



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

MAY 2026
Volume 62 No. 5
Making Christ Known for 151 years
1875-2026

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SPRING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Ministers	The whole congregation!
Pastor	Pr. Stacy Christianson
Council Vice President	Heather Usrey
Council Secretary	Jason Gustafson
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 10:00 Sun Sch 11:00 Worship Blessing of Seniors Reception following	4	5	6 9:30am Morning Marthas	7	8	9
10 10:00 Last Day of Sun Sch 11:00 Worship Congregation Mtg following Worship Mother's Day	11	12	13	14 6:00pm Council Mtg.	15	16
17 11:00 Worship 1:00 pm CHS Graduation 3:00pm Food Pantry	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 11:00 Worship	25 Memorial Day 	26	27	28	29	30
31 11:00 Worship						

*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



*For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. ~
Ephesians 2:10 (New Living Translation)*

I was attending a continuing education event this past week and this was the verse used during our devotions. As is often the case,

Bible verses mean more to us because of events around them or experiences that help to interpret them for this specific moment in our lives. This happened for me, as I have recently attended a three-day training on helping to facilitate conversations for joint ministry. As we are well aware, many churches can't afford full-time ministry anymore so new and creative options will need to be found. Given this context, I appreciate this verse from Ephesians for these valuable reminders:

- There is always a "we" and not an I. God does not call us into anything alone, but rather as a part of community. We, the collective people of God, are God's masterpiece.
- It is Jesus Christ that allows us to be created anew. Our reality is that we are always being made new, because change is always around us. Nothing stays the same in our world, and we cannot make things stop changing no matter how hard we try.
- God calls us to do good things in the world. When God created the world, God declared all things good. So it only stands to reason that when things are created anew, they too are created good. And we are agents of those good things that are done.
- God has a plan. We are workers in God's kingdom to bring about that plan. We, the collective Body of Christ, work together for the sake of God's will. We are not in charge- God is.
- It is through all of these things in which we are masterpieces of God's creation. As we look to the ever-changing world (and church) around us. It is my prayer that we remember that we are God's masterpiece working together, through the mission of Jesus Christ, to bring about God's new creation. We are not called to an easy time in the church, but we are called to do the good work of God's plan in our little place in the world. May God give us the wisdom and strength to do this good things according to God's will.

Blessings,

Pr. Stacy

Welcome to a wet April. We will meet on Wednesday, May 6th at 9:30 in fireside room. Colleen and myself will serve and the lesson will be a group project on “God’s Name, God’s Promise”-

Colleen -I AM; Emily-Bread of Life; Charlene-Light of the World; Linda-The True Vine.

Main business discussing outing in June.

Sandy Swanson and myself attended the West Conference Spring Assembly at Calvary Lutheran Church in Moline on Saturday, April 18. The speaker was Cloey Miller, Co-Founder and Director of the Third Place. They are a non-profit organization dedicated to helping those persons experiencing housing instability. On Saturday, April 25, NISWO is sponsoring a retreat at LOMC “THE WORD OF GOD”. The speaker is Pastor Laurie Hensley, from Bethany ELCA in Woodhull. “Raising Our Voices: Proclaiming the Gospel When the World is Loud” Proclamation isn’t shouting louder than hate...its speaking, living, and standing in love, truth, and justice as people claimed in Christ.

“Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ” I Peter 4:11

Holy, loving and gracious God, your son Jesus came among us that we may have life and have it in abundance. Yet so many of us feel that life is far away. Lead and guide us and all creation from fear to love, from anxiety to peace, from death to life. You are the risen one the Son and the Holy Spirit. In your name we pray. Amen

Gather p37 God’s name

Morning Marathas Wednesday, May 6, 9:30 fireside room

Clean-up day Saturday, April 25

Linda Roehrs, convener



Prayer Team Text Group

We have been discussing better ways to get our prayer Warriors praying. A prayer text group has started, and we would love to add you to the group. If you know someone that could use prayers, send a text with a prayer request. If you don't use text, you will stay on the call list. We've created a few rules to keep it simple.

Prayer Team Text Group Rules

1. Get permission from mentioned party or family member before texting requests to group.
2. **Do not respond** to group text as everyone will receive the text. For prayer requests only.
3. Keep messages to requests only.
4. Request should be basic prayer request no details or additional information needed

Example: Please pray for "John Doe" as he struggles with medical issues

Any questions, concerns or to be removed from text group, please contact the church or Emily at 309/945-3326.

Congratulations Cambridge Graduates



The Cambridge Catholic Church will be hosting the Class of 2026 Baccalaureate on May 10th at 5:00p.m. Graduation will be held on May 17th 1:00p.m. at the Cambridge High School



We will recognize these seniors during the May 3rd church service with a reception following worship.

