



BROADCASTER

Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church

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WE ARE AS IS

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. (Romans 5:5-6)

I read that Judge Judy is retiring. Many years ago I used to watch her show off and on. She always was a no-nonsense person who cut to the chase when someone was trying to blow smoke in her eyes or make ridiculous requests.

One could just about predict the verdict when a person wanted their money back after buying a used car (most often in a private party interaction) which turned out to be 'a lemon'. First of all, usually the buyer did not have a mechanic inspect the vehicle before the purchase. Their first mistake! Their second mistake was not realizing that when you buy a used car it is an "as is" sale (unless otherwise agreed!!). End result: the buyer did not get his or her money back – and usually received the extra blessing of a stern lecture from Judge Judy.

Of course, it is not only used car that we sometimes wish to get rid of. In one of my previous parishes a parishioner adopted two young girls after having had them in foster care for a good long time. It certainly seemed like the perfect solution for everyone involved. Unfortunately, a few years later it became clear that the older of the two and the mom just could not get along. Matters went from bad to horrible in quick progression. Michael and I would volunteer to have the girl stay at our house for a weekend in hopes cooler heads would prevail on Monday morning.

October 2026

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SOLVEIG ZAMZOW

Eventually, however, the mom went back to the judge who had presided over the adoption proceedings and asked to have the adoption reversed. By that time she feared for her physical wellbeing and the daughter had moved in and out of the house. It was not good! The judge recognized such - but his answer was not what both, mom and daughter expected. Rather than signing off on a pretty hopeless situation, giving everyone a break and a chance at a better, albeit separate, tomorrow, the judge made it very clear to the mother that an adoption is indeed 'as is'. There are no returns at the customer service counter when you take in a child to be your own. Adoption comes with an 'as is' sticker. In that spirit the judge allowed for a number of adjustments in their living arrangements and placed certain expectations on mother and child but the adoption was not going to be reversed. 'This is your daughter and nothing can change that', was his final word before he gavelled the case closed.

We all come with an 'as is' sticker when it comes to our relationship with God, don't we now? We have our issues, we are far from perfect. I am sure sometimes God might be tempted to want His money back or have the adoption procedure reversed. After all, in our Baptism we DID become adopted sons and daughters of our heavenly Father. God chose us then and still chooses us. God picked us! He took us as we were and are: sinful, rebellious, filled with false pride and a good dose of self-righteous egotism.

The good news is that God loves us despite our faults. God has taken us into His family just the way we are. He will not try to give us back. Rather, God loves us so much that he gave His only Son to die for our sins and through him gives us the promise of eternal life. God took us 'as is' and continues to work on us, with us and through us.

There was a time when adopted children learned a very important mantra: I am chosen. I am wanted. I am loved. I am adopted. It is a good mantra.

We have been adopted, in our Baptism, by a God who wanted us even with the sign 'as is' dangling around our necks.

This God loves us with unconditional love that is frankly strange to humans. God does not love us because we are worthy. Rather, we are worthy because God loves us. And yes, God strives toward our 'improvement' each and every day as we wake up and are given a new beginning so we may live out more fully the great gift we all have received in our adoption as children of God. We are a work in progress, just as the bumper sticker says. And yet, God takes us, loves us, forgives us and saves us 'as is'.

Just another one of God's "lemons" - PZ+



Disaster Response

Your help is needed and appreciated: our NALC Disaster Response teams are very busy all over the country but especially in North Carolina where severe flooding is taken place once again. Our 2025 Mission Trip took place in that region as the need was great then as well. The Church Council has designated October 18th for a ONE-TIME offering opportunity with all proceeds to go to North Carolina through the NALC...together with any funds we had secured in the recent past.

If you are able, please be generous! Just like individuals, communities also can have an "end of the rope" sense. Our offering provides hope when hope is hard to come by. Thank you very much to all who can respond. Checks can be made out to EGELC with "Disaster Response" in the memo line.

CHURCH NEWS

Golden Confirmation Anniversary Celebration



Pastor Zamzow reminded us of our Confirmation Day and the promise we all spoke as we were confirmed. The music for the service was great and we loved having former members of the congregation join the choir. Saturday was lots of visiting and remembering confirmation and growing up in the church. Plenty of great food was shared by all.



Just a few pictures from our Golden Confirmation Anniversary Sunday

A couple of thank you notes we received.....

