrate St. Paul's

Our church building is 150 years old and our congregation worshipped for the first time formally as St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church 151 years ago. It's time to celebrate and offer our thanks to God for the many blessings he has bestowed upon us.

We will have a special worship service on Sunday November 15 followed by with a meal and program to be held at the Wilton Community Center.

Details to follow later this year. Spread the word.

WORSHIP NOTES FOR March, April 2026

The following are the Scripture readings we will be sharing in worship during the months of March and April 2026.

Second Sunday in Lent - March 1

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Second Reading Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Gospel John 3:1-17

Third Sunday in Lent - March 8

First Reading Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Second Reading Romans 5:1-11

Gospel John 4:5-42

Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 15

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel John 9:1-41

Fifth Sunday in Lent March 22

First Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Second Reading Romans 8:6-11

Gospel John 11:1-45

Palm Sunday - March 29

Processional Gospel Matthew 21:1-11

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Second Reading Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel Matthew 26:14—27:66

Maundy Thursday - April 2

First Reading Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday - April 3

First Reading Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Psalm 22

Second Reading Hebrews 10:16-25

Gospel John 18:1—19:42

Easter Sunday - April 5

First Reading Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel Matthew 28:1-10

Second Sunday of Easter - April 12

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalm 16

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel John 20:19-31

Third Sunday of Easter - April 19

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:17-23

Gospel Luke 24:13-35

Fourth Sunday of Easter - April 26

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25

Gospel John 10:1-10

THOSE SERVING IN MARCH

READERS:

1st Justin Arndt

8th Greg Bever

15th Alaina Holthaus

22nd Arlis Ballwahn

29th Barb Ornes

ALTAR: Kirstin & Miranda Arndt

COMMUNION SERVER: Barb Ornes

THOSE SERVING IN APRIL

READERS:

5th Sunrise Service: Joel Arndt

10:15 AM Service: Kirstin Arndt

12th Karen Arzt

19th Karla Richie

26th Miranda Arndt

ALTAR: Nalani & Greg Bever

COMMUNION SERVER: Steve Brandau Sr.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MARCH

SU	1 st	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
W	4 th	Lenten Service	6:30 PM
FR	6 th	World Day of Prayer	
SU	8 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
		Church Council	11:30 AM
W	11 th	Lenten Service	6:30 PM
SU	15 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
W	18 ^h	Lenten Service	6:00 PM
SU	22 rd	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
W	25 th	Lenten Service	5:00 PM
		Worship	6:00 PM
SU	29 th	PALM SUNDAY	
		Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM

MARCH

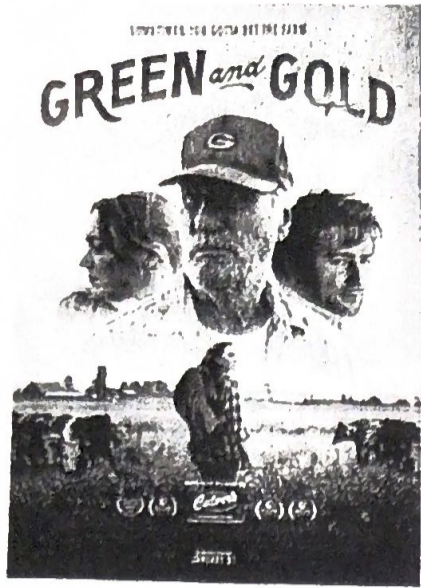
2 nd	Patty Von Haden
3 rd	Krista Cook
	Dennis Dougherty
5 th	Matt Bever
	Katie Pagel
9 th	James Brandau
11 th	Darren Gruen
15 th	Callie Fleming
16 th	Vanessa Ornes
17 th	Don & Gail Riedesel
19 th	MaKenzie Powell
20 th	Joel Arndt
21 st	Curt Dougherty
22 nd	Dean Brandau
23 rd	Bria Gruen
	Lila Speicher
28 th	Kaylin Gruen

APRIL

TH	2 nd	MAUNDY THURSDAY	6:30 PM
FR	3 rd	GOOD FRIDAY	6:30 PM
		Prayer Vigil	8-10:00:00 PM
SA	19 th	Prayer Vigil	7:AM-6:00PM
SU	5 th	EASTER	
		Sunrise Service	6:30 AM
		Breakfast	7:30 -8:45AM
		Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
SU	12 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
		Chicken Dinner	11:45 AM
		Fundraiser	11:30-1:00PM
SU	19 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM
		<u>Synod Assmbly Caucus</u>	3:00-5:00 PM
		at West Salem	
SU	26 th	Sunday School	9:00 AM
		Worship	10:15 AM

APRIL

2 nd	Vicky Weiner
5 th	Pam Brandau
	Kimberly Xiong
9 th	Madalyn Dougherty
11 th	Rich & Kathy Cale
12 th	Jack & Mary Ann Arndt
16 th	Louise Buchholz
17 th	Julie Acker
	Logan Buchholz
18 th	Rick Brueggen
	Jared Gruen
	Ron Savall
	Jennifer & David Gruen
21 st	April Kroeger
	Katie Gruen
24 th	Eloise Evans
	Tanya & Scott Niedfeldt
26 th	Riley Brueggen
28 th	Carol Brandau
	Matt Ornes



