

# Currents

Newsletter of University Lutheran Church, May 2026



***Congratulations to our Graduates!***  
***Graduation Blessing, Sunday, May 10, at worship***

***Dale Anderson***  
***Olivia Bishop***  
***Sophia DeByl***  
***Samara Gries***  
***Elizabeth Packer (MS degree)***  
***Hannah Schindler***  
***Bella Wulterkens***  
***Seth Roberts (Memorial High School)***

(watch for more information about our graduates in the June newsletter)

# CONGREGATION

**ULC FOUNDATION** receives, invests, and manages funds “to assist University Lutheran Church to nurture the spiritual growth of students and staff”. Currently this happens via a grant to ULC for our operating expenses and in scholarships to seminarians. This kind of support makes a big difference! We are grateful for the support of ULC Foundation.

I am very grateful to have received the seminary scholarship from the ULC Foundation for my three academic years at Wartburg Seminary. While tuition was covered through the ELCA's Fund for Leaders, everything else was left for me. Your generosity and the Foundation scholarship covered books and supplies each semester. That might not seem like much, but seminarians read A LOT! I would not have been able to fund my theological education without you. I fondly remember my time at UW- Eau Claire, ULC, and LSA. Just the other day I was telling Riley (my wife and co-pastor) how Lutherans and Catholics shared a building and did joint Ash Wednesday and Good Friday services. Such a beautiful example of working together for the sake of the Gospel! And, of course, the Wednesday night Holden Evening Prayer! Thank you for helping shape who I am today as a pastor, a person, and supporting my call to ministry.

Peace,

*Rev. Anthony Windau. UWEC '19*

*Co-pastor of St. Paul and Immanuel Lutheran Churches, Dixon, IL*



## ULC Foundation Members

Greg Granlund  
Emily Smith Nguyen  
Sue Diel  
Steve Erickson  
Rene Mehlberg

Monday, May 4, 6:00 PM, ERC lounge, Readiness training,  
“What to do if ICE comes in your church”

Sunday, May 10, Pot luck brunch following the blessing of  
the graduates

May 11-14, serving Finals Week Meals. Click [HERE](#) for the  
link to sign up.

Summer Schedule:

May 31, Praise in the Park, 10 am, ULC hosting  
June 3 begins Wednesday worship, 5:30 pm

ERC summer hours: T, W, Th, 9 am - 3 pm

## 2026-27 ULC Council Members

Cindy Rasmussen, Council President  
Kate Hale-Wilson, President-elect  
Wendy Kinderman, Council Secretary  
Sue Diel, Financial Secretary  
Dan Behnke, at-large member  
Brad Bishop, at-large member  
Elizabeth Packer, at-large member  
Jill Granlund, at-large member



**Wednesday, May 6**

**Last Wednesday of the semester  
Campfire, outdoor games  
& worship**

**POTLUCK - please bring a dish  
to share**



**Monday-Thursday, May 11-14**

**Finals Week Meals**

**Serving 11 am - 1:30 pm**



**Newman Staff Changes**

Fr. Dan Oudenhoven will move to serve as priest in Stevens Point beginning July 1, 2026. Fr. Michael Klos of Sacred Heart/St. Patrick's Parish in Eau Claire will assume responsibility for Newman Parish, along with Deacon Kyle Lang who will be graduating from seminary and ordained this summer and will serve as Chaplain to University Ministry for Newman. Also joining them will be Sean Coyle, Director of Campus Mission, and three of the Focus Missionaries will continue here.

May God bless Father Dan and Newman congregation during this transition time.



**Our JONAH ULC Core Team meets once a month. Anyone can join us at any meeting! Please look for meeting times in the weekly email announcements, or reach out directly to Elecia Oleson at [olesones98@gmail.com](mailto:olesones98@gmail.com).**

Our guest speaker on April 15, Amanda Babbs, shared many helpful resources about the Tenant and Landlord Resource Center. We will have those resources available at the ULC bulletin board. Please check it out and feel free to take a pamphlet and her business card. Amanda can be contacted by email [info@ectlrc.org](mailto:info@ectlrc.org).

This month, we'd like to share a brief overview about this core team and JONAH.

Joining Our Neighbors, Advancing Hope (JONAH) is a community-based, grass-roots organizing group in the Chippewa Valley. It is interfaith and non-partisan. ULC is a congregational member. JONAH members seek to learn more about the needs of the community and listen to people who are directly impacted by unjust practices. JONAH is about building relationships.

To learn more about JONAH, visit <https://jonahjustice.org/>.

The ULC JONAH Core Team consists of a dedicated group of people. We have met regularly each month since March 2025. We've had good conversations during our meetings. Our members are active in JONAH task forces and other aspects of the community. It's been helpful to get updates from them at our meetings. Our core team is focusing on our specific and unique needs at ULC, especially regarding our students and Campus Ministry. Being a part of this core team is flexible and anyone is welcome to attend any meetings or join for any length of time. We do not have terms. People participate as they are interested. We are always open to listening to new ideas or areas of concern in which we could offer support.