**Congratulations to
Talan Fransene
Addison Little**



The Sunday School year end is almost here. Two more weeks of lessons, May 3rd & 10th at 10:00 am.

National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 7th. A service will be at the Cambridge Methodist Church at 6:00pm

Altarpiece Restoration Project – Goal Reached!

We're excited to share that we have reached our fundraising goal for the altarpiece restoration project.

Thank you to everyone who contributed. Your generosity, along with fundraiser activities and matching funds, made this possible.

We will soon move forward with the restoration and will share updates as the work progresses.

Thank you for helping care for our church home and preserve this meaningful piece for the future.

Congregation Meeting

The Council has called a congregation meeting to follow worship on
Sunday May 10th.

This is a single agenda meeting regarding the restoration of the altar painting.



Lenten Offering – Cambridge Cares

During the season of Lent, we came together in support of Cambridge Cares through our Lenten offerings.

Through midweek Lenten worship offerings, Sunday special offerings, Good Friday worship, and Noisy Offerings, a total of \$789.59 was raised.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping extend care and support to those in our community.

Worship Assistants Needed

Please consider signing up to serve as a worship assistant (reader, greeter, or communion assistant). You can sign up online or contact the church office.

Living Our Faith in the Community

Our faith is not meant to stay within our walls. It takes shape in how we show up for others through service, generosity, and care.

As we live that out, consider who you might invite to join you, whether in worship, service, or simply being part of our community.

Spring Cleaning & Care Day – Thank You!

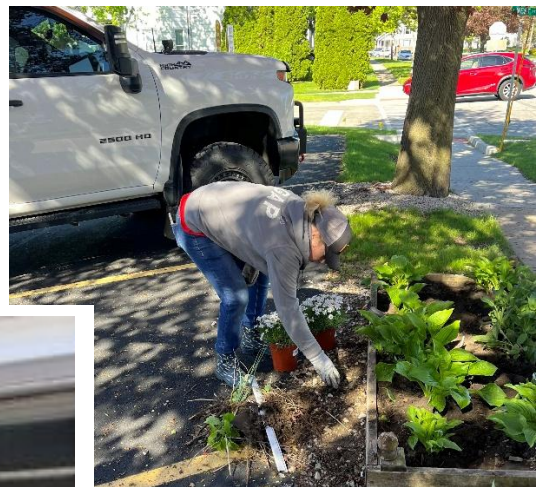
On Saturday, April 25, we came together for our Spring Cleaning & Care Day, accomplishing a wide range of projects both inside and outside the church.

Those who participated included: Deena Happel, James Williams, Kyle Markey, Stacy Markey, Jade Markey, Emily Galle, Dan Galle, John Roehrs, Linda Roehrs, Andrew Gustafson, Lucas Gustafson, Jason Gustafson, Charlene Wells, Johnna Olson, and Coleen Usrey.

From cleaning and organizing to outdoor work and small repairs, so much was accomplished because of your willingness to serve. Many hands truly made light work, and our church home is better because of it.

We also enjoyed time together over lunch, a wonderful reminder of the fellowship that makes our church community so special.

Thank you for helping care for our church home and for one another.



Church Family,

I am excited to take point on the ministry we have pledged to our food pantry by supplying Cake Kits. I am humbled (and dare I say proud) by the response you have made to the Confirmation Class project. I am so blessed to be in such a community. The kits the Confirmation Class assembled were debut at the Cambridge Food Pantry on April 19th. I was able to see firsthand how this ministry lit up the pantry! The kits were nearly gone with the first dozen clients using the food pantry. Standing back and watching filled my heart that WE put happiness and a smile in that place on that Sunday!

Based on the popularity of this idea, I think we can increase our pledge to 18 every month. I am assured we can meet this goal without issue.

I am also going to scale back kits for birthdays to 6 a month. It will look like 6 kits marked Birthday Kits and 12 that are just cakes. That will mean we will not need as many birthday cards or birthday plates. We could use plain paper plates for the regular cake kits.

At this time, I would like to request cardboard that can be cut into 9-inch x 13-inch pieces. These will be used for stability purposes for the kits.

Please also donate plastic wrap or packing wrap. I plan to use this to make the kits more tamper proof.

At the time of writing this, we can meet this goal. However, we will need more for June. For June we will need 11 cakes, 17 9x13 disposable cake pans (with or without lids), cans of cake icing and to mix things up orange soda, grape soda or root beer. 12 packs are nice but just picking up a can or two while at the gas station will work. In the month to come please keep an eye on circulars for sales on cakes, icing and soda. Share news if you find good sales.