FREE MOVIE

Green and Gold

Saturday March 14th 2:00 PM

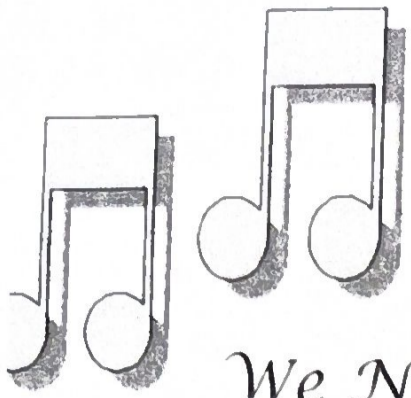
Doors open at 1:30 PM

Elroy Theater-122 S. Main St. Elroy

Bethany Lutheran Church in Mauston and Thrivent are sponsoring a free movie during Lent. We would like to invite the community to join us at the **Elroy Theater on Saturday March 14th at 2:00 PM** for a showing of the movie **Green and Gold**. This 2025 movie is set in 1993, the film is about a Wisconsin farmer facing foreclosure, who bets his bank that the Green Bay Packers will win the Super Bowl, and if they do, the bank will give him an extension on his mortgage. The movie is one hour and 45 minutes long and rated PG. The doors will open at 1:30 PM with the show beginning at 2:00 PM. Concessions will be available for purchase. We would love to have your families join us for this event.

Enclosed is a flyer that you could display at your church along with 10 tickets. Please call the church office at 608-847-6690 if you need more tickets or you can get them at the door.

Concessions are available for purchase.



Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign.....

But, Where Is Our Sign??????

We Need To Raise Funds To Order A New One!!

Sunday, April 12, 2026

11:30 - 1:00 PM

ROOSTER ANDY'S CHICKEN Q

\$15.00/PLATE

½ HALF BAR-B-QUE CHICKEN,

BAKED BEANS, POTATO SALAD AND

ROLL

This is an excellent fundraising opportunity.

*Rooster Andy is very generous with his per
plate price for non-profits and we stand to raise
a goodly amount, HOWEVER, it all depends on
members getting out and SELLING TICKETS
AND SUPPORTING THE FUNDRAISER BY
FEEDING YOUR FAMILY!!*

*Contact Nalani for tickets Come on we need the
support of everyone.*

Construction and Improvements Update

The replacement of the church steps is complete with a cost of	\$338,107.
The replacement of the furnaces and air conditioning units	30,000.
Cleaning of the ducts, both ways of airflow	3,000.
Replacement of outer doors	22,500.
Installation of a chair lift from the basement level to the sanctuary	<u>19,500.</u>

Grand total: \$413,107.

Using gifts from the Nola Garey estate, Wynn Liersch, the estate of Kathy Braund, excess offerings during a time when we were led in worship by supply pastors, chicken dinners, designated donations from church members and gifts from Thrivent members, we were able to pay for the improvements IN FULL.

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!!!

What's next??? We have \$15,000.00 set aside for the installation of the pipe organ, \$11,500. toward a new sign and \$10,100. toward the construction of an ADA bathroom in the basement. We are also considering re-carpeting the church, a project last completed in 1967 or thereabouts. Fundraising will continue (be sure to purchase a ticket for the April 12th chicken Q) and please continue your support for the Christmas sale, and whatever else we come up with to raise money!

With all that activity, we continue to do God's work through the Wilton Food Pantry, donations to the flooding victims in Texas and the fires in California. The latter gifts were made through Lutheran Disaster Response. Of course, our commitment to the ELCA Benevolence and Lutheran Social Services are met every year. God calls us to put others before ourselves. God Bless You.

Nalani

Do you know where these folks are? Might you have an address you can share? You may have given the address already and it got lost in the shuffle. We want to invite folks to the November gathering who were baptized, confirmed, married in, or had some connection to St. Paul's. Regardless of whether they might come, it is important that they be invited. Please call Nalani 608-387-2311 or email the church wiltonchurch@gmail.com. THANK YOU!!!

Beverly Bell

Paula Brandenburg

Linda Humer

Diana Pasch

Judith Huff

Deniuse Stoikes

Brian Schulttz

Kim Raines

Karoline Kledehn

Tere Burjkhalter

Donna Mathesen

Tina Stewart

Theresa Denter

Kelly Rasmussen

Darrin Denter

Sarah Dibbert

Brittany Gage

Daniel Schultz

John McCollam

Terry McCollam

Alvadore Pasch, Jr.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

QUILTING

The ladies are busy making quilts for baptisms, graduations, and to send to Lutheran World Relief. They are always looking for volunteers and you could be one. Contact Arlis Ballwahn 608-435-6406 or Louise Buchholz 608-435-6435 to join in a great time of fellowship.

BLOOD DRIVE

Kirstin Arndt, along with Susan Herzog-Blumer continue as driving forces behind the blood drive. Susan and her husband, Tim, drive throughout the countryside to the Amish households, encouraging the folks to become donors. The Brookwood FFA students along with Daphne Arndt, Ann McKelvey and Emily Bever help as well. If you aren't now a donor, please consider becoming one. Health issues, medications, etc., can defer donors temporarily or permanently.

WILTON FOOD PANTRY

Lorrie Bever along with other community members run the Wilton Food Pantry, and do a fantastic job. If you know of a family or others who are struggling, share that the food pantry is available to any in need.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Joel Arndt, President

Karla Richie, President-Elect

Emily Bever, Secretary

Barb Bever, Treasurer

Steve Brandau, Sr., Property

Kirstin Arndt, Social Ministry

Lori Brueggen, Worship & Education

The executive members handle the Finance.