

Y2026 Summary of Bulletins

Mo	Day	Special	Message	Speaker
Jan	03-04	Remy Sonya Krattiger	Starry, Starry Night	Pastor Eric Silberschmidt
Jan	10-11		Light Your Way	Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck
Jan	17-18		Sermon	Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck
Jan	24-25		Asking For Directions	Pastor Eric Silberschmidt
Jan	31		Good News For Tired People	Pastor Justin Kierzek
Feb	01		Good News For Tired People	Pastor Justin Kierzek
Feb	07-08		Sermon	Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck
Feb	14-15		This Little Light Of Mine	Pastor Eric Silberschmidt
Feb	18	Ash Wednesday	Honesty Of Ashes	Pastor Justin Kierzek
Feb	21-22		Untested Wilderness	Pastor Justin Kierzek
Feb	28		Time For A Check Up?	Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck
Mar	01		Time For A Check Up?	Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck
Mar	07-08		Leave The Jar	Pastor Justin Kierzek
Mar	14-15		This Little Light Of Mine!	Pastor Eric Silberschmidt
Mar	21-22		From Death To Life	Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck
Mar	28-29	Palm Sunday	Palm Sunday	
Apr	02	Maundy Thursday		
Apr	03	Good Friday		
Apr	04	Easter Vigil		
Apr	05	Easter COL		
Apr	05	Easter CTK		
Apr	11-12			
Apr	18-19			
Apr	25-26			
May	02-03			
May	09-10			
May	16-17	First Communion		
May	23-24			
May	30-31			
Jun	06-07			
Jun	13-14			
Jun	20-21			
Jun	28-29			
Jul	04-05			
Jul	11-12			
Jul	18-19			
Jul	25-26			
Aug	01-02			
Aug	08-09			
Aug	15-16			
Aug	22-23			
Aug	29-30			
Sep	05-06			
Sep	12-13			
Sep	19-20	Confirmation Weekend		
Sep	26-27			
Oct	03-04			
Oct	10-11			
Oct	17-18			
Oct	24-25			
Oct	31			
Nov	01			
Nov	07-08			
Nov	14-15			

Y2025 Summary of Bulletins

Mo	Day	Special	Message	Speaker
Nov	21-22			Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck
Nov	25	Thanksgiving Eve		Pastor Justin Kierzek
Nov	28-29			Pastor Eric Silberschmidt
Dec	05-06	COL Choirs		
Dec	06	CTK		
Dec	12-13	Children's Programs		
Dec	19-20	COL		
Dec	20	CTK Choirs		
Dec	24	COL 2:00 pm		
Dec	24	COL 4:00 pm		
Dec	24	CTK		
Dec	24	COL 7:30 pm		
Dec	24	COL 10:00 pm		
Dec	26-27			



UNITY
Lutheran Church

The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 3-4, 2026

Saturday, January 3, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, January 4, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



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The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 3-4, 2026

Prelude

"We Three Kings"

"Here I Am to Worship"

arr. Hayes
Praise Band

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
(9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship

One: Welcome to the tenth and eleventh days of Christmas!

Many: Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

One: Twelve days of Christmas! Just like in the song!

Many: Eleven Pipers piping and Ten Lords a leaping! Wait, there are only 12 days in the Christmas Season?

One: In the Bible, twelve is the number for completion and perfection.

Many: Twelve days, then, is just the right length for our celebration of Jesus' birth!

One: Twelve days for us to consider what is incomplete or broken in our lives.

Many: Twelve days for us to consider what God's love can change in us.

One: ...or wonder what God's love can do through us. God's love and our lives, they come together at Christmas.

Many: Jesus was born into our world to make us more complete, more whole, more like the individuals we long to be.

One: The coming of the Wisemen marks the Season of Epiphany. They followed the star!

Many: Once again the light shines in the darkness. The light shows us that God's love has entered our world, touched our hearts, and showed the way.

Opening Hymn

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

"For All That You Have Done"

ELW 671
Praise Band

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
(9:30)

Children's Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. O God of love and God of light,

Many: You said, “Let there be light” and there was light and it was good. Lord, help the Church reflect the light of your love into all the darkest corners of our world. We do not create the light. We don’t even bring the light. Instead, help us offer our gifts to reflect your light in thought, word, and deed. Just a tiny bit of light transforms a great deal of darkness. May the light of your love shine in us today and help us share that light with all those around us. Amen.

First Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

King Herod is dangerous because he may act on his fears and insecurities. He sees this baby, born in Bethlehem, as a threat to his throne. But the Magi are wise. They see the Star and they see through King Herod’s lies. They will not let anything prevent them from completing their journey. They have come to worship this newborn King.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped and they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

One: The Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Video Anthem

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night” Molly Pufall-Brown & Janet Day (All Services)

Gospel Acclamation

“Thy Word” (sung once) (All Services)

Gospel: John 1:[1-9]10-18

As the Church of today, we are called to continue the ministry of John the Baptist outlined in verses 7 and 8. We are invited to be witnesses to the light of God’s love in our world. It’s not about us. We aren’t the light. But we can reflect the light and we are called to show the way. God’s love can be revealed in our actions.

One: The Gospel according to John, the first chapter

Many: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

One: The Gospel of the Lord!

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon *“Starry, Starry Night”* Eric Silberschmidt

Hymn of the Day

“Brightest and Best of the Stars” ELW 303 vs. 1, 2, and 5 (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
“Shine, Jesus, Shine” Praise Band (ELW 671) (9:30)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Congregation response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "hear our prayer.")

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: **Amen.**

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

ELW 301 vs. 3

*Sages from the east afar, when they saw this wondrous star,
went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations
to the child, the newborn king, to the child, the newborn king.*



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Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. God, our Creator,

Many: **you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature.**

With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Carol of the Bells"

arr. Yeager

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"10,000 Reasons"

Praise Band

(9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"We Are Marching in the Light of God" ELW 866 vs. 1-4 (All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Joy to the World" arr. Yeager (5:00, 8:30; 10:45)
"We Are Marching" reprise Praise Band (9:30)

*Happy
New Year*

This Weekend at UNITY!

Time to pack away Christmas decorations!

- If you are able to help take down Christmas decorations at the COL Campus, come **after the 10:45 service on Sunday, January 4.**
- If you are able to help take down Christmas decorations at the CTK Campus, come on **Tues. morning, January 6 at 9:30am.** This shouldn't take more than 60-90 minutes.

Take Your Family Portrait-one last weekend!

Our Christmas/winter scene is set up in the Fireplace Room at the COL campus and one is set up by the fireplace in the library at CTK for one last weekend! Feel free to take pictures there before it goes away for another year, and then share them with Madison Arredondo, madison@unitybrookfield.org to have them used for the updated directory.

Senior High:

- **Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe 9:30 - 10:30 am**
The Senior High Room has been painted! Come check it out! Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.
- **Sunday, Jan 4, Escape Room, 6:00 - 7:30**
This Sunday, we'll head to a nearby Escape Room, and test our skills to solve the challenge and escape within 60 minutes. Parent drivers are needed and appreciated.

UNITY Highlights

Many thanks for the response to our end of year appeal!

Envelope 'starter' packs

There are a variety of ways to give a financial gift to support the ministry of the church. Many people prefer to give electronically. Other people appreciate the reminder and accountability of offering envelopes. In answer to their request, packs of 12 regular envelopes and 5 Lenten envelopes have been created. Packs can be found in the Narthex at both campuses.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we prepare our hearts for the newborn Savior, we invite you to reflect back on this past year and give thanks for all the blessings you received and think about how you might be able to share your gifts with UNITY in this new year to help us to continue to lift up what Christ has done and is doing among us and through us to bring Good News to our world!

