

Wilson Lutheran Church
401 310th Street
Wilson WI 54027
Address Service Requested

Mission Statement
Gathered. Renewed. Sent

We are:
Gathered by the Spirit.
Renewed by the Word.
Sent to Serve

February, 2025 Newsletter for Wilson Lutheran Church



Wilson Lutheran Church
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Cover Picture by Pastor Doug Brandt

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

February 2025 – Season of Epiphany

Epiphany: an appearance or manifestation especially of a divine being.

“The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God’s glory when and where God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory slip through our midst unnoticed.” (*Sundays and Seasons Year C 2025, Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis MN*)

Sunday, February 2 – Epiphany 4

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: Green
- ❖ Holy Communion
- ❖ Readings: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Luke 4:21-30: People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

Sunday, February 9 – Epiphany 5

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: Green
- ❖ Readings: Isaiah 6:1-13; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-12
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Luke 5:1-11: Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement leads these three fishermen to leave everything behind to become apostles.

Sunday, February 16 – Epiphany 6

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: Green
- ❖ Holy Communion
- ❖ Readings: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Luke 6:27-38: After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

Sunday, February 23 – Epiphany 7

- ❖ Liturgy: Evangelical Lutheran Worship
- ❖ Color: Green
- ❖ Readings: Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
- ❖ Holy Gospel: Luke 6:27-38: Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

MISSION STATEMENT

GATHERED – RENEWED – SENT

Gathered by the Spirit. Renewed by the Word. Sent to Serve.

Pastor's Office Hours: Pastor Bob may be reached at the church office, 715-772-3150, Wednesday through Friday, and Saturday morning. In the event of an emergency or hospitalization, he can be reached at 612-270-3838 (cell), or by email at PastorBob@wwt.net.

W/ELCA Meetings: The next regular WELCA meeting will be held Thursday, February 13, beginning with the bible study at 9:30 a.m. The bible study is open to all members – men and women – of the congregation and friends. Monthly WELCA meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, immediately following the bible study. All women of the church are invited to attend.

W/ELCA Meeting Minutes:

There was no meeting in January.

Wilson Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights – January 9, 2025

Pastor Bob gave his report from the last council meeting (see attachment). Pastor Bob gave an update on his health.

- The Spring Valley Community Cancer Fund and two local food pantries sent Thank You notes for the cash donations from the Virtual Christmas Poinsettias.
- The Annual Congregation meeting will be held Sunday, January 26, 2025, immediately following church service. A potluck will follow the meeting.
- Mary Brandt has communicated her retirement, with her last day being Sunday, January 29, 2025. We are grateful for her time and talents! A celebration with cake and fellowship will be held in honor of Mary following church service.
- Chandra Lamb has agreed to be the new music leader.

Annual Meeting of Wilson Lutheran Church - January 26, 2025

Printed Copies of the Annual Report for the Year ending December 31, 2024 were made available to the congregation prior to and after the meeting. Extra Copies are available upon request.

The Annual Meeting of Wilson Lutheran Church was called to order at 9:48 by Council President Dave Powers. Pastor Bob opened the meeting with a Litany and Prayer. He followed up with an update on his health, and expressed a big Thank You for the support from everyone.

Council President 's Report:

- The Council President report was presented by President Dave Powers.
- Dave reported on 2 major maintenance projects completed for 2024. Those being parking lot resurfacing and carpet replacement on the back stairway and in the sacristy.
- Project planned for 2025-Replacement of front doors at the Narthex.
- Dave reported 5 new members in 2024
- The church financial position is good.

A motion was made by Doug Faber to accept the President's Report, motion second by Beka Stoltman. Motion carried.

Minutes:

- Annual Minutes are included in 2024 Annual Report for attendees to read.

Financial Report:

- The Financial Report is included for members to review. A motion was made by Don Hogenson to approve the report. Second by Chuck Walz. Motion carried.