There is a small table in the upper part of the Narthex to put your items. If for any reason you cannot get these to the church feel free to contact me. I will meet you or come to you at my earliest convenience. My number is 309-714-2216 call or text. (If you block your number I may not answer but have voice mail to text. I will call back asap.)

Thank you for helping to work to let our neighbors know they are loved and have Christ's love. When times get tough, sometimes feeling loved is difficult.
Have a Blessed day ~ Deena Happel

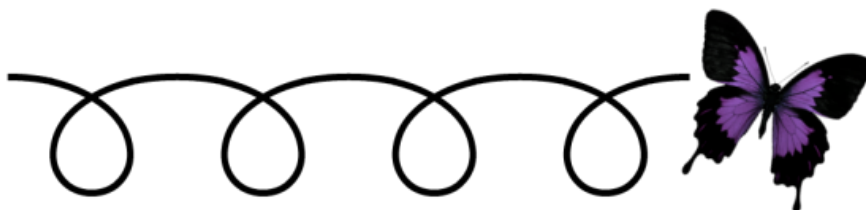
Community Lenten Services

The Community Lenten Worship titled In His Steps was another success!! Thank you to the Morning Martha's for the delicious meals



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who donated lilies in memory of their loved ones.



Dear Cambridge Lutheran Church,

You have just made someone's life better.

Thank you for your in-kind gift to LSSI of 10 Easter baskets.

LSSI offer whole person care in all of our programs, recognizing that our constituents have full lives beyond whatever challenges they may face. We consider you a part of this ministry and appreciate your support more than you know.

Each year gifts like yours help provide care to tens of thousands of people across the state. The majority of these people have annual family incomes of less than \$15,000, which means every gift you make is greatly needed and sincerely appreciated.

Thanks again for remembering LSSO with your gift. It is an honor and pleasure to serve alongside you.

Peace and prayers,

David P. Novak, JD

Chief Advancement Officer

WEST CONFERENCE SPRING ASSEMBLY

APRIL 18 2026

West Conference Spring Assembly was held on Saturday, APRIL 18, 2026, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Moline, Il. There were 32 present. Pastor Don Knowles greeted us and led us in devotions with emphasis on the work that the women do through WELCA for Christ in the churches throughout the world. We sang table grace and all enjoyed a wonderful brunch of egg bakes, pastries, and fruit..

Charlene Lundstrom gave us restroom directions and introduced the speaker the -Cloey Miller director of the Third Place in Rock Island. These young social workers explained their purpose of this project as a resting place for the homeless throughout the day. It is a drop in center to get warm, enjoy snacks and coffee, and use restrooms. A place to be, A place to reconnect, A place to belong. They welcome everyone, do not ask questions or make them fill out paper work to come in. They provide public phone and charging stations for cell phones so they can stay connected with family and make appointments. They make them feel that they are cared about not invisible. YOU belong here, YOU matter, and WE see You. Letters were read about how the Third Place had helped them and a video shown. They opened October 2025 planning on 30-40 individuals throughout the day 8-5. They now have over 100 people per day. They supply clothing, hygiene items, snacks and a place to rest.

We sang "Gather Us In ". Linda Roehrs called business meeting to order. She gave a pray for Pastor Randy and gave treasurer report and mentioned last years program. Luanne Beinke, West Conference Representative, gave report on board meeting and up coming retreat. Donna Rennecke CWU-RI-Milan gave report on up coming events in the Quad Cities. Old Business was the new representative sheet for West Conference and New Business consisted of changing contacts for several churches New sheet will become available when I have everyone's information. I also asked if anyone needed quilt material. Cambridge is having a clean-up day this month and we have lots of quilting supplies left. Linda Roehrs invited members to Cambridge for spring assembly in April, 2027. Offering was collective \$537.00 which went to NISWO and the Third Place. Linda Roehrs gave a offertory prayer. We sang "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" and closed meeting with thank yous to Calvary for hosting, Penny Rhomberg for playing, Cloey Miller- program, and everyone for coming to support their WELCA group. We read WELCA Mission Statement and Lord's Prayer together for closing.



****Birthdays****

May 14th Erin Petree
May 19th Barrett Fransene

May 22nd Gage Miller
May 30th Sara Campbell
May 31st Deb Johnson

****Anniversaries****

May 17th Vern & Sandra Williamson
May 18th Mickey & Monica Johnson
May 30th Jack & Charlene Wells
May 31st Dave & Joline Reppert

***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 stuff and mail the newsletters