

# LIFE IN EDEN



## *A Letter From The Vicar*

Dear Church Family,

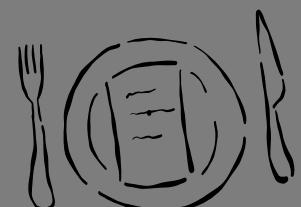
I have been spending time in prayer and reflection about where Eden might next be called to serve our neighbors in the wider community. As your vicar, my role is to help Eden share the Gospel and to love and serve our neighbor. I trust that God will reveal our next steps in God's time. As we listen for that call, I wonder if this is also a season for us to tend carefully to the life we already share together. Eden is blessed with many faithful, hardworking members, and I am deeply grateful for the ways you already give your time and energy to this congregation.

At the same time, there are a few regular opportunities—especially in worship and at the Free Store—where we sometimes find ourselves waiting until the last moment for volunteers. While these needs are usually met, the last-minute scrambling can add unnecessary stress to ministries that are meant to be life-giving. I know that many of you juggle work, family, and other commitments, and that not every role fits every person or every season of life. Still, I want to gently lift up that the work of worship and hospitality is holy work. When we serve here, we are caring for one another and making space for God's grace to be shared. My hope is that we can approach these opportunities not as

If Saturday or Sunday worship will be cancelled due to inclement weather, a notice will be posted on Eden's Facebook page and TV6 news.

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Please attend Eden's 2026 annual congregational meeting (and potluck) on **Sunday, February 15, 2026.**



obligations, but as invitations—to participate in the life God is already nurturing among us.

I invite you to prayerfully consider whether there might be a place where you could serve, even occasionally. Sign-up sheets for worship roles and the Free Store are always available at church, or you may call or email the church office. Perhaps this simple “yes” could be part of your Lenten journey toward Easter.

Thank you for the many ways you already show up for Eden and for one another. It is a joy to serve alongside you as we listen together for where God is leading us next.

With love, joy and peace,

Vicar Elaine



***Please consider  
volunteering on  
Saturday  
evenings and Sunday  
mornings to usher,  
read  
lessons and prayers,  
assist with  
communion, or  
host fellowship.***

***Thank you.***



Looking ahead:

- Annual Meeting is **Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Ash Wednesday is **February 18<sup>th</sup>**
- Daylight Savings Time is **March 8<sup>th</sup>**
- Easter is **April 5<sup>th</sup>**



## **Scripture Readings for February 2026**

### **February 7 & 8**

*Isaiah 58:1-9a[9b-12]  
Psalm 112:1-9[10]  
1 Corinthians  
2:1-12[13-16]  
Matthew 5:13-20*

### **February 14 & 15**

*Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 2  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9*

### **February 21 & 22**

*Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11*

### **February 28 & March 1**

*Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17*

A	I	O	E	E	N	N	I	S	E	O	T	P	E	H
C	P	A	A	S	F	O	L	Y	S	F	V	P	G	P
O	S	S	E	E	O	E	T	A	S	E	A	S	O	N
M	S	S	O	N	T	A	P	A	P	B	A	O	S	O
P	Y	R	S	A	L	P	E	N	S	R	A	D	P	N
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H	E	S	A	S	H	W	E	D	N	E	S	D	A	Y

LENT  
SEASON  
LOVE

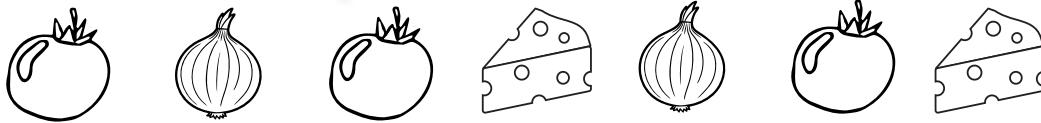
EPIPHANY  
ROMAN  
ASHWEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY  
GOSPEL  
COMPASSION



**Our Ash Wednesday service will  
be at 7:00 p.m. on February 18<sup>th</sup>  
at Eden!**

# WHAT'S FOR dinner?



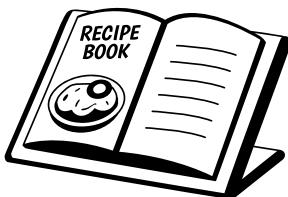
## Pizza Lasagna

10 oz. pkg. egg noodles  
1 lb. ground beef  
15 oz. jar spaghetti  
sauce  
12 oz. jar pizza sauce  
1 can cheddar cheese  
soup  
1 sm. can mushrooms  
(opt.)