Dear Members of Evangelical Lutheran Church - Thank you so much for the wonderful Golden Reunion Weekend. Every part of the 2 days was special, the food, people, choir, Pastor Z & etc. was so meaningful. I will always cherish my home church. Pastor Z and the committee= you are so thoughtful. God bless and keep you with love and thanks. Singing was great!

i want to sincerely thank you and all who helped to make Sunday a wonderful reunion! It was such fun getting caught up with old friends! Singing in the choir brought back special memories, too! the coffee and meal were full with delicious goodies and wonderful dishes. Thanks to all who made the food! It was fun to share our lives with one another! It was so interesting!. Thank you! Thank you!.

COUNCIL MEMBER BRIEF & YOUTH

Church Council Brief

August 5, 2026 Meeting

Church Council September 2, 2026

All reports given and approved.

Pastor has 3 Bible Studies going, as well as Confirmation. She has been busy doing home house calls as well. The council voted to increase Pastor Zamzow's monthly salary by \$1000 to compensate her for not only the days she is here but also for all the hours she spends in preparation for Bible Studies, confirmation, funerals as well as worship. We are continue to make changes to improve the quality of the sound system. We appreciate everyone's patience.

We discussed the budget for 2027. The council voted to approve to continue using the current budget, knowing that if a pastor should accept our call during the year, will no doubt need to make some changes. Jody E. gave a brief update on the mission trip. He said it was hot and not as well organized as other years.

The Golden Confirmation is Sept. 12/13, Annual meeting will be Sept. 20 as well as the beginning of Sunday School, Little Lamb Sunday and 3rd graders to receive their Bibles

Little Lamb Sunday

We were happy to have 4 - 3 year olds join us for Little Lamb Sunday. They were each given a little lamb and hear how Jesus told his disciples to "feed my sheep" - which we are doing by bringing the little ones to Sunday School and church each week.



Sunday School

The first Sunday of Sunday School was Sept. 20. Remember when we had our children baptized, we promised to bring them faithfully to Sunday School and Church, to learn more about Jesus. We pray all children will get a chance to join us each week.



More Golden Confirmation



I want to express my very sincere appreciation to our Evangelism Committee for their willingness to prepare our Golden Confirmation. They spent many hours in preparation and again this last weekend. Thank you so very much!! Also, many thanks to Linda Bickford and Sandy Muzzey and the Choir. While our numbers were smaller than expected, there is no doubt that the Golden Confirmands had a great time being in our midst and visiting with old friends. Thank you indeed to everyone who made this past weekend possible. Pastor Z

STEWARDSHIP

“

OCTOBER 31st is Reformation Day

When Germany, Martin Luther's homeland, prepared for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, they chose this theme: "Am Anfang war das Wort" – In the beginning was the Word (John1:1). Although St. John certainly refers to Jesus, the Anniversary committee wanted to celebrate the words of Martin Luther, the Augustinian monk who sought to reform his church. In Germany, Luther is honored as a national hero not only for his theology but also because his translation of the Bible into German influenced the development of the modern German language.

The printing press, perfected by Johann Gutenberg around 1450, was new to Luther's world and Luther himself would prove to be something of a gold mine for the publishing business. Words poured out of Luther – lectures, sermons, statements, essays, pamphlets, hymns, the catechism, letters and much more. Today the scholarly German edition of Luther's writings number well over 60,000 pages in more than 100 volumes.

Luther's challenging and inspiring words touched many areas of life – church, government, education, family life and health care. But above all, his words were about the Word of God, the inspired Word of Scripture and the Word made flesh, Jesus the Christ. Luther's hope always was to turn his beloved church to the truth of God so that all would come to know that salvation comes by God's grace through faith in Jesus, not by our own efforts. As far as Luther was concerned, he did nothing to bring about the Reformation. "The Word did everything," Luther declared.

Hours before his death, Luther was asked if he wanted to die standing firm in Christ and the doctrines he had taught. His answer: "Yes". After his death, in his coat pocket, a scrap of paper with several sentences scribbled on it was found. Luther had made notes about the humility in the presence of God's Word and he stated that we must never imagine that we have mastered God's Word. His final written words are these: "We are beggars. This is true." Yes, we have nothing to offer God in exchange of the blessings we receive. God alone saves us by the Word made flesh.

INFO given and received: On October 4th we will have a guest speaker who will give us information regarding the joined effort of North Iowa Food and Community Care and Wright County Community Connection as they are jointly planning an event in November for families in our area highlighting what they call "Neighbors create". It will showcase art, food, music, etc. in Dows raising money to help families in need right here in our community.

