



BROADCASTER

Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Remain or not Remain, that is the question!

In November of 2018 Michelle Obama's book "BECOMING" hit the bookstores. The book chronicles her life from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as First Lady. While the book was interesting, I would not say that it was special in terms of how Mrs. Obama's life unfolded. Can't we all say the same about ourselves? Are we not always in the process of "BECOMING" no matter where we live, what we do and with whom we share our life?

I am certain that none of you reading this article would claim that you are the same person you were twenty or forty years ago, right!? My personal "BECOMING" goes back to August 1987 when I entered seminary. I bought my first books and needed to put my name in them. This became I moment of crisis for me. What would I write? Solveig Zamzow? Sure, that had been my name since 1976. Nothing wrong with that. But! I have two middle names. Even that is nothing out of the ordinary, really. However, my two middle names say a whole lot about myself and my history. I was thirty-three at the time and never really reflected on or spoke about these middle names because I did not want to tell my story.

September 2026

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SOLVEIG ZAMZOW

You see, I was born out of wedlock and in her attempt to calm and appease my grandmother who was furious at my arrival my mother gave me her mother's name (Anna) and my mom's maternal grandmother's name (Henriette). You follow? This means I have the middle names from my maternal grandmother and great-grandmother. So, forward to 1987, I decided I now was a big girl, going to Seminary and all, and needed to acknowledge my past in a more honest way. Therefore, when you see my official signature it always reads: Solveig A. H. Zamzow.

Looking at the Gospels, have you noticed that many of the people who followed Jesus (or chased him), were looking for something Jesus could do for them and/or get them. I am not sure that they contemplated too deeply what they might become through him... as in more loving, forgiving, more aware of the sin in their own hearts, etc. And Jesus was most perceptive of that. After he had fed the multitudes with a few fish and loaves of bread many followed him by boat to ask for more. Jesus response: *You are looking for me not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate all the food you wanted.* Jesus the food pantry!

The Gospel addresses us each time as we hear it a bit differently and the result (hopefully) is a sort of "growing up" or "becoming" in the faith. Jesus offers us more than whatever we think we need right now to make it through the next stretch of life. He always offers us Himself. By doing so, He also offers us to grow in faith toward Him and in love toward our neighbor. He offers us growth, understanding and transformation for our lives. To think that the Gospel makes no difference in our lives and holding it at arms-length is a huge mistake. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote: *"Jesus Christ incarnate, crucified and glorified, entering my life and taking charge."* Even more, one of the Church Fathers of old, Irenaeus, says: *"It is not you who shapes God. It is God who shapes you. Let the clay be moist, lest you grow hard and lose the imprint of God's finger"*. Think about remaining open, or moist clay as our forefather in the faith says, so that the finger of God can work on you and with each day you are "becoming" more who you are as a child of God.

And remember: while we are becoming more in the image of God, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He remains so we can "become."

I am still "becoming" – how about you? Peace be with you. Pastor Z+



Calling all kids!!

September 20th is THE day!!

Moms and dads, get these kids ready to start a new year of learning about Jesus. We will meet on Sundays between 10:15 and 11:00 am. Our teachers are ready, the curriculum is set and all we need now is eager kids to join in the learning and fun. Questions: call the church office and we will assist gladly. Feel free to invite friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome even if they are not members of our congregation!! We also will install our teachers on September 20th during worship.

CHURCH NEWS

THIS AND THAT – A big “Thank you” goes to all who helped with our VBS in early August. Lindsay and Angela worked hard before and during the week and the kids had a grand time. We are also grateful for all the helpers who came to assist with the kids, who provided lunches and those who hosted our Riverside Counselors. Without all of you we could not have done this!! Thank you one and all.

We thank Del Kramersmeier and Joyce Hill who represented our congregation at the Iowa Mission District of the NALC on August 29th at Cedar Falls. –

A tremendous word of thanks goes to everyone who came out on August 22nd to clean-up the yard, the parsonage and the kitchen. While there is always more to be done, we got sooo much accomplished on that day. The front yard in particular is seeing a nice “facelift.”

Thank you so much everyone and thank you to Dani Eisentrager and Alan Linn for organizing the event. Great job. –

And what can we say about our new Sound System? First off a huge “thank you” goes to Todd Nielsen and our Sound Engineer, Derek, who has made many trips from Ames to Eagle Grove. Todd has spent an incredible amount of time on this! And yet: we know not all issues have been resolved and there were a number of Sundays when hearing anything or watching Facebook Live was nearly impossible. We realize this! However, we are getting closer to the finish line – please hang in there with us. Thank you for sticking it out and being kind as we are ironing out the last boo-boos. The end-result will be glorious.