Cook egg noodles and drain. Brown lightly the ground beef. Mix together remaining ingredients along with noodles and ground beef. Put 1/2 the mixture into a 9x13-inch pan. Sprinkle mozzarella cheese and pour remaining mixture into the pan. Layer with more mozzarella. Bake, uncovered, for 45 minutes to an hour at 350°.

*Elen Perttula*

*A treasure from the 1990 green Eden  
cookbook.*



At this time, our expenses exceed our income.  
We share this openly as an invitation to  
prayerful reflection and faithful stewardship  
as a church community.

## December Financial Snapshot

**Income: \$8,044.49**

**YTD: \$98,595.33**

**Expenses: \$11,493.21**

**YTD: \$115,938.94**

**HAPPY**

**BIRTHDAY**

Birthstone for  
February is Amethyst.  
Flower is Violet.

2/03 Patricia Erickson

2/03 James Perttula

2/04 Joe Ackerman

2/10 Kristie Cota

2/10 Trey Mattson

2/11 Billie Lindquist

2/14 Judy Erickson

2/15 Evan Cromell

2/19 Logan Peters

2/20 Michele Albright

2/26 Pauline Elavsky

2/27 Zachary LeVeque

2/27 Jacob Mattson

2/27 Steve Peffers



## Serving in February 2026

Date	Assisting Minister	Ushers	Fellowship Hosts
Saturday, February 7 <sup>th</sup>	George Balko		
Sunday, February 8 <sup>th</sup>			
Saturday, February 14 <sup>th</sup>	George Balko		
Sunday, February 15 <sup>th</sup>			Joanie Hinsa
Saturday, February 21 <sup>st</sup>	George Balko		
Sunday, February 22 <sup>nd</sup>			
Saturday, February 28 <sup>th</sup>	George Balko		
Sunday, March 1 <sup>st</sup>			
<b>Altar Guild for February – Karen Derwin</b>			
<b>Flower sponsor for February – Joanie Hinsa</b>			



## February Focus

### This month pray for:

- Families & friends
- Those feeling isolated during the winter
- Our church leaders and volunteers

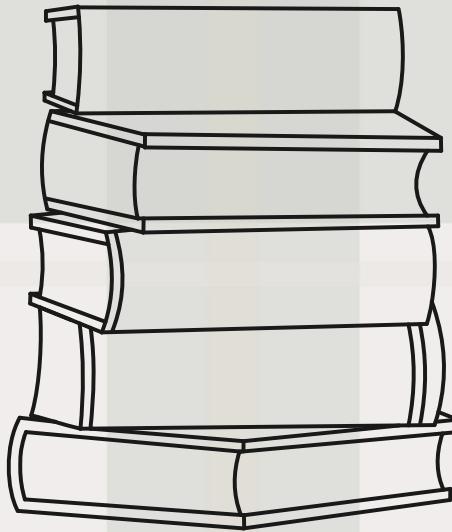
### February Challenge:

Each week, do one intentional act of love:

- Write a note of encouragement
- Visit or call someone who may be lonely
- Serve quietly behind the scenes

# from the Book Club...

Book club is paused  
until further notice.  
Keep checking back  
for updates!



**Because of your support, Eden was able to give a donation for people in need. We donated the following:**

3 sets of chicks

1 rooster

1 goat

3 piglets

1 honeybees

1 water filter

2 school supplies

2 stock backpack with food

2 vaccinations for a child

1 “feed a refugee family for a week”

1 Bible



Flower Sponsors are always appreciated.

Flower sponsorship is \$30 a month. Your gift may be placed in the offering with a notation for flowers and your selected month. Flowers from your home garden are also welcome. Thank you!