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

POINSETTIAS! Many thanks to all who ordered poinsettias to adorn both sanctuaries and buildings. Please feel free to take your poinsettias after any service. If you can't remember what you ordered, there is a list at each campus showing the orders.

Sew Comfy Group Receives \$3,000 Grant from Green Bay Packers Foundation!

The Green Bay Packers Foundation focused on awarding their 2025 annual grants to nonprofit organizations that will use the funds for health and wellness among others. Sew Comfy provides pillows to people who will undergo surgery at Froedtert's Breast Cancer Center or UW ProHealth's Breast Cancer Center in Pewaukee. In 2025, they donated 577 pillows to these organizations. Sew Comfy was represented by Tami and Mark Miller at the awards luncheon held at Lambeau Field on December 17.

Pillows are available at the entry door at each campus for anyone to share with someone who would benefit from this. Please help yourself if you know someone who could use one! For full details and photos, see the January, 2026 Newsletter article!

Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

The Mitten Tree at CTK and the Mitten Bin at COL are welcoming donations. This is the perfect way to help the kids at our partner church Hephatha and their neighborhood kids stay warm this winter! Scarves and hats are always welcome, but nice, warm mittens and gloves are *especially* needed. CTK's tree is in the narthex and COL's bin is in the vestibule at the fireplace entrance. One shipment has already been delivered and distributed this season. They are happy to have as much as we send. Thank you so very much for your support of Hephatha. Items will continue to be picked up and sent out several times during the season. These are much-needed replacements for items that fall by the wayside. Questions? Contact Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-227-9645. *Thanks for warming kids' hands, heads and hearts this holiday ... and all winter long!*

Snow Shoveling Sign up for 2026

Would you consider helping us shovel and salt the sidewalks and entrances at each campus? Sign up for a week online. You may get lucky and pick a week when it doesn't snow! If by chance it does, thank you for your help and let us know if you have any questions or need some help. Shovels/salt are inside at each campus and should it really start to pile up, we also have a snow blower at each campus too! See Property section below for more details.

Flower Sign Up for 2026

Sponsors Needed each week for Altar Flowers at both campuses! All the details you need are on the SignUp Genius and the 2026 calendar is now available on our webpage. This is a convenient way to choose a weekend and campus, and the cost is only \$25 (payable by check or online). You can take flowers home at the end of the weekend's last service, but please return the vase as soon as you can. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, contact Lynn by calling the UNITY office.

Friday January 16th 7:00 at the CTK Campus - Free Concert

Join UNITY in once again welcoming three premier A Cappella groups: *Pitches & Notes* and *Fundamentally Sound*, both UW-Madison treble and lower voiced competitive groups, and *Unaccompanied Minors* - a mixed voice competitive group from Brookfield East HS, **including UNITY's own Kyra Jester!** There are no tickets required and the concert is free (donations appreciated).

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids to Hold Servant Sundays!

In January and February during Sunday School, our students will be participating in Servant Sundays. We will once again hold the Birthday Gift Bag Drive for the Food Pantry (*see article below*), in addition to performing a variety of other ministry tasks for our servant partners – such as assembling Craft Kits for the kids in El Salvador for our Mission of Healing Trip and tying fleece blankets for our friends at Hephatha Lutheran Church. Watch for more info to come, but please plan to support our Sunday School kids in any way you can! With questions, please contact Michelle Aprahamian.

Sunday School Birthday Gift Bag Drive Thru January 18

We just celebrated Jesus' birthday. What a perfect time to help others celebrate theirs! Sunday School kids are collecting birthday cake mix, frosting, candles and party ware (plates, cups, etc.) to create Birthday Gift Bags for families shopping at the Waukesha Food Pantry. **Please drop off your birthday supply donations at either campus through Sunday, Jan. 18.** Questions about Sunday School events? Contact Michelle Aprahamian.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students summer camp** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, July 12 -17 for full week or July 15 - 17 for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

The Winter Orientation Meeting for all Students and a Parent is **Wed., January 7th from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.** Please NOTE this is on Wednesday as we decided to give you some time to get back into the routine after Christmas break. This also allows us to begin Week 3 of Confirmation class on the following Sunday, Jan. 11th. Bring your calendar as we'll plan to cover everything you need to know for Lent serving, signing up for events & summer trips!

SALT (formerly Sunday Fusion) meets again on Jan 11 and Jan 18, 2026, 9:30-10:30am in Room 208 at COL campus. These two Sundays will be spent learning about our partnership with El Salvador. This is a two part series to learn more about our partnership with El Salvador. Hear from past travelers through pictures and stories. I'm sure you've heard about Rutilio Grande and Cordero De Dios, now come and learn about it first hand

from the folks who have been to each of these areas. We will even try some pupusas, a traditional El Salvadoran dish!

All info about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

It's simple. Drink coffee? Buy coffee! Support the farmers in Tanzania who are part of the Mt Meru Coffee Project. Go to mtmerucoffee.org and explore all the coffee that is available. Click on the profile icon to set up an account, then click on About US to register as a congregation member/customer, in order to get the discounted congregation pricing. Detailed instructions for this are on UNITY's website if you need it – click on Sign-ups, Docs and Forms. Enjoy a warm cup of premium coffee, and the warm feeling of knowing you are improving the lives of farmers the Project has trained and supported. Your orders will be delivered to church for you to pick up. Pickup location: CTK - coffee bar; COL - kitchen cart labeled Mt. Meru Coffee Order Pick-Up. Questions? Contact Janet McMahon at janetamcmahon@gmail.com or 414-550-3110.

Hebron Shelters Need Your Donations - COL collections at sanctuary entrance vestibule!

Hebron Housing Services needs our help with the following items:

- Sanitizing wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Bleach
- Sponges
- Garbage Bags (13- & 30-gallon)
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- Razors, shampoo/conditioners
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Twin size bed sheets

Please place your donations in the labeled boxes in the entryway at either of our campuses. Questions? Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. Thank you!

Ongoing Service Opportunities:

UNITY has standing volunteer “shifts” at various partners that we commit to covering as a church. Each one is coordinated by a different Unity member... each one has its own sign up page on the church website... and each one is an opportunity for you!

- **Waukesha Food Pantry Food Distribution:** Each month, 4th Saturday, 9am-12pm; 5th Monday 5:45 - 8 pm. Help clients make their food selections as you walk them through an organized mini grocery store.
- **Serenity Inns Recovery Program Fellowship Dinners:** cook, deliver, or serve a meal for 12 residents. Each month, 1st Sunday and 2nd Friday, 6 - 7pm. Kids welcome.

Property Needs

Contact Denny Thompson, Director of Buildings and Properties
c: 262-844-0556, email: dennyt325@yahoo.com
Al Bengston, c: 414-322-6445 , email: allanbengst234@gmail.com

Help needed with Snow Blowing/Shoveling at both campuses!:

Winter has arrived and we need help with keeping our campuses cleared and safe. If you are a person who doesn't mind helping to clear the sidewalks and throw some salt down, check out the details in the SignUpGenius on our website. You sign up for just 1 campus, and we ask for a 1 week commitment starting on Wednesdays and running through the following Tuesday. When you sign up, helpful details will be emailed to you, and a reminder is emailed 3 days prior to your start date. Thank you for helping!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following forums:

- **Sunday, January 11th at 9:30 am at COL: Donut Social!**

Gather for some purely social time as we mingle with other members and enjoy coffee and donuts! You won't really learn anything... other than how many donuts your fellow members can eat! Watch for the date to be announced, then join us on a Sunday in January at 9:30 am at our COL campus to enjoy a sweet treat in a judgement-free zone!