This is like an I spy picture - Can you find Jim Christ in the tree?



Just a few pictures from our work day. Watch for more in the future of the final results.

COUNCIL MEMBER BRIEF & YOUTH

Church Council Brief

August 5, 2026 Meeting

Church Council August 5, 2016

All reports given and approved.

Pastor Zamzow – 9:00 Wed. Bible Study –Starting Sept. 2 - Living A Chocolate Life

Pastor is looking to have a New Member Sunday in October. She has been busy visiting with the shut-ins. It was mentioned that we send letters of invite to all Sunday School children and encourage parents to bring them to Church and Sunday School

Sarah Jensen spoke to the council regarding the High School Back to School Christian Athlete Night. She had been asked if EGELC would be the host church for it on August 18 from 6:30-8:30 PM. Drake Canavan, EGELC member and college student will be the guest speaker that night. They are planning for 70-80 to be in attendance. Our Youth Activities fund will take care of the cost of the meal.

We will have an all person work day on August 22 at beginning at 7:00 a.m. Alan Linn & Dani Eisentrager will have a lit of projects that need to be done at the church, and parsonage, both inside and out!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School was held on August 3, 4 and 5. We had 4 staff from Riverside Bible Camp that were with us for VBS. The kids all had a great time and enjoyed listening and learning. There was a short program on Wed. the 5th followed by pizza and ice cream.



Our Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, September 20th immediately following our 9:00 am Worship Service. This is YOUR opportunity to make your voice heard, vote, and take part in the planning for our congregation's future. If you need to provide a written report for this meeting, please do so as soon as possible and hand it to Linda Spangler.

STEWARDSHIP

“Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.” –Malachi 3:10

Again and again the Bible lifts up tithing – giving a tenth of our income – as a benchmark for faithful giving. The prophet Malachi goes so far as to say God promises to rain down abundant blessings upon those who tithe. Yet most Christians fall quite short of tithing, generally giving less than 3 percent to the church?

Why? One reason is that in calculating how much to give, most people use the fixed-rate method. They first take stock of how much they are able to give, and then how much they want to give. Weighing these two factors, they then decide how much they will give. There’s nothing particularly bad about this method, but it has limitations. While giving folks an offering amount they can live with, the fixed-rate method doesn’t necessarily put them on the path toward tithing.

A better method is percentage giving, that is, determining your offering as a percentage of income. Here’s how:

Using a calculator, divide your weekly (or monthly, or yearly) church offering by your take-home pay for the same period (week, month or year). Then multiply that figure by 100. This gives you the percentage of your giving. For example, if your weekly offering is \$30 and your weekly take-home pay is \$500, your percentage of giving is 6 percent ($30 \div 500 = 0.06$, then $0.06 \times 100 = 6$).

Can everyone afford to tithe? Of course not. Certainly God would not want children to go hungry or be cold so that their parents could tithe to church, but it’s also true that many of us, maybe most of us, could afford to give more. The important thing is to be prayerful about your offering, be as generous as you are able, and keep tithing in mind, perhaps as a goal.

Keeping track of your giving as a percentage of income provides you with information to gauge your offering and perhaps build up to a tithe. You can make it a goal gradually, over time, to increase the percentage until you reach a tithe – 10 percent. One simple way would be to increase your giving by one half of a percentage point per year.

As Malachi promises, God will bless you richly for your tithing, and not only that, your church will be blessed, too. Switching from fixed-rate giving to percentage giving is a good start. --Rob Blezard Copyright © 2017, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Rob

Blezard is web editor for the Stewardship of Life Institute and pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD.

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CHURCH EVENTS

Golden Confirmation

We are only days away from our Golden Confirmation. September 13th is the big day. Please make special plans to be in worship on that morning. We want to greet our visitors and give them and you the opportunity to re-connect. If you wish to attend the dinner, please let us know and plan on contributing \$20.00. If you wish to join us for the dinner, but your budget is too tight, please visit with Pastor Zamzow as we have some funds available & can help. Thank you to the Evangelism Committee for all the work in preparation for this special event. **Reservations are due Sept.4 .**

Our next evening Bible Study will be on Wednesday, September 9th & 23rd. starting at 7:00 p.m. We will take a closer look at 1. & 2. Timothy. First & Second Timothy are two New Testament letters written by the Apostle Paul to his young protege and pastor, Timothy, offering guidance on church leadership, sound doctrine and endurance in the faith. We will meet twice each month for 1 hour. Consider yourself invited!!



