



Cambridge Lutheran Church ELCA
319 W. Court St.
Cambridge, IL 61238

January 2026
Volume 62 No. 1
Making Christ Known for 151 years
1875-2026

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

JOIN US for Sunday Worship 11:00 am or watch virtually on Facebook

Ministers	The whole congregation!
Pastor	Pr. Stacy Christianson
Council Vice President	Jason Gustafson
Council Secretary	Heather Usrey
Parish Secretary	Emily Galle
Director of Music	Susie VanWynsberghe

CAMBRIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

We are ordinary people who come together to share our joys and burdens, grow in faith, serve our world and have fun as a community, by **making Christ known.**

Church Telephone: 309-937-5798

Church e-mail: cambluth@gmail.com

Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/cambridge.lutheranchurch/>

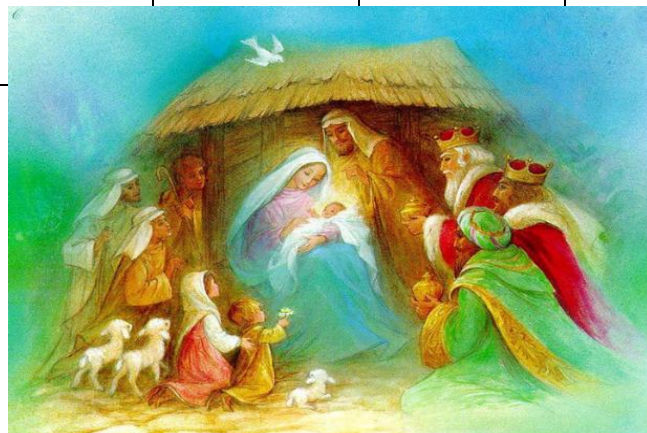
Website: www.cambridgelutheranil.org

Online Giving Link: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1689254>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 	2	3
4 No Sunday School 11 am Worship	5	6	7	8 6:00pm Council Mtg	9	10
11 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship 12 pm Confirmation Class	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 No Sunday School 11 am Worship	26	27	28	29	30	31

***Merry Christmas to all and
A Blessed New Year.***



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*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



*Oh, star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light*

There are not many hymns or songs out there that are familiar to help celebrate this day so every year I go back to the song that I learned as a child, We Three Kings, but in all honesty the only verse I remember is the one printed above because this is the one that always spoke to me.

As we celebrate Epiphany, in scripture this story is found in Matthew 2 and tells of the Wise Men following a star to Jesus. But as the name of this day shows, it is about more than just the Bible story of the Wise Men. As the dictionary explains, an epiphany is a moment of insight or revelation, especially around a manifestation or insight about the divine.

This moment of insight is what I think of on Epiphany. Which is probably why I am so drawn to this verse of the song. Star of wonder, star of night. Star with royal beauty bright. Epiphany is about being shown the way to Jesus. It is about the light that shines in the darkness and leads us to the manifestation of God.

During this season of Epiphany, let's be on the lookout for that perfect light that leads us to God's activity in the world. Maybe it is the glistening off the ice on the tree branches. Maybe that perfect light is found in this tune that is now replaying in your head. Maybe it is found in the neighbor who has helped with snow removal or a friend who called to check in with you. God's light comes in many different forms yet all of it shows us the manifestation of divine love in our lives.

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

In Christ,
Pr. Stacy

Thank you for all the Christmas gifts and checkins during my recovery for my knee. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated!

Pr. Stacy



BIG THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH LUNCH AND BAKE

SALE: Thanks to Dan Humphrey, Ron Reed, Jack Wells and John for setting up the fellowship hall. A big thanks to Charlene, Diane, and Colleen for getting things marked and set out. Thanks to workers: Denise Brown, Deana Happel, Emily Galle, Heather Usrey, Colleen, Diane, and Charlene. You did great!!! Johnna, Kathy, Janice, Karen G. also brought baked goods. We made \$600 bake sale and \$400 on the barbeque lunch, so that will go to the picture restoration account. With such terrible weather in December, we were lucky to get the event in.

John made another trip to Iowa City this week so hopefully the bleeding problem is solved. The removal of a growth on his kidney was successful. I am finally starting to walk on my leg without sciatic pain. Hopefully the rest of 2025 will be better.

NO MORNING MARTHAS IN JANUARY.

We will feed the kids in January with leftovers from the barbeque lunch.

Sad note, we lost a faithful board member and friend. Linda Lievens passed away on Tuesday, December 2nd, at home. There will be a memorial service at a later date, March 21.