- **Sunday, January 18th at 9:30 am at COL: Williamsburg: Duane Maas**

Colonial Williamsburg is a living-history destination that brings 18th-century America vividly to life. Beyond its restored streets and buildings, Colonial Williamsburg features immersive experiences like live blacksmithing, printing presses in action, colonial courts in session, and debates performed by historical figures such as Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry.

Williamsburg blends history, craftsmanship, food, and storytelling to create an engaging and surprisingly fun way to experience America's past.

When in Williamsburg you can also visit nearby historic sites like Jamestown and Yorktown as well as the Busch Gardens Theme Park all within a 10 mile radius. Have you ever wanted to visit Williamsburg, Virginia? You can do so from the comfort of your seat as UNITY member Duane Maas shares his insights and experiences from his time there. Join us on Sunday, January 18th at 9:30 am at our COL campus to "witness Williamsburg" for yourself!

- **Sunday, February 1: Aging Parents (Room 202)**

Join Jen Nowak and Eric Gravenkamp as we share resources, answer questions about our parents' aging journey and help support each other. This can often be a difficult time in your life. Come together with others to hear tips on how to navigate this time. It is very powerful to know you are not alone. Join us Sunday, February 1, at 9:30 am in COL Room 202.

Bible Study: Lead Like Her: a Look at the Leading Ladies of the Bible

Join us for a special Bible Study **resuming Tuesday, January 6, and will continue for two more weeks, January 13 and January 20 from 6:00pm-7:00pm in COL room 202.** Childcare will be provided. Questions? Contact Madison Arredondo at madison@unitybrookfield.org. Come join us!

Tuesday Men's Breakfast meets Tuesday, January 6th

Meet up with UNITY men for breakfast and fellowship the first Tuesday of each month. The group meets at 7 AM at The Crossings Restaurant in Pewaukee (across from Kwik Trip on Watertown Road and Hwy F). New people always welcome!

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

Please note: Sheepshead is taking a holiday break and resuming in January. The evening sheepshead group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the second and fourth Mondays at 1:00pm in the Christ the King community room. Mark your calendars for **Monday afternoons January 12th and 26th, and Thursday evenings January 15th and 29th.** Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't come before. Please contact Mary Huss at mhwis@hotmail.com with any questions.

Lunch Bunch on January 14th

Join us the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 am at Maxim's. (18025 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield.) **The next meeting is January 14th.** Everyone is welcome, no matter your age or stage: younger, older, singles, couples, regular or occasional. Just show up because the nice thing about Maxim's is that seating is endlessly expandable. And, if you have any questions before you come, Esther McKee is your point person: (262) 246-6443.

UNITY Bowling Night on January 22: All Adults Invited!

Join us for a fun night on the lanes! We will meet for two games of bowling on Thursday, January 22, at 6:30 pm at Krueger's Bowling in Menomonee Falls (N87W16471 Appleton Ave.). Adults of all ages and bowling skill levels are welcome! Plan for \$15 for the cost of bowling and shoes. Sign up through SignUpGenius on our Sign Up web page. Questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, January 14th and January 28th from 6:30-8:00 pm at COL in room 202. - *When Life Isn't the Same ...*

If you have lost a spouse or a parent or someone else close to you, the grieving doesn't end after the funeral. We invite you to a safe space where you can share more about where you are at in your journey ... learn more about the stages of grief ... and get help finding your way through what you need most for the road ahead.

We invite you to join us for our Grief Group. If this is the right time for you, or if someone you know could benefit from being a part of this, please join us! ***A zoom link can be provided if you are not able to meet in person.*** If you have questions or just want to discuss whether this is the right place for you, contact any of the pastors.

Worship & Music Opportunities

Director of Music, Contact Lynn Key, c: 414-507-5888 e: lynn@unitybrookfield.org
Children's Choirs, Contact Sydney Haines, c: 847-903-1393 e: sydneyh.unity@gmail.com
Fellowship Choir, Contact Molly Pufall-Brown, c: 920-265-6881, e: mpufall@gmail.com
Handbells & Praise Band, Contact Stacey Nordmeyer, c: 414-617-7673,
e: staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com

UNITY's All-Music Tuesdays is taking a short break for the holidays! Please note the date each group will restart below:

We rehearse every Tuesday night through mid-May. Come join us even if you can't make it every week. Nursery and child care are available. No auditions are necessary. Talk to any of our music staff if you have questions.

- **JOYFUL NOISE MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages PreK–Grade 1 • 6:00pm to 6:30pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall. Rehearsals resume Tuesday, January 20th.
- **CELEBRATION MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages Grade 2–Grade 6 • Tuesdays: 6:30pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall. Rehearsals resume Tuesday, January 20th.
- **HOSANNA BELLS** - Beginning to Early Intermediate Ringers • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:00pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer. Rehearsals resume Tuesday, January 13th.
- **FELLOWSHIP CHOIR** - Ages 7th Grade–Adult • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall • Directed by Molly Pufall-Brown. Rehearsals resume Tuesday, January 13th.
- **GLORIA DEI BELLS** - Late Intermediate to Advanced Ringers • Tuesdays: 6:15pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer. Rehearsals resume Tuesday, January 13th.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Come check out the newly painted room! Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, Jan 4, Escape Room, 6:00-7:30 pm

This Sunday, we'll head to a nearby Escape Room, and test our skills to solve the challenge and escape within 60 minutes. Depending on the number of participants, we may divide into 2-3 groups. Cost will be \$25 per person. Parent drivers are needed and appreciated, no cost for parents to participate. Also, for all of our events, please contact Nancy or a Pastor if cost is a challenge; we don't want anyone to skip due to financial concerns.

Friday, Jan 9th - 10th, Senior High Lock-In & Crazy Uncle, 7:00pm - Saturday 7:30am

We'll meet at COL, then head out to go bowling. Parent drivers are needed. After bowling, we'll play games, have pizza & snacks, then play Crazy Uncle! We'll finish up the night with a movie. Parents, see the SignUp Genius link in the Friday "Senior High Happenings" email, or contact Nancy to see how you can help.

Friday and Saturday, Jan 23-24, Senior High Ski Trip at Devil's Head

Get ready to hit the slopes on our annual ski trip. Don't worry, if you don't have experience, we have folks that can help you! We plan to leave Friday by 5:00 pm. After we arrive at the resort, we'll eat, then you may go night skiing, or take a swim in the the pool. Saturday, we'll ski all day, then leave by 5:00 pm. We are looking for a few parent chaperones too!

Saturday, Jan 31, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Waukesha, 9:30am - noon

We have an awesome servant opportunity to help build beds for children who don't have one to sleep on. UNITY's very own Tim Culhane is the Waukesha Chapter President for this organization. He brings together kids from all over southern Wisconsin to work on building the beds. No skills or tools needed. Volunteer leaders provide training in each area to give a tutorial, then supervise the process. Ideally, we would like a few parents on hand too, to oversee things. There will be an online permission slip for participation.

2026 Summer Servant Trip July 18 - 25 — Appalachia Service Project

Parents, we plan to go July 18 - 25, however, we may add additional groups and dates. We have heard that many families would like to participate, however, kids have conflicts that last week of July. Please look for a link in your "Senior High Happenings" email, to share availability for alternate weeks.

We typically take 2 adults (1 male and 1 female) for every 5 students, where you are grouped together and given a project or a couple to work on through out the week. NO worries if you have NEVER done any work like this before! All skill levels welcome! We also bring along a number of experienced adults in this area and there are detailed manuals available for your specific project. In the past, groups have done everything from installing drywall and painting to adding vinyl siding to installing vinyl plank flooring to building porches and/or ramps, and creating water flow channels away from housing.

We also have preparation events to let everyone practice using the tools and equipment that they may use during the week, along with covering safety and other topics including what to expect culturally in this region.