Committee Report:

- Audi Committee-Shirley Rostamo and Jill Menk met on January 16. They found everything was in order. Shirley and Jill have agreed to continue on the audit committee for 2025.
- Cemetery Report-Doug Faber reported on the Cemetery Fund. No concerns noted.
- Endowment Committee-Doug Faber reported there is no change, and that the fund did well this year. The endowment was again this year to give \$500 to Luther Point, Luther Park, Feed My People Food Bank-Eau Claire, Salvation Army-St. Croix County, ELCA World Hunger, and ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response.
- Nominating Committee-Kathy Borton and Ginnie Overland have agreed to stay on the committee for 2025. There was one council term that has expired at the end of 2024. That position was held by Tracy Davis. Tracy has agreed to serve another term on the council. A motion was made by Sue Timm to accept Tracy Davis to another term on the council. Motion second by Beka Stoltman. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- None

New business:

- 2025 Budget reviewed. Motion made by Sharon Bowell to approve the 2025 Budget, second by Scott Borton. Motion Carried.
- Other business
Mary Brandt discussed the procedure she used for selecting hymns for worship. Mary's last Sunday being music leader is January 26, 2025 A Thank You gathering for Mary will be held after worship on February 2, 2025.
- Chandra Lamb has agreed to take the position of music leader. Discussion will not be held until Chandra is available to be involved with the discussion of how to go about hymn selection.
- Dave Powers reported he, Pastor Bob, and Beka Stoltman attended the Annual Assembly Meeting this fall. They felt the Assembly was interesting. They participated in voting for our new Bishop. Pastor Bob reported Halman will preside at worship some time in February.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chuck Walz, second by Doug Faber. Motion carried. We closed the meeting at 10:34 A.M.

Respectfully submitted, Barb Knopps, Secretary

Food Pantry Support: Thank you for your continuing support of our hunger ministry. Your contributions are making a difference. January contributions will go to the Woodville Food Pantry. The February contributions will go to Baldwin.

We continue to hear about the increase in the number of families using food shelf programs. Plus the elimination of federal food share programs has impacted our senior citizens and those with disabilities, which means local food shelves are in even greater need of our support. Please remember our neighbors in need. Your contributions to the food pantry box in the narthex are making a real-world difference in the lives of others.

Tuesday Community Supper: First Reformed Church will be serving the Tuesday Community Supper from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4th in the Fellowship Hall at Gethsemane Lutheran Church. The menu is: Lasagna Roll Ups, Lettuce/Spinach Salad, Corn, Bun and Fruit Cobbler.

The Tuesday Community Supper is served the first Tuesday of the month at Gethsemane Lutheran, 1350 Florence Street, Baldwin, Wisconsin. This is a free meal open to anyone in the community. Area churches, businesses and organizations take turns preparing and serving good nutritious food.

ACOLYTE and READER SCHEDULE

| Month | Date | Acolyte | Reader |
|------------------------|------|---------|-----------------|
| February | | | |
| | 2 | Maggie | Ginny Overland |
| | 9 | | Darren Peterson |
| | 16 | Aaran | Dean Rambo |
| | 23 | | Jes Lamb |
| March | | | |
| <i>Transfiguration</i> | 2 | Maggie | Rex Brandt |
| <i>Ash Wednesday</i> | 5 | Aran | Tracy Davis |
| | 9 | | Barb Knopps |
| | 16 | Aran | Doug Faber |
| | 23 | | Sherry Ellefson |
| | 30 | Maggie | Janet Brandt |

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

| Month | Altar Care | Communion Assistant | Ushers | Sundays |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| February | 1 st and 2 nd Sundays: Tracy Davis 3 rd and 4 th Sundays: Sue Timm | Linda Powers | Dave and Linda Powers | 4 Sundays |
| March | Help Needed | Help Needed | Help Needed | 5 Sundays Ash Wednesday |

Please check the clipboards on the table in the narthex for months still needing your help. If you're unable to serve the entire month, perhaps you could share the Sundays with another person? Please let Pastor Bob know if you are able to help, or sign up on the sheets in the narthex.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

| Birthdays | | | | Anniversaries | |
|-----------|------------------|--------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Feb 2 | Judy Johnson | Feb 9 | Charles Howell | | No February Anniversaries |
| Feb 5 | Lisa Howell | Feb 12 | Barry Brandvold | | |
| Feb 6 | Carolyn Anderson | Feb 14 | Theresa Pomasl | | |
| Feb 7 | Tanner Howell | Feb 19 | Brenda Keck | | |