**Thank you to Joanie H. for sponsoring February!**



**Have something you would like featured in**

**a newsletter?**

**Reach out to  
Stephanie by the 20<sup>th</sup>  
of the month with  
info!**

# Lent?

## Definition

Lent is the forty-day season (excluding Sundays) of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter.

## A Very Brief History

The term “Lent” originally comes from the Anglo-Saxon word “lencten” which means “spring.” This is the time, in the Northern Hemisphere, when the days are lengthening. The season began as period of fasting leading up to the Vigil of Easter. Catechumens, those preparing for baptism at Easter, would fast and spend days in intense preparation. For those that were already baptized, Lent was a period to be renewed in their faith by studying the Bible, the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer.

Although it was originally only a two-day period of preparation, Lent became a three-week preparatory period in the middle of the fourth century and then this was further expanded into six-weeks, or forty days. By the end of the fifth century, there was a desire to exclude Sundays from Lent since Sundays are always celebrated as feasts of the Resurrection. Thus Lent begins not on Sunday, but on Ash Wednesday.

The current practice of forty days of Lent recall Jesus’ forty-day fast in the wilderness after his Baptism (Matthew 4:2, Luke 4:1-2) as well as Moses’ forty-day fast on Mount Sinai (Exodus 34:28).

***Lenten books and devotionals will be free.***

(LiturgyGram: A Little About Lent - ELCA Worship, 2017) ©

# Eden Evangelical Church

## February 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 10:30 a.m. Worship	2	3 10 a.m. prayer group	4 <b>Office open 9-1</b> Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	5 11:00 a.m. Bible study	6	7 4 p.m. Worship
8 10:30 a.m. Worship	9	10 10 a.m. prayer group	11 <b>Office open 9-1</b> Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	12 10 a.m. quilting	13	14 4 p.m. Worship
15 10:30 a.m. Worship <b>Council mtg</b>	16	17 10 a.m. prayer group	18 <b>Office open 9-1</b> Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	19 1-3 p.m. & 4-6 p.m. Free Store 11:00 a.m. Bible Study	20	21 4 p.m. Worship
22 10:30 a.m. Worship	23	24 10 a.m. prayer group	25 <b>Office open 9-1</b> Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	26 11:00 a.m. Bible study	27	28 4 p.m. Worship
10:30 a.m. Worship		10 a.m. prayer group	<b>Office open 9-1</b> Vicar Elaine in office 10-2	11:00 a.m. Bible study		4 p.m. Worship

### Free Store (third Thursday):

Open 1-3 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. Volunteers are needed.

### Bible study (every Thursday besides the second Thursday):

11:00 a.m.

Our Ash Wednesday service will be at 7:00 p.m. on February 18<sup>th</sup> at

Eden!



**Please note: Office hours are Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 to 1.**

**Vicar Elaine is in on Wednesdays from 10 to 2.**

# Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship Services:

4 p.m. Saturday

10:30 a.m. Sunday

Physical address: 1150 West M-28, Munising, MI 49862

Mailing address: P.O. Box 360, Munising MI 49862

906-387-2520

[www.edenonthebay.org](http://www.edenonthebay.org)

[eden@jamadots.com](mailto:eden@jamadots.com)

Office Hours: Wednesdays & Fridays, 9-1

## **Elaine Robbins, Vicar**

Office Hours: Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

[PastorOfEden@gmail.com](mailto:PastorOfEden@gmail.com)

906-450-3344

**Administrative Assistant and Accounts Payable Clerk:** Stephanie LaFolle

**Treasurer and Financial Secretary:** Brandalyn Decet

**Maintenance:** John Cromell

**Custodian:** Emily Cook

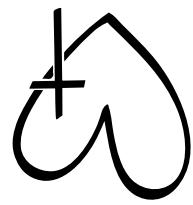
The Congregational Council generally meets on the second Sunday of each month, after worship. All Eden members are welcome to attend.

**Serving through 2026:** Bruce Dausey, Norma Dick, Jean Hayes, Kaye Methot

**Serving through 2025:** Ryan Graves, Brenda St. Martin, Jennifer Wood



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



**“Let all that you do be  
done in love.”  
- 1 Corinthians 16:14**

**Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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[eden@jamadots.com](mailto:eden@jamadots.com)**