For those who have been in the past, they have returned home proud of what they were able to do in the short time there especially when they had never used a hammer or power tools prior! (Also, we are blessed that we are able to include an ice cream budget as a significant priority....i.e. a DAILY TREAT after a day's work!)

Partner of the Month: Cordero de Dios

Our church is proud to feature **Cordero de Dios** (“*Lamb of God*” in Spanish) as our Partner of the Month! For many years, UNITY has walked alongside this congregation in San Salvador, El Salvador, supporting their ministries, education programs, and community health initiatives.

Our partnership began long before gangs moved into the area, when Pastor Norma, Pastor Rafael and the congregation welcomed UNITY delegations into their community. Since our **first trip in 2003**, UNITY travelers have returned annually, building relationships, sharing worship, and supporting programs that make a lasting difference. Over time, our trips expanded to include medical care, vocational training, and educational scholarships for children and adults in this low-resource community.

A Legacy of Care and Growth

- Scholarships began in 2005 with young children (K–6) and expanded as public education support grew. Longtime supporters, Jim and Cathy Batdorf, continue to provide crucial support.
- UNITY’s Mission of Healing teams bring medical care to hundreds in need each year, transforming Cordero into a clinic and seeing tangible improvements in overall health.
- The congregation has grown despite challenges, including urban violence and leadership transitions, and continues to thrive under the guidance of Pastor Rafael and Briseda. Briseda’s social work expertise allows Cordero to connect even more deeply with the community through schooling, vocational classes, and other programs.

Our Shared Vision

Through years of collaboration, UNITY has witnessed the powerful impact of faithful partnership. From worship and cultural exchange to medical care and education, our relationship with Cordero de Dios reminds us that even small acts of service can create lasting change.

How You Can Support:

- Donate items for the upcoming trip (see weekly bulletin for a list)
- Help organize and pack suitcases
- Consider joining as a traveler next year
- Make a special donation earmarked for El Salvador
- Most importantly, **pray for our travelers and the Cordero de Dios community**

We are deeply grateful for this partnership, and for the ways God’s love continues to flow through our shared ministry in El Salvador.

Partner we are praying for this month: Cordero de Dios

This weekend's communion breads were baked by Kelsey Morrison

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz, Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Clark Varin, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Jeff Stark, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epling, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplin, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube, Marlene & Dave Hess

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones as they mourn the death of a loved one:

William Schier, father of Nancy Schier

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

January 3-4

Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Darla (cancer treatments), sister of Diana Koenen
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Eric (Cancer), nephew of Diana Koenen
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

December 27-28

James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (ICU breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

December 20-21

Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix
Jennifer Wilke (recovering from hip replacement), daughter of Lynn & Jeff Key

December 13-14

Charles Trovillion (fell in bathroom and broke 10 ribs), cousin of Jann Meissner
Kaleigh Van Middendorp (personal challenges), good friend of Nicole Krause
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty Schneider
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John Horner-Ibler	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally Thomas
James Mace, member of UNITY	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family
Jack Peterson, son of Anne & Dave Peterson	

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

COL 5:00 p.m. Ministers for Saturday, January 3, 2026

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Key
 Greeters: Cheryl Caraulia, Sue Fisher
 Acolyte: Jameson Krueger, Wyatt Krueger
 Ushers: Caroline Halbach, Jessica Schrieber
 Worship Assistant: Greg Buck
 Reader: Bill James
 Communion Assistants: Samantha James, Bill James
 ABC: Kim Urchell
 Musician: Will Kiefer
 Sound: Mark Shady
 Visual Projection: Kay Koepsel-Benning
 Song Leader: Becki Culhane
 Sunday School Leaders: Adrienne Krueger
 Sunday School Support:
 Nursery: Frances Paradis

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 4, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Kathy Bruhnke
Greeters: Barb Consigny, Bernd Bruhnke
Acolyte: Eliza Van Hoorn, Connor Hahn
Ushers: Danita & Nick Hahn
Worship Assistant: Susie Hilgart
Reader: Josh Bemus
Communion Assistants: Melissa Bemus, Sandi John, Debbie Riederer, Jenny Hauser
ABC: Matt Kamenick
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound: Denny Thompson
Livestream: Ananya Ebenezer
Visual Projection: Mike Aprahamian
Song Leader: Melissa Bemus
Sunday School Leaders: Laura Bengs, Emily Reinhardt, Megan Van Hoorn
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Bernd Bruhnke

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 4, 2026**

Greeters: Barb Patterson, Julie Smith
Acolyte: Emma Jansson, Rileigh Loomis
Ushers: Jim Leifer, Harlan Mueller
Worship Assistant: Eric Godfrey
Reader: Jolene Epding
Communion Assistants: Pat & Fred Petran
ABC: Barb Hemmingsen
Musician: Praise Band
Visual Projection: Parker Godfrey
Song Leader: Praise Band
Sunday School Leaders: Jessica Loomis
Sunday School Support: Ingrid Stoffel
Nursery: Ali Allar
Coffee: Ann-Marie Bergman

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 4, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Heidi Blatnik
Greeters: Lauren Cervero
Acolyte: Robin Cervero-Vrab, Austin Alft
Ushers: Collette Tatera, Pete Meiklejohn
Worship Assistant: Melanie Varin
Reader: Fred Varin
Communion Assistants: Joy Czarnik, Jeff Stark
ABC: Todd Blatnik
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound: Luke Jolliff
Visual Projection: Dustin Vrab
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Leaders: Julie Miesfeld, Kelly Shoff
Sunday School Support: Ellis Miesfeld
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell



UNITY
Lutheran Church

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 10-11, 2026

Saturday, January 10, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, January 11, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 10-11, 2026

Prelude

“As With Gladness Men of Old”

arr. Line

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Shepherd Medley”

arr. Austin

(9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Thanksgiving for and Remembrance of our Baptism (Responsive)

One: Joined to Christ in the waters of Baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks to God for the gift of baptism.

Many: We give you thanks, O God. For in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

One: Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Many: Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

One: At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

Many: By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

One: We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Many: Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

(As the congregation is sprinkled with water from the font, the sign of the cross may be made in remembrance and in thankfulness for the gift that God has given to us through Baptism.)

One: May all who have passed through the waters of baptism continue in the risen life of our Savior.

Many: Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn *“Remember and Rejoice”*

ELW 454 vs. 1-4

(All Services)

Children’s Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. Gracious God,

Many: at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your sons and daughters, and empower all of us through your Spirit to shine the light that you've given us so that others may give you glory. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

"Thy Word" (sung once)

(All Services)

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Notice that John's "baptism" was one of repentance where people confessed and sought again to be in a right relationship with God. Jesus had nothing to repent of, but he persuades John to baptize him, perhaps in order to model and fulfill the Scriptures and how he embodies what it means to turn to God in all things and trust God.

One: The Gospel according to Matthew, the third chapter

Many: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

One: The Gospel of the Lord!

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *"Light Your Way"*

Sherrie Lorbeck

Hymn of the Day *"You Are Mine"* ELW 581 vs. 1-3

(All services)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Congregation response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "hear our prayer.")

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky" ELW 301 vs. 3

*Sages from the east afar, when they saw this wondrous star,
went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations
to the child, the newborn king, to the child, the newborn king.*



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

Many: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us... ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Heavenly Lights"

Lorie Line

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Come to the Water"

Foley

(9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn *"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"* ELW 551 vs. 1-4 (All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"March of the Kings"

arr. Line

(5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

"The Trees of the Field / God Is My Refuge"

Rubin/Dauermann

(9:30)

This Weekend at UNITY!