UPCOMING EVENTS – 2025

| DATE | Time | EVENT |
|-------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| February 2 | 9:00 a.m. | Mary Brandt Sending and Blessing |
| February 23 | 9:00 a.m. | Austin Faber Baptism |
| March 5 | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Wednesday Worship |
| March 12 | 6:00 p.m. | Lent Soup Supper |
| March 12 | 7:00 p.m. | Lent Worship |
| March 19 | 6:00 p.m. | Lent Soup Supper |
| March 19 | 7:00 p.m. | Lent Worship |
| March 26 | 6:00 p.m. | Lent Soup Supper |
| March 26 | 7:00 p.m. | Lent Worship |

Bishop Martin Halom to Visit Wilson

Please join us on Sunday, February 2nd as we welcome our new Synod Bishop, Martin Halom, to Wilson Lutheran. Bishop Halom will preach and assist with Communion.

Bishop Halom was elected at Synod Assembly in June of 2024. Prior to serving as Bishop he served St. John's Lutheran Church in Bloomer, Wisconsin. He had served that congregation since 2012. Prior to that, he was campus pastor at University Lutheran Church, East Lansing, Michigan (2003-2012); associate pastor, American Lutheran Church, Rantoul, Illinois. (1999-2003); youth and family ministries director, Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota (1995-1997, youth ministry associate, Lutherdale Bible Camp, Elkhorn, Wisconsin (1994-1995), and program associate at Green Lake Bible Camp, Spicer, Minnesota (1993-1994).

Bishop Halom earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and a Masters of Divinity at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. He and his wife, the Rev. Melinda Halom, have three grown sons, Nicholas, Jaden, and Dylan.

Pastor's Health Update

First, thank you for all the cards, emails, text messages, and phone calls I received these last several months. They have truly meant a lot to me, particularly during some of the darkest times when the chemo treatments kicked me to the curb for a week or longer. I am blessed by your love and support.

So, where are things right now? The last CT scan (January 20th) showed the tumor in the right lung had decreased in size by half. Others remained stable and unchanged. The adrenal gland tumors also decreased in size, again by almost half. I'm taking all that as good news. Although this type of cancer is not curable and can find other places to hang out whenever and wherever it wants, for now it's treatable.

Going forward, I've begun a "maintenance" (my word for it) course of chemo every three weeks, the after effects of which are mild to nonexistent compared to the treatment series I just finished. This will continue until around the end of April, at which time another CT scan will be done to determine the future course of treatment. Unless something unexpected shows up, the current treatment plan will likely continue through the end of the year. The best thing is that, after more than a year of treatment that pretty much drained me, my energy level has begun to improve (although I still need a catnap once in a while), and I've begun to feel like my old self again. I trust that will get even more gooder in the days and weeks ahead.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT WILSON



Easton Kerr was baptized into the body of Christ on Sunday, January 12th. Easton's parents are Kurtis Kerr and Madelyn Olson. His sponsors are Tanner Bowell, Dakota Kerr, and Libby Whirry.

Welcome to God's family Easton!



Lola Scott became Mrs. Steve Slottevig on Saturday, January 18th. Rex Brandt was the Best Man and Janet Brandt the Maid of Honor. Congratulations Steve and Lola! May God bless your time together.