To learn more about JONAH- Eau Claire, visit their website. [jonahjustice.org](http://jonahjustice.org)

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to any of the members.

JONAH ULC Core team members

Elecia Oleson

Jill Granlund

Carol Rudd

Joyce Anderson

Dave Anderson

Cindy Rasmussen



**BEACON HOUSE**

We serve Beacon House meals Thursday through Saturday, May 7-9.

Sign-up here or contact Sara (715.829.1885 or sarakdb808@gmail.com).

NOTE: \*\*Chocolate is once again allowed.\*\* We continue to strongly encourage staying to serve, and eat with the families.

For Saturday breakfast and general snacking: oranges and any other kind of fruit is very welcome!

This family emergency shelter is located downtown Eau Claire at the corner of Lake and Barstow.



**Part-time  
Choir Director Position  
Opening**

Grace Lutheran Church  
202 W. Grand  
Eau Claire, WI

Click [HERE](#) for more information



**InterFaith Prayer  
Wednesday, May 20, 6 pm  
Spirit Lutheran, 1310 Main St**



**TICKETS**  
 \$25 for One Bowl & Meal  
 \$15 Meal Only  
 \$10 Bowl Only  
**No Admission Fee**

# EMPTY BOWLS

## FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER  
 Thursday, May 28, 2026  
 11 am - 7 pm at Feed My People  
 (2610 Alpine Rd, Eau Claire)

**Fight hunger one bowl at a time.**  
 Every bowl purchased helps fill another.  
[give.fmpfoodbank.org/EmptyBowls](http://give.fmpfoodbank.org/EmptyBowls)

**HUNDREDS OF ARTIST BOWLS | FOOD TRUCKS**  
**SILENT AUCTION | FOOD BANK TOURS | LIVE MUSIC**

Thank You Sponsors

FESTIVAL



CHAMPION



Ben & Marian Anderson - Haven Church | Keith & Debby Brunett | Deb & Keith Zehms



### Neighbor to Neighbor/Vecino a Vecino

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin supports an outreach ministry for our Latinx neighbors, providing health fairs, networking, ridesharing, a pop-up food pantry, and monthly worship services in Spanish. The ministry is coordinated by Deacon Lidixe Montoya. The upcoming worship services will be May 3, June 7, July 5, and Aug. 2, at 6 pm at Immanuel Lutheran, followed by a meal.

**Drop-off  
donation  
days**

**Friday,  
May 8, 10-2  
Saturday,  
May 9, 9-12**

*Neighbor to Neighbor*  
**THRIFT SALE**

**14**  
May  
10 AM - 3 PM

**15**  
May  
9 AM - 12 PM

**16**  
May  
9 AM - 2 PM

PLANT AND BAKE SALE AND MUCH MORE!!!

**SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1310 MAIN ST, EAU CLAIRE**

Don't Miss out! Funding scholarships at UWEC and CVTC

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Sunday Worship Services at Phoenix Park, 10:00 AM, beginning May 31  
Summer Wednesdays at ULC, 5:30 PM, beginning June 3

### May

May 3		EC Marathon, no worship at the ERC
May 3	6:00 PM	N to N worship at Immanuel, meal to follow
May 4	6:00 PM	Readiness Training, ERC lounge
May 6		Last Wednesday meal for the semester - POTLUCK!
May 7-9		Beacon House serving
May 10	10:00 AM	Graduation blessing at worship
May 11-15		Finals week, meals served M-Th, 11 am - 1:30 pm
May 14-16		Neighbor to Neighbor Thrift sale, Spirit Lutheran, Th 10-3, F 9-3, Sat 9-12
May 16		UWEC Commencement
May 19	4:30 PM	ULC Council meeting
May 20	6:00 PM	InterFaith Prayer, Spirit Lutheran
May 24	10:00 AM	Last Sunday worship at ERC
May 31	10:00 AM	Praise in the Park worship, Phoenix Park, ULC hosting

### June

June 3	5:30 PM	Summer Wednesday worship begins
June 7	6:00 PM	Neighbor to Neighbor worship @ Immanuel

Here is a link to visit all campus-wide events: <https://calendar.uwec.edu/all/groups/Campus-wide>

See our [calendar](#) for more ministry and event information

## ULC Ministry Contacts

Gracefully Welcome

**Joyfully Serve, Wendy Kinderman**

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**Carol Rudd**

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[cjrudd52@gmail.com](mailto:cjrudd52@gmail.com)

**Learn & Grow, Dr. Kate Hale Wilson, Chair**

715-829-8620

[kate\\_hale@me.com](mailto:kate_hale@me.com)

**Thankfully Worship, Pastor Lori Ruge-Jones**

**JONAH ULC Core Team, Elecia Oleson, Chair**

715-579-6712

[olesones98@gmail.com](mailto:olesones98@gmail.com)

## ULC Staff Contacts

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**Andrea Gapko, Parish Administrator**

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## Council Contacts

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Lutheran Church  
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