Known as the Baptism of our Lord weekend, we jump from Jesus' birth to the way God recognizes who he is. May you trust that you are a child of God, holy and beloved too. From his baptism, Jesus will soon begin his ministry. What does that look like for the rest of us if we too remember that we have been called by God? How do we reflect the light and love of God in our daily lives?

Sunday, January 11th at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at COL: Donut Social!

Gather for some purely social time as we mingle with other members and enjoy coffee and donuts! You won't really learn anything... other than how many donuts your fellow members can eat! Join us this Sunday at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at our COL campus to enjoy a sweet treat in a judgement-free zone!

Confirmation:

SALT (formerly Sunday Fusion) meets again this Sunday, Jan 11 at 9:30-10:30am in Room 208 at COL campus to spend time learning about our partnership with El Salvador. This is a two part series (continued 1/18) to learn more about our partnership with El Salvador. Hear from past travelers through pictures and stories. I'm sure you've heard about Rutilio Grande and Cordero De Dios, now come and learn about it first hand from the folks who have been to each of these areas. We will even try some pupusas, a traditional El Salvadoran dish!

Senior High:

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe 9:30 - 10:30 am

The Senior High Room has been painted! Come check it out! Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

UNITY Highlights

Year End Gratitude: While the books are still being finalized, we were able to surpass last year's giving! Thank you! We are grateful for each of you and for all the many ways you contribute your time and your resources to help make UNITY the strong and vibrant place that it is! We wouldn't be able to be who we are or do what we do without YOU!

Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 at 9:30 am

Please make every effort to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22, at 9:30 am. At COL we'll have a shortened 8:30 am worship, then people can remain in the building for the meeting at 9:30 am. For those at the CTK campus, come to CTK at 9:30 am, grab your doughnut & coffee and head into the sanctuary for the meeting ... then stay for a worship service at 10:45 am! A Zoom link will be available for anyone attending our Annual Meeting at home. Please watch for that to come through email. NOTE: There will be a worship service and Sunday School at CTK at 10:45 am this day only. COL will still hold its regular worship service & Sunday School at 10:45 am.

Pre-Annual Meeting Forums on Sunday, February 15

Our Pre-Annual Meeting Info Forums will be held on **Sunday, February 15, at 9:30 am at COL and 10:30 am at CTK**. Join Treasurer Michelle Duerr and Finance Chair Tim Herman, along with other Council members, to hear how 2025 ended and get the 2026 budget they will propose at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 (see below). In addition to reading reports from our Staff and Council members, you'll be able to review ministry summaries and ask any questions you have.

Envelope 'starter' packs: There are a variety of ways to give a financial gift to support the ministry of the church. Many people prefer to give electronically. Other people appreciate the reminder and accountability of offering envelopes. In answer to their request, packs of 12 regular envelopes and 5 Lenten envelopes have been created. Packs can be found in the Narthex at both campuses.

2026 Pledge Appeal: As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of

To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

POINSETTIAS! Many thanks to all who ordered poinsettias to adorn both sanctuaries and buildings. Please feel free to take your poinsettias after any service. If you can't remember what you ordered, there is a list at each campus showing the orders.

UNITY's Sew Comfy Receives \$3,000 Grant from Green Bay Packers Foundation!

The Green Bay Packers Foundation focused on awarding their 2025 annual grants to nonprofit organizations that will use the funds for health and wellness among others. Sew Comfy provides pillows to people who will undergo surgery at Froedtert's Breast Cancer Center or UW ProHealth's Breast Cancer Center in Pewaukee. In 2025, they donated 577 pillows to these organizations. Sew Comfy was represented by Tami and Mark Miller at the awards luncheon held at Lambeau Field on December 17.

Pillows are available at the entry door at each campus for anyone to share with someone who would benefit from this. Please help yourself if you know someone who could use one! For full details and photos, see the January, 2026 Newsletter article!

Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

The Mitten Tree at CTK and the Mitten Bin at COL are welcoming donations. This is the perfect way to help the kids at our partner church Hephatha and their neighborhood kids stay warm this winter! Scarves and hats are always welcome, but nice, warm mittens and gloves are *especially* needed. CTK's tree is in the narthex and COL's bin is in the vestibule at the fireplace entrance. One shipment has already been delivered and distributed this season. They are happy to have as much as we send. Thank you so very much for your support of Hephatha. Items will continue to be picked up and sent out several times during the season. These are much-needed replacements for items that fall by the wayside. Questions? Contact Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-227-9645. *Thanks for warming kids' hands, heads and hearts this holiday ... and all winter long!*

Snow shoveling Sign up for 2026

Would you consider helping us shovel and salt the sidewalks and entrances at each campus? Sign up for a week online. You may get lucky and pick a week when it doesn't snow! If by chance it does, thank you for your help and let us know if you have any questions or need some help. Shovels/salt are inside at each campus and should it really start to pile up, we also have a snow blower at each campus too! See Property section below for more details.

Flower Sign Up for 2026

Sponsors Needed each week for Altar Flowers at both campuses! All the details you need are on the SignUp Genius and the 2026 calendar is now available on our webpage. This is a convenient way to choose a weekend and campus, and the cost is only \$25 (payable by check or online). You can take flowers home at the end of the weekend's last service, but please return the vase as soon as you can. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, contact Lynn by calling the UNITY office.

SUNDAY, January 18th UNITY welcomes Wild Church to our beautiful backyard again!

Once a month, on the third Sunday, at 4pm, Pastor Larry Harpster leads worship utilizing our pavilion (if weather is prohibitive, they will worship in our Community Room.) Wild Church is a Synod-Authorized Worshipping Community that will worship in four different spaces celebrating God's creation. The purpose is to create spaces for those who yearn for a connection with God but aren't finding their way into traditional worship styles. These new ministries are leaning into the changing nature of the church. UNITY members are welcome to experience Wild Church as well. You can reach Pastor Larry at PastorLHarpster@gmail.com or 262-344-5942 to find out more as well as other locations where they meet, or see the ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod website for additional information www.milwaukeesynod.org and search for Wild Church.

Friday January 16th 7:00 at the CTK Campus - Free Concert

Join UNITY in once again welcoming three premier A Cappella groups: *Pitches & Notes* and *Fundamentally Sound*, both UW-Madison treble and lower voiced competitive groups, and *Unaccompanied Minors* - a mixed voice competitive group from Brookfield East HS, **including UNITY's own Kyra Jester!** There are no tickets required and the concert is free (donations appreciated).

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids to Hold Servant Sundays!

In January and February during Sunday School, our students will be participating in Servant Sundays. We will once again hold the Birthday Gift Bag Drive for the Food Pantry. We will also perform a variety of other ministry tasks for our servant partners – such as assembling Craft Kits for the kids in El Salvador for our Mission of Healing Trip and tying fleece blankets for our friends at Hephatha Lutheran Church. Watch for more info to come, but please plan to support our Sunday School kids in any way you can! With questions, please contact Michelle Aprahamian at michelle@unitybrookfield.org.

Sunday School Birthday Gift Bag Drive Thru January 18

We just celebrated Jesus' birthday. What a perfect time to help others celebrate theirs! Sunday School kids are collecting birthday cake mix, frosting, candles and party ware (plates, cups, etc.) to create Birthday Gift Bags for families shopping at the Waukesha Food Pantry. **Please drop off your birthday supply donations at either campus through Sunday, January 18.** Questions about Sunday School events? Contact Michelle.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

Confirmation resumes Sunday night at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the COL campus with Sherrie Lorbeck as the Lead Teacher as they pick back up with Jesus and the Gospels. For any of you that missed the Orientation meeting, check in Michelle, Justin or Sherrie and check your email/website for links to all the important information!