**WISHING YOU A PEACEFUL AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!
STAY WARM AND HEALTHY.**

Linda Roehrs, convener

Confirmation Class

Sunday, January 18th after worship

January Sunday School Classes

Sunday School will be January 11 and 18th at 10:00am

Notice



Notice is hereby given that the 151st Annual Meeting of the Cambridge Lutheran Church will be held on February 8th, 2026 following Worship in the Sanctuary. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend, but only voting members can vote on agenda items. A voting member is defined as a confirmed member who has both communed and made a contribution on record in the past two years.

Annual Meeting – Your Attendance Matters

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 8th after worship, and we strongly encourage all voting members to attend.

In recent years, attendance has been low enough that we risk not having a quorum, which is legally required to conduct church business. Without sufficient participation, we are unable to make decisions that are essential to the life and future of our congregation.

If you care about this church and its ongoing ministry, please make attending this meeting a priority.

A voting member is a confirmed member who has both communed and made a contribution of record within the past two years.

Your presence matters. We hope to see you on February 8.

Altarpiece Restoration Fund Update

Thank you for your continued support of our Altarpiece Restoration Project. This effort will preserve our historic 1918 painting Jesus and His Followers, a meaningful and long-loved centerpiece of our sanctuary.

Current Progress:

- Funds Raised: \$7,147.01
- Commitments: \$0.00
- Matching Funds Contributed: \$4,585.00
- Total So Far: \$11,732.01

Our total fundraising goal is \$27,072.50 and thanks to generous support from memorials and WELCA, all gifts are matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$12,300. With \$7,715 in matching funds still available, every contribution now goes twice as far.

To give, you may mail a donation, place it in the offering plate, drop it off at the office, or give online under “Giving.” Please designate gifts for the Altarpiece Restoration Project.

Together, we are helping preserve this beautiful piece of our church’s history for generations to come.

Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2026 offering envelopes in the Narthex, available beginning Sunday, December 28, and in the weeks following.

If you do not currently receive offering envelopes and would like them, please call the church office at 309-937-5798 or e-mail cambluth@gmail.com.

Remember, you may support our church in a variety of ways. Offerings may be placed in the offering plate on Sundays, dropped off at the church office during office hours, mailed to the church, or given securely online through our website via Tithe.ly. Contributions may be made weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually, or on any schedule that works best for you.

Thank you for your faithful support of our ministry.

Giving Through Your IRA

Did you know that if you are 70½ or older, you can donate to the church directly from your IRA through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)?

A QCD allows your gift to go straight from your IRA to the church and not be counted as taxable income. For those taking Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs), a QCD can also count toward that requirement.

It's a simple, tax-advantaged way to support our ministry. If you're interested, your financial planner or tax advisor can help you get started.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

Inclement Weather and Sunday Mornings

If weather conditions are poor, we may cancel Sunday School and/or worship. If we cancel, we will communicate our closing on the Cambridge Lutheran Church Facebook page, as well as KWQC TV6 and WQAD 8. As well, even when we don't cancel activities on a given Sunday for bad weather, if you feel the weather makes it unsafe for you to attend, please stay home and be safe.

WELCA BBQ Lunch and Bake Sale

Thank you to everyone who supported our lunch and bake sale!



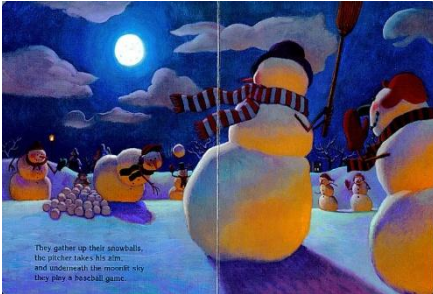
On December 7th, our church had our annual barbecue lunch and bake sale, Barb Montgomery asked if she could buy what baked goods were left for the homeless in the Quad Cities. This is such a worthy cause. We wanted to give these goods to her, but she insisted she pay half price. The money we made that day will go to the preservation of our painting in our church and Cambridge Cares.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Chad Hutchinson Jan. 2nd
Michael Beam Jan. 3rd
Al Steider Jan. 3rd

Stacy Markey Jan. 10th
Lilah Jacobs Jan. 13th
John Usrey Jan. 16th
Dave Reppert Jan. 19th
Tom McKie Jan. 20th
Kathy Reed Jan. 17th

Danielle Little Jan. 22nd
Jean Haverback Jan. 25th
Carole Robertson Jan. 30th
Joni Johnson Jan. 31st



Happy Anniversary!

Jason & Marjorie Wells January 4th

***If your birthday or anniversary is not correct, or you wish to be added or removed, please call the church office at 309-937-5798 or e-mail cambluth@gmail.com

THANK YOU to the Newsletter Ladies for taking time out of your busy day to mail the newsletters.



**A wonderful memory from 2025,
as Cambridge Lutheran Church celebrated 150 years!**