Revised Common Lectionary
Daily Readings – Year C
February 2025

| Date | Day | Psalm | Old Testament | Epistle | Gospel |
|-------------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Saturday | Psalm 71:1-6 | 2 Chronicles 36:11-21 | | John 1:43-51 |
| 2 | Sunday | Psalm 71:1-6 | Jeremiah 1:4-10 | 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 | Luke 4:21-30 |
| 3 | Monday | Psalm 56 | 1 Kings 17:8-16 | 1 Corinthians 2:6-16 | |
| 4 | Tuesday | Psalm 56 | 2 Kings 5:1-14 | 1 Corinthians 14:13-25 | |
| 5 | Wednesday | Psalm 56 | Jeremiah 1:11-19 | | Luke 19:41-44 |
| 6 | Thursday | Psalm 138 | Numbers 20:22-29 | Acts 9:19b-25 | |
| 7 | Friday | Psalm 138 | Numbers 27:12-23 | Acts 9:26-31 | |
| 8 | Saturday | Psalm 138 | Judges 3:7-11 | | Luke 4:42-44 |
| 9 | Sunday | Psalm 138 | Isaiah 6:1-13 | 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 | Luke 5:1-11 |
| 10 | Monday | Psalm 115 | Judges 5:1-11 | 1 Corinthians 14:26-40 | |
| 11 | Tuesday | Psalm 115 | 1 Samuel 9:15-10:1b | 1 Timothy 3:1-9 | |
| 12 | Wednesday | Psalm 115 | Isaiah 8:1-15 | | Luke 5:27-32 |
| 13 | Thursday | Psalm 1 | Jeremiah 13:12-19 | Acts 13:26-34 | |
| 14 | Friday | Psalm 1 | Jeremiah 13:20-27 | 1 Peter 1:17-2:1 | |
| 15 | Saturday | Psalm 1 | Jeremiah 17:1-4 | | Luke 11:24-28 |
| 16 | Sunday | Psalm 1 | Jeremiah 17:5-10 | 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 | Luke 6:17-26 |
| 17 | Monday | Psalm 120 | 2 Kings 24:18-25:21 | 1 Corinthians 15:20-34 | |
| 18 | Tuesday | Psalm 120 | Ezra 1:1-11 | 2 Corinthians 1:12-19 | |
| 19 | Wednesday | Psalm 120 | Jeremiah 22:11-17 | | Luke 11:37-52 |
| 20 | Thursday | Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 | Genesis 43:16-34 | Romans 8:1-11 | |
| 21 | Friday | Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 | Genesis 44:1-17 | 1 John 2:12-17 | |
| 22 | Saturday | Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 | Genesis 44:18-34 | | Luke 12:57-59 |
| 23 | Sunday | Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 | Genesis 45:3-11, 15 | 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 | Luke 6:27-38 |
| 24 | Monday | Psalm 38 | Genesis 33:1-17 | 1 Corinthians 11:2-16 | |
| 25 | Tuesday | Psalm 38 | 1 Samuel 24:1-22 | 1 Corinthians 11:17-22, 27-33 | |
| 26 | Wednesday | Psalm 38 | Leviticus 5:1-13 | | Luke 17:1-4 |
| 27 | Thursday | Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 | Proverbs 13:1-12 | Romans 5:12-6:2 | |
| 28 | Friday | Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 | Proverbs 15:1-9 | 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 | |

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Prayer Ventures
February 2025

1 World Interfaith Harmony Week (U.N.) Ask the Spirit to help congregations create opportunities for dialogue and learning with people whose religious beliefs and traditions are different from our own, for the sake of peace, harmony, cooperation and mutual understanding.

2 The word of God brings joy and comfort to us yet is sometimes difficult to hear. Pray that we will reflect on how God's word strikes us, especially when it challenges what is safe, familiar and comfortable in our lives.

3 Ask God to help us move beyond our apprehensions, anger and entrenched beliefs so that we might confess and address deeply rooted aspects of racism that poison relationships, workplaces, society and the church. Pray for the Spirit to remind us that we are children of God who live in grace and are called to love, respect and serve one another — complexities, differences and all.

4 Among all our gifts and abilities, the most important is love for God and our neighbors — family, strangers and siblings in Christ alike. Praise God for teaching us what love entails through the selfless, unreserved and undeserved love of Jesus Christ for humankind.

5 Pray for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries of the ELCA, which seeks, supports, nurtures and sends pastors and seminary students to serve as federal chaplains and chaplain candidates for the U.S. military, Veterans Affairs hospitals and federal correctional institutions. Give thanks for chaplains and the gifts that the Spirit nurtures within them as they serve in unique contexts.

6 Lift up prayers and songs of praise to God for being the bright light in the world that illuminates the one true and enduring source of hope, guidance and eternal life — Jesus Christ.

7 Use the words of Psalm 71:3 in your prayer to God today: "Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress."

8 Pray for our neighbors and siblings in Christ who labor in one or more jobs to meet basic daily needs for

themselves and their families. Ask God to strengthen and sustain their spiritual and physical strength and to help us be supportive, caring and generous neighbors.

9 Ask God to help us be attentive and responsive to how God speaks to us through Scripture, the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, the work of the Spirit and the encouragement and admonition offered by our siblings in Christ.

10 Give thanks for the ELCA's commitment to accompany and work with interreligious partners, including the Shoulder-to-Shoulder Campaign, an initiative that connects, equips and mobilizes leaders and members of faith communities to address anti-Muslim discrimination and violence, foster greater understanding and shift attitudes about Islam and Muslims in our country.