SALT (formerly Sunday Fusion) meets again on Jan 11 and Jan 18, 2026, 9:30-10:30am in Room 208 at COL campus. These two Sundays will be spent learning about our partnership with El Salvador. This is a two part series to learn more about our partnership with El Salvador. Hear from past travelers through pictures and stories. I'm sure you've

heard about Rutilio Grande and Cordero De Dios, now come and learn about it first hand from the folks who have been to each of these areas. We will even try some pupusas, a traditional El Salvadoran dish!

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Help feed hungry people through a simple 1-hour time commitment! UPDATED!!

Hebron Housing Services needs volunteers to help pick up and deliver food to two of its facilities. How does it work? It's easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Pick up food at Chick-fil-A at 1454 Capitol Dr. in Pewaukee between **9:30-9:45 am** (food will already be prepared and paid for.) [**NOTE: NEW TIME!**]
- 2) Deliver as follows for each to take their portion of the food:
 - Siena House at 1519 Summit Ave. in Waukesha (**NOTE: NEW STOP!**)
 - Sentry House at 1210 Sentry Dr. in Waukesha.
 - Juno House at 812 N. East Ave. in Waukesha.
- 3) Deliver any remaining food to the Hope Center at 101 W. Broadway in Waukesha.
That's all there is to it!

UNITY is responsible for delivery every other Monday on these dates:

Jan.uary 12 & 26, February 9 & 23, March 9 & 23, April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18, June 1, 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24, September 7 & 21, October 5 & 19, November 2, 16 & 30, and December 14 & 28.

Please sign up through SignUp Genius on our Sign Up web page.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate, Jane Boorse, at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. *Thank you for helping feed hungry people through this simple but significant ministry.*

Hebron Shelters Need Your Donations

Hebron Housing Services needs our help with the following items:

- Sanitizing wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Bleach
- Sponges
- Garbage Bags (13- & 30-gallon)
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- Razors, shampoo/conditioners
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Twin size bed sheets

Please place your donations in the labeled boxes in the entryway at either of our campuses. Questions? Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. Thank you!

It's simple. Drink coffee? Buy coffee! Support the farmers in Tanzania who are part of the Mt Meru Coffee Project. Go to mtmerucoffee.org and explore all the coffee that is available. Click on the profile icon to set up an account, then click on About US to register as a congregation member/customer, in order to get the discounted congregation pricing. Detailed instructions for this are on UNITY's website if you need it – click on Sign-ups, Docs and Forms. Enjoy a warm cup of premium coffee, and the warm feeling of knowing you are improving the lives of farmers the Project has trained and supported. Your orders will be delivered to church for you to pick up. Pickup location: CTK - coffee bar; COL - kitchen cart labeled Mt. Meru Coffee Order Pick-Up. Questions? Contact Janet McMahon at janetamcmahon@gmail.com or 414-550-3110.

Ongoing Service Opportunities:

UNITY has standing volunteer “shifts” at various partners that we commit to covering as a church. Each one is coordinated by a different Unity member... each one has its own sign up page on the church website... and each one is an opportunity for you!

- **Waukesha Food Pantry Food Distribution:** Each month, 4th Saturday, 9am-12pm; 5th Monday 5:45 - 8 pm. Help clients make their food selections as you walk them through an organized mini grocery store.
- **Serenity Inns Recovery Program Fellowship Dinners:** cook, deliver, or serve a meal for 12 residents. Each month, 1st Sunday and 2nd Friday, 6 - 7pm. Kids welcome.

Property Needs

Contact Denny Thompson, Director of Buildings and Properties
c: 262-844-0556, email: dennyt325@yahoo.com
Al Bengston, c: 414-322-6445 , email: allanbengst234@gmail.com

THANK YOU to all who have recently signed up to help with this important ministry! Winter has arrived and we need help with ,keeping our campuses cleared and safe. If you are a person who doesn't mind helping to clear the sidewalks and throw some salt down, check out the details in the SignUpGenius on our website. You sign up for just 1 campus, and we ask for a 1 week commitment starting on Wednesdays and running through the following Tuesday. When you sign up, helpful details will be emailed to you, and a reminder is emailed 3 days prior to your start date. Thank you for helping!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following forums:

- **Sunday, January 18th at 9:30 am at COL: Williamsburg: Duane Maas**
Colonial Williamsburg is a living-history destination that brings 18th-century America vividly to life. Beyond its restored streets and buildings, Colonial Williamsburg features immersive experiences like live blacksmithing, printing presses in action, colonial courts in session, and debates performed by historical figures such as Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry.

Williamsburg blends history, craftsmanship, food, and storytelling to create an engaging and surprisingly fun way to experience America's past.

When in Williamsburg you can also visit nearby historic sites like Jamestown and Yorktown as well as the Busch Gardens Theme Park all within a 10 mile radius. Have you ever wanted to visit Williamsburg, Virginia? You can do so from the comfort of your seat as UNITY member Duane Maas shares his insights and experiences from his time there. Join us on Sunday, January 18th at 9:30 am at our COL campus to "witness Williamsburg" for yourself!

- **Sunday, February 1: Aging Parents (Room 202)**

Join Jen Nowak and Eric Gravenkamp as we share resources, answer questions about our parents' aging journey and help support each other. This can often be a difficult time in your life. Come together with others to hear tips on how to navigate this time. It is very powerful to know you are not alone. Join us Sunday, February 1, at 9:30 am in COL Room 202.

Bible Study: Lead Like Her: a Look at the Leading Ladies of the Bible

Join us for a special Bible Study **the next two Tuesdays, January 13 and January 20 from 6:00pm-7:00pm** in COL room 202. Childcare will be provided. Questions? Contact Madison Arredondo at madison@unitybrookfield.org. Come join us!

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

The evening sheepshead group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the second and fourth Mondays at 1:00pm in the Christ the King community room. Mark your calendars for **Monday afternoons January 12th and 26th, and Thursday evenings January 15th and 29th**. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't come before. Please contact Mary Huss at mhwis@hotmail.com with any questions.

Lunch Bunch on January 14th

Join us the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 am at Maxim's. (18025 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield.) **The next meeting is January 14th**. Everyone is welcome, no matter your age or stage: younger, older, singles, couples, regular or occasional. Just show up because the nice thing about Maxim's is that seating is endlessly expandable. And, if you have any questions before you come, Esther McKee is your point person: (262) 246-6443.

Men's Third Saturday Breakfast meets Saturday, January 17, 7:30-9:00 am at COL.

We get together, survive our own cooking and talk about the readings used in worship that weekend. Never tried it out? Been part of it for years? Either way, how about joining us next time?

UNITY Bowling Night on January 22: All Adults Invited!

Join us for a fun night on the lanes! We will meet for two games of bowling on Thursday, January 22, at 6:30 pm at Krueger's Bowling in Menomonee Falls (N87W16471 Appleton Ave.). Adults of all ages and bowling skill levels are welcome! Plan for \$15 for the cost of bowling and shoes. Sign up through SignUpGenius on our Sign Up web page. Questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, January 14th and January 28th from 6:30-8:00 pm at COL in room 202. - *When Life Isn't the Same ...*

If you have lost a spouse or a parent or someone else close to you, the grieving doesn't end after the funeral. We invite you to a safe space where you can share more about where you are at in your journey ... learn more about the stages of grief ... and get help finding your way through what you need most for the road ahead.

We invite you to join us for our Grief Group. If this is the right time for you, or if someone you know could benefit from being a part of this, please join us! ***A zoom link can be provided if you are not able to meet in person.*** If you have questions or just want to discuss whether this is the right place for you, contact any of the pastors.