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.



Our Confirmation classes will start up again on Wednesday, September 9th. We will meet from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. If you have a 7th or 8th grade student in your family or know of one who might want to join us, please contact Pastor Z at 641.903.9416.

Did you know...

Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church was started in 1884

The first meeting was held in the home of Ole Frovik, the miller.

The first church was built at 800 N. Wright Street in 1887 for \$800!

In 1894, the building was moved back and a new building was built on the site of the original

In mid 1950's the church members saw a need to build a new, larger church

Several sites were considered before they chose to build on SW 2nd and Garfield.

The new church was completed in 1957 and cost \$300,000. The mortgage was burned within 5 years

Our elevator was completed and used on Christmas Eve 2004 for the first time in memory of Signa Thebiay.

Our current organ was dedicated in 1969. It has 1218 pipes ranging in size from 3/8" to 16 feet in length

Our Baby Grand Piano was dedicated on Sept. 16, 2007.

EGELC has had 17 Pastors since 1884, not counting Contact pastors who served while we looked for a new pastor. Pastor Severtson served for 32 years.

ELCW WOMEN

Hometown Cookin' Favorites

Strawberry Angel Food Dessert

Ingredients:

- 1 large box strawberry Jello
- 1 1/4 cup boiling water
- 1 large ounce carton Cool Whip
- 1 16 ounce package frozen strawberries
- 1 angel food cake

Instructions:

Dissolve Jello in boiling water. Add frozen strawberries and stir until thawed. Chill until partially set. Tear half of the angel food cake into bite size pieces. Place in a 9" x 13" pan. Add Cool Whip to Jello mixture and whip until fluffy. Add 1/2 Jello mixture to angel food cake pieces in the pan. Do not stir. Top with remaining angel food cake pieces and Jello mixture. Chill until firm. Can serve with a dollop of Cool Whip on top.

Enjoy!



**Loretta
Krahling**

ELCW

Our ELCW did not meet, however we did go to visit the residents at Rotary Senior Living. They are so happy to have visitors - so consider taking time once in a while to make their days brighter and stop out to visit. In September we will start making plans at our September 3rd meeting for the Bake Sale on November 14.

I wish to thank the ELCW for their most generous "Appreciation Gift". What a surprise it was. I am using it to provide care for my husband when I am with all of you. The gift certainly touched my heart. Thank you so much. With my sincere gratitude - Pastor Z+

REMEMBER – The Food Panty 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.



Attendance & Giving

DATE	ATTEND- ANCE	GENERAL	BENEVOLENCE
August 2	67	\$ 2,291	\$30
August 9	54	\$ 1,991	\$ 25
August 16	58	\$ 5,856	\$ 5
August 23	90	\$ 2,613	\$ 200
August 30	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Mission of the Month

September Mission of the Month
Iowa Mission District of the
North American Lutheran Church
The mission box is located on the table in
the back of the sanctuary.

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms: 0 Funerals: 2
Weddings: 0 New Members: 0



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

9---1 – Dakotah Halstead,
9---2 – Sheryl Schipull, Caleb Johnston
9---3 – Mark Sampson,
9---5 – Alexander Frakes, Michelle Haugland,
9---6 - Daryl Hansen, Piper Harvey
9---7- Dana Watson
9---8 - Cheryl Johnson
9-10 - Lou Voss
9-11 - Teresa Pauls, Scott Halverson
9-12 - Ann Sampson, Tammy Dawson, David Muzzey
9-17 - Corey Tweeten
9-18 - Abbii Hinz,
9-19 –Sabrina Flumerfelt, Joseph Loomis
9-20 – Olivia Conaway
9-21 - Stephanie Reekers
9-22 - Brittany Allen, Ann Beecher
9-23 - Don Flumerfelt, Chris Havican,
9-24- Jacob Rosa, Bridget Olson
9-25 - Tiffany Christensen, Reese Boyd
9-26 - Holly Harding, Jason Cooper
9-27 – Elinor Jensen
9-28 - Maureen Locke, Jerry Riley, Charlotte Haugland
9 -30 - Kaitlyn Blasi, Marge Sheets

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

egelc@goldfieldaccess.net

515-448-3697

Pastor Zamzow

641-903-9416
solveigzamzow@gmail.com

**Eagle Grove Evangelical
Lutheran Church
PO Box 68
Eagle Grove, IA 50533**