11 What tasks feel overwhelming to you right now? Ask God to renew your spirit for undertaking those things that are difficult to work through and accomplish.

12 Remember in prayer our ministries in nine African countries. Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, International Women Leaders and Young Adults in Global Mission who work alongside companion churches to help spread the gospel, equip leaders, grow the church and respond to community needs.

13 We are recipients and beneficiaries of the good news of Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and imperfections and defied the finality of death so that we could live with newfound freedom in this world, and forever in the kingdom of God.

14 Give thanks to God for the leaders of our church who respond to God's call by serving as ministers of Word and Sacrament and ministers of Word and Service. Ask the Spirit to sustain their faith, inspire their joy in ministry and equip them with gifts and skills for serving in diverse and challenging contexts.

15 Pray for peace, healing and justice, especially in the critical contexts of Ukraine, Russia, Haiti, the Middle East, troubled regions of Africa and wherever conflict and war exist in the world.

16 Remember in prayer those impacted by the wildfires in Southern California and by severe winter weather, and those involved in long-term recovery from

disasters. Give thanks for Lutheran Disaster Response and for synods and congregations that provide financial support, resources, volunteers and encouragement.

17 Pray for the 300 health and human service organizations that form the alliance of Lutheran Services in America and serve more than 6 million people every year in the United States and the Caribbean. Pray that our work together through these organizations will provide us with abundant resources and skills to respond to the unique needs of people of all ages.

18 “I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you” (Isaiah 43:1-2). Give thanks and praise to God for being our ever-present help in every circumstance of life.

19 Praise God for the work of the Spirit, which creates and nurtures our faith and hope in Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, whose love has no limits and endures through our ups and downs.

20 World Day of Social Justice (U.N.) Ask for God’s help to advance social justice everywhere, to foster healthy societies and economies, to end inequality and discrimination, and to increase inclusion — issues critical for the well-being of our neighbors and communities.

21 Thank God for the ELCA’s special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

22 Remember in prayer our ministries in nine countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel and Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers, who help deepen relationships of accompaniment with companion churches and who work to develop leaders, strengthen education and health ministries, and confront issues of migration and gender justice.

23 “Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you” (Luke 6:27-28). Pray for

humility and courage to love our neighbors as God has loved us.

24 In the dreariness of winter, when nature seems lifeless, give thanks to God for the people and little things reminding us that life endures, though we might think it depleted. God’s ability to create, revive and sustain life — even in us — is cause for joy and thanksgiving!

25 Pray for synod bishops gathering for the spring Conference of Bishops in Itasca, Ill., that the Spirit will guide and enrich their time together for worship, study, mutual sharing, and conducting business. Give thanks for their guidance of our church and ask God to equip them for leadership, service and responding to the growing challenges of ministry in our 65 synods.

26 Give thanks for the work we do together through programs, ministries and initiatives of the ELCA and our synods. Pray that our church will thrive and that we will inspire faith and hope wherever we share the good news of Jesus Christ.

27 “Esteem [the Bible] as the precious fountain that can never be exhausted” (Martin Luther, Table Talk). What stories and texts in the Bible are most familiar to you? Pray for the Spirit to help you discover something new and revealing each time you read or hear those familiar texts.

28 Pray for the ministries unique to your community, that we will consider the people and needs they serve, value their staff and volunteers, and generously support their work.

February 2025

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|----------|
| 26 9:00 Worship | 27 Pastor's Sabbath | 28 Pastor's Day Off | 29 6:00 Confirmation | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| 2 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion Bishop Halom Visit Mary Brandt Sending and Blessing | 3 Pastor's Sabbath | 4 Pastor's Day Off | 5 6:00 Confirmation | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 9:00 Worship | 10 Pastor's Sabbath | 11 Pastor's Day Off | 12 6:00 Confirmation | 13 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 WELCA 12:30 Council | 14  | 15 |
| 16 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion Newsletter Deadline | 17 Pastor's Sabbath President's Day | 18 | 19 6:00 Confirmation | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:00 Worship Austin Faber Baptism | 24 Pastor's Sabbath | 25 Pastor's Day Off | 26 6:00 Confirmation | 27 | 28 | March 1 |