Worship & Music Opportunities

Director of Music, Contact Lynn Key, c: 414-507-5888 e: lynn@unitybrookfield.org
Children's Choirs, Contact Sydney Haines, c: 847-903-1393 e: sydneyh.unity@gmail.com
Fellowship Choir, Contact Molly Pufall-Brown, c: 920-265-6881, e: mpufall@gmail.com
Handbells & Praise Band, Contact Stacey Nordmeyer, c: 414-617-7673,
e: staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com

UNITY's All-Music Tuesdays is gearing back up after the holidays!

Please note the date each group will restart below:

We rehearse every Tuesday night through mid-May. Come join us even if you can't make it every week. Nursery and child care are available. No auditions are necessary. Talk to any of our music staff if you have questions.

- **JOYFUL NOISE MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages PreK–Grade 1 • 6:00pm to 6:30pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 20th.**
- **CELEBRATION MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages Grade 2–Grade 6 • Tuesdays: 6:30pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 20th.**
- **HOSANNA BELLS** - Beginning to Early Intermediate Ringers • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:00pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 13th.**
- **FELLOWSHIP CHOIR** - Ages 7th Grade–Adult • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall • Directed by Molly Pufall-Brown. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 13th.**
- **GLORIA DEI BELLS** - Late Intermediate to Advanced Ringers • Tuesdays: 6:15pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 13th.**

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Come check out the newly painted room! Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Saturday, January 17th, Lock-In from 7:00pm - 8am Sunday

Join us this upcoming Saturday night for a Lock-In. We'll play games, watch a movie (likely Back to the Future), and make snacks based on the movie theme. Then in the morning, for those able, we'll go to 8:30 church, and you may also stay for Sr. High Cafe!

Friday and Saturday, Jan 23-24, Senior High Ski Trip at Devil's Head

Get ready to hit the slopes on our annual ski trip. Don't worry, if you don't have experience, we have folks that can help you! We plan to leave Friday by 5:00 pm. After we arrive at the resort, we'll eat, then you may go night skiing, or take a swim in the the pool. Saturday, we'll ski all day, then leave by 5:00 pm. **We are looking for a few parent chaperones too!**

Saturday, Jan 31, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Waukesha, 9:30am - noon

We have an awesome servant opportunity to help build beds for children who don't have one to sleep on. UNITY's very own Tim Culhane is the Waukesha Chapter President for this organization. He brings together kids from all over southern Wisconsin to work on building the beds. No skills or tools needed. Volunteer leaders provide training in each area to give a tutorial, then supervise the process. Ideally, we would like a few parents on hand too, to oversee things. There will be an online permission slip for participation.

2026 Summer Servant Trip July 18 - 25 — Appalachia Service Project

Parents, we plan to go July 18 - 25, however, we may add additional groups and dates. We have heard that many families would like to participate, however, kids have conflicts that last week of July. Please look for a link in your "Senior High Happenings" email, to share availability for alternate weeks.

We typically take 2 adults (1 male and 1 female) for every 5 students, where you are grouped together and given a project or a couple to work on through out the week. NO worries if you have NEVER done any work like this before! All skill levels welcome! We also bring along a number of experienced adults in this area and there are detailed manuals available for your specific project. In the past, groups have done everything from installing drywall and painting to adding vinyl siding to installing vinyl plank flooring to building porches and/or ramps, and creating water flow channels away from housing.

We also have preparation events to let everyone practice using the tools and equipment that they may use during the week, along with covering safety and other topics including what to expect culturally in this region.

For those who have been in the past, they have returned home proud of what they were able to do in the short time there especially when they had never used a hammer or power tools prior! (Also, we are blessed that we are able to include an ice cream budget as a significant priority....i.e. a DAILY TREAT after a day's work!)

Partner of the Month: Cordero de Dios

Our church is proud to feature **Cordero de Dios** (“*Lamb of God*” in Spanish) as our Partner of the Month! For many years, UNITY has walked alongside this congregation in San Salvador, El Salvador, supporting their ministries, education programs, and community health initiatives.

Our partnership began long before gangs moved into the area, when Pastor Norma, Pastor Rafael and the congregation welcomed UNITY delegations into their community. Since our **first trip in 2003**, UNITY travelers have returned annually, building relationships, sharing worship, and supporting programs that make a lasting difference. Over time, our trips expanded to include medical care, vocational training, and educational scholarships for children and adults in this low-resource community.

A Legacy of Care and Growth

- UNITY’s Mission of Healing teams bring medical care to hundreds in need each year, transforming Cordero into a clinic and seeing tangible improvements in overall health.
- The congregation has grown despite challenges, including urban violence and leadership transitions, and continues to thrive under the guidance of Pastor Rafael and Briseda. Briseda’s social work expertise allows Cordero to connect even more deeply with the community through schooling, vocational classes, and other programs.

Our Shared Vision

Through years of collaboration, UNITY has witnessed the powerful impact of faithful partnership. From worship and cultural exchange to medical care and education, our relationship with Cordero de Dios reminds us that even small acts of service can create lasting change.

How You Can Support:

- Donate items for the upcoming trip (see weekly bulletin for a list)
- Help organize and pack suitcases
- Consider joining as a traveler next year
- Make a special donation earmarked for El Salvador
- Most importantly, **pray for our travelers and the Cordero de Dios community**

We are deeply grateful for this partnership, and for the ways God’s love continues to flow through our shared ministry in El Salvador.



Partner we are praying for this month: Cordero de Dios

This weekend's communion breads were baked by Jency Engle

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz, Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Clark Varin, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Jeff Stark, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epling, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplin, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube, Marlene & Dave Hess

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones as they mourn the death of a loved one:

Cross of Life Campus

Ron Nakamura, husband of Pam and father of Keith

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

January 10-11

Nathalie Guerrero (evidence of brain aneurysm), sister-in-law of Madison Arredondo
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Mary Noll (extensive surgery & cancer treatment), friend of Karen Hartzler
Jamie Kujawski (going through chemotherapy treatments), friend of the Dowlings
Jim Barry (battling cancer & hospitalized with pneumonia), friend of Fred Petran
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

January 3-4

Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Darla (cancer treatments), sister of Diana Koenen
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Eric (cancer), nephew of Diana Koenen
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

December 27-28

James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (ICU breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

December 20-21

Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix
Jennifer Wilke (recovering from hip replacement), daughter of Lynn & Jeff Key

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty Schneider
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John Horner-Ibler	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally Thomas
James Mace, member of UNITY	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family
Jack Peterson, son of Anne & Dave Peterson	

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

Worship Coordinator: Marv Wunder
Greeters: Cheryl Caraulia, Dawn Conlin
Acolyte: Sebastian Dandridge, Grayson Riehl
Ushers: Mary Jo & Jim Eggert
Worship Assistant: Fred Varin
Reader: Duane Maas
Communion Assistants: Cheryl Caraulia, Kim Klug
ABC: Jeff Key
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Jeff Key
Visual Projection: Tim Culhane
Song Leader: Becki Culhane
Sunday School Leaders: Phil Roemaat
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 11, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Fonda Kapitan
Greeters: Barb Consigny, Jenny Hauser
Acolyte: Addison Kahle, Elliott Griepentrog
Ushers: Tami & Mark Miller
Worship Assistant: David Kapitan
Reader: Kim Keup
Communion Assistants: Jenny Hauser, Leslie O'Connell, Diane & Dick Dressler
ABC: Lisa Nass
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Paul Karrels
Livestream: Rudy Schneider
Visual Projection: Charlie Nass
Song Leader: Laura Bengs
Sunday School Teachers: Danielle Butula, Lisa Kahle, Joanne Rentmeester
Sunday School Support: Joy Griepentrog
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Tracy Karrels