CHURCH EVENTS



Our next New Member Reception will be on Sunday, October 11th during our Worship Service. If you are interested and wish for more information or simply want to state that you are ready to become a member of Evangelical Lutheran, please contact Pastor Zamzow. We are looking forward to including you fully into our community.



FAMILY FALL FUN is in the air. Come join us on Sunday, October 25th from 1:00-3:00 pm for some "fallish fellowship" where we will have pumpkins to paint or carve (with the help of a local artist), hot cider to drink, Carmel apples to make and other good stuff to explore. This is for everyone, young and old, but especially for families with children. You even could bring along a friend or two! How ffffantastic is that?

Trick or Treat Night at EGELC

ELCW WOMEN

Hometown Cookin' Favorites

Creamy Fruit Salad

Ingredients:

1 8 ounce can fruit cocktail,
drained
2 bananas, peeled & sliced
1 small apple, diced
1/2 cup seedless green grapes,
halved
5 maraschino cherries, halved
1/4 cup mini marshmallows
1/2 cup whipping cream, whipped
Strawberries



**Loretta
Krahling**

Instructions:

In a large bowl, combine fruit cocktail, bananas, apple, grapes, cherries and marshmallows. Fold in whipped cream (or Cool Whip). Mix well. Refrigerate. Just before serving, garnish salad with sliced strawberries. Refrigerate for 1 hour before serving

REMEMBER – The Food Pantry has new hours - **Wednesday only from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.** They can always use your help with volunteers and also with food. And if you are interested in volunteering a couple hours a week to help at the pantry, contact Marcella Johnson at 515-448-3743. Remember we have the grocery cart in the entrance where you can bring your donations. Monetary donations are always welcome also as they do purchase some items for the pantry.

ELCW

Due to only 2 ladies making it to ELCW in Sept. we will meet again on Thursday, October 1 at 1:30. Hope you can join us as we make plans for the bake sale, as well as making potato cakes for the sale.

We are also on the calendar to go to Rotary Senior Living on Oct. 8. We would like everyone to join us, as we will split and spend time in both buildings. Men, we would love to have you join us and visit with our many members at RSL. They south side enjoy cards, dominoes, puzzles. and treats!! Consider spending part of your afternoon with them.



Attendance & Giving

DATE	ATTEND- ANCE	GENERAL	BENEVOLENCE
Aug. 30	78	\$ 1,165	\$ 20
Sept. 6	62	\$ 2,538	\$ 35
Sept. 13	107	\$ 5,211	\$ 25
Sept. 20	91	\$ 3,172	\$ 137
Sept. 27			

Monthly Operating Budget \$18,239/Benevolence \$1,210

Mission of the Month

September Mission of the Month

KJYL Christian Radio 101.7

The mission box is located on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms: 0 Funerals: 1 (N/M)

Weddings: 0 New Members: 0



Our records show that the following members celebrate birthdays in October. We pray for their health and happiness as we share in their celebration. We appreciate being notified of any errors.

10---1 - Brandon Willard
10---2 Wayne Schope III
10---5 - Alex Grandgeorge, Kelton Gross, Chris Mickelson
10---6 - Rynn Ettinger
10---7 - Ashley Gross
10---8 - Michael Leshner,
10---9 - Chrisann Hodson (Gustafson), Alex Jensen
10-10 - Tricia Haupt (Helgevold), Ron Spangler, Carlie Robertson, Todd Nielsen
10-11 - Nathan Thompson, Dot Watson
10-12 - Colby Gochanour, Wilma Hinz, Maggie Wachowiak, Cheryl Jacobson
10-13 - Dee Halverson, Pam Spangler
10-14 - Jeff Kerch, Bailey Tokheim
10-15 - Jennifer Conaway, Lon Tweeten, Mikey Robertson
10-16 - Jason Gochanour
10-21 - Janice Grandgeorge, Brandon Maier
10-22- Bryce Summers
10-23 - Andrew Pinkele
10-24 - Carl Johnson, Matthew Linn
10-25 - Syrus Willard
10-27 - Oliver Robertson (Son of Mike & Janine)
10-28 - Scott Helgevold, Megan Sailor (Smith)
10-30 - Barb Schmauss

We pray for their health and happiness as we share in their celebration. We appreciate being notified if anyone's birthday is not on the list.

Church Facebook Page

Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our church Service is broadcasted on Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Radio Broadcast

Our church service is also heard on KQWC Radio 97.5 Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Church Website

www.EGELC.org

Church Email

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Pastor Zamzow

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