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 11, 2026**

Greeters: Barb & Neal Borkenhagen
Acolyte: Isla Docksey, Miles Docksey
Ushers: Melanie & Hayden Stuber
Worship Assistant: Jim Johnsen
Reader: Jane Boorse
Communion Assistants: Barb Patterson, Jane Boorse
ABC: Diana VanSlyke
Musician: Will Kiefer
Visual Projection: Mary Huss
Song Leader: Greg Peterson
Sunday School Teachers: Julia Docksey, Kyle Jansson
Sunday School Support: Ingrid Stoffel
Nursery: Ali Allar
Coffee: Melanie Stuber

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 11, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Nancy Oberhauser
Greeters: Drew Olsson
Acolyte: Abby Henk, Liam Komassa
Ushers: Collette Tatera
Worship Assistant: Carole Syse
Reader: Nicole Maassen
Communion Assistants: Davida Kroepfl, Jeff Stark
ABC: Patricia Pelzel
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Steve Brewer
Visual Projection: Clyde Reay
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Beth Ann Wuerl, Julie Miesfeld
Sunday School Support: Sophie Miesfeld
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell



UNITY
Lutheran Church

Second Weekend of Epiphany

January 17-18, 2026

Saturday, January 17, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, January 18, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

Second Weekend of Epiphany

January 17-18, 2026

Pre-Service Music

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

One: After he had been baptized...

Many: Jesus found himself on a mission from God.

One: No loner, he immediately invited others to join in the task.

Many: But they were like us. Hesitant. Skeptical. Lots of delaying tactics.

One: To one after another he issued the simplest invitation...

Many: "Come and see."

One: And see they did. More than they could have imagined!

Many: Pry open the lids to our spirits, O God. Help us quit protecting ourselves from the change you could make in us...

One: ...and from the change we would then be in this world. It's no small thing, this following Jesus...but at least we needn't do it alone!

Many: Because he doesn't call just me or you, he calls each of us by name. Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Opening Hymn

"Blessed Be Your Name"

CG 105

(All Services)

Words and music on following pages and also on screens



1. Bless - ed be your name your in the land that is plen -
 2. Bless - ed be your name your when the sun's shin - ing down



- ti - ful, where your streams of a - bun - dance flow, bless -
 on me, when the world's all as it should be, bless -



ed be your name. Bless - ed be your name when I'm
 ed be your name. Bless - ed be your name on the



found in the des - ert place, though I walk through the wil -
 road marked with suf - fer - ing, though there's pain in the of -



- der - ness, bless - ed be your name Ev - ry bless - ing
 - fer - ing, bless - ed be your name.



you pour out I'll turn back to praise. When the dark - ness



clos - es in, Lord, still I will say, "Bless - ed be the name of the Lord!



Bless - ed be your name! Bless - ed be the name of the Lord!



Bless - ed be your glo - ri - ous name!"

(2) repeat
 (3) You

give and take a - way! You give and take a - way! My
heart will choose to say, "Lord, bless - ed be you name!"
"Bless - ed be the name of the Lord! Bless - ed be your name!"
Bless - ed be the name of the Lord! Bless - ed be your
glo - ri - ous name!"

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Children's Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. Lamb of God...

Many: **You take away the sins of the world. Your love, expressed in the cross, does not begin and end there. You invite us to follow you. You offer to help carry our burdens. But, you also teach us to carry each other's too. You remind us that we, your servants, must pick up our crosses and carry them. Thank you, Lamb of God, for leading the way. Thank you for including us in your work. May we be eager to do it. May we be delighted in the presence of everyone who shares in it. Amen.**

Anthem

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. F. Thomas Simpson (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
Gloria Dei Bell Choir; Stacey Nordmeyer, Director

Gospel Acclamation

"Thy Word" (sung once) (All Services)

Reading of the Good News John 1:29-42

During most of this church year we read from Matthew's gospel. As with the two other years in our cycle of readings, John's gospel is scattered throughout the cycle. Today's reading touches ever so lightly on Jesus' baptism and his relationship to John the Baptist. Mostly though it is the origin story for a disciple named Peter, one of several people in this gospel who remind us of someone we know very well: ourselves.

One: The Gospel according to John, the first chapter

Many: **Glory to you O, Lord.**

²⁹John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."³²And John continued, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him."³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which translated means Anointed).⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated as Peter).

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Sherrie Lorbeck

Hymn of the Day "Lamb of God (Your Only Son)" ELW 336 vs. 1-3 (All services)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Congregation response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "hear our prayer.")

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: **Amen.**

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

“Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

ELW 301 vs. 3

*Sages from the east afar, when they saw this wondrous star,
went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations
to the child, the newborn king, to the child, the newborn king.*



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Blessed are you,

Many: **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

“10,000 Reasons”

Jonas Myrin/Matt Redman

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: **Amen.**

Benediction

Sending Hymn “*Arise, Your Light Has Come*” ELW 314 vs. 1-4 (All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

“We Are Marching in the Light of God” (5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

This Weekend at UNITY!

Welcome to worship in this season of Epiphany! In Jesus, we have the best revelation of who God is and the love that God has for us and all those that the world looks down upon. In Jesus, we keep learning from his example to choose faith instead of fear.

Forum

Sunday, January 18th at 9:30 am at COL: Williamsburg: Duane Maas

Colonial Williamsburg is a living-history destination that brings 18th-century America vividly to life. Beyond its restored streets and buildings, Colonial Williamsburg features immersive experiences like live blacksmithing, printing presses in action, colonial courts in session, and debates performed by historical figures such as Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry.

Williamsburg blends history, craftsmanship, food, and storytelling to create an engaging and surprisingly fun way to experience America’s past.

When in Williamsburg you can also visit nearby historic sites like Jamestown and Yorktown as well as the Busch Gardens Theme Park all within a 10 mile radius. Have you ever wanted to visit Williamsburg, Virginia? You can do so from the comfort of your seat as UNITY member Duane Maas shares his insights and experiences from his time there. Join us on Sunday, January 18th at 9:30 am at our COL campus to “witness Williamsburg” for yourself!

Confirmation

SALT (formerly Sunday Fusion) meets again this Sunday, Jan 18 at 9:30-10:30am in Room 208 at COL campus to spend time learning about our partnership with El Salvador. This is the second in a two part series to learn more about our partnership with El Salvador. Hear from past travelers through pictures and stories. I’m sure you’ve heard about Rutilio Grande and Cordero De Dios, now come and learn about it first hand from the folks who have been to each of these areas. This weekend we will even try some pupusas, a traditional El Salvadoran dish!

Senior High

Saturday, January 17th, Lock-In from 7:00pm - 8am Sunday

Join us Saturday night for a Lock-In. We'll go bowling, enjoy snacks, play games, and watch Back to The Future. Then in the morning, for those able, we'll go to 8:30 church, and you may also stay for Senior High Cafe! Cost is \$15 per person.

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe 9:30 - 10:30 am

The Senior High Room has been painted! Come check it out! Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

UNITY Highlights

Sign Up to Donate at our next Blood Drive, Thurs., February 5, 1-6pm COL campus.

Sign up is live on the church website. Please contact Marilyn Ranney, Unity Blood Drive Advocate with any questions or if you need assistance in getting signed up. You can contact her at 414-975-5606 or email her at ranneymarilyn@gmail.com. Our heartfelt gratitude to all blood donors and our prayers for healing for all who receive blood products!

Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 at 9:30 am

Please make every effort to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22, at 9:30 am. At COL we'll have a shortened 8:30 am worship, then people can remain in the building for the meeting at 9:30 am. For those at the CTK campus, come to CTK at 9:30 am, grab your doughnut & coffee and head into the sanctuary for the meeting ... then stay for a worship service at 10:45 am! A Zoom link will be available for anyone attending our Annual Meeting at home. Please watch for that to come through email. NOTE: There will be a worship service and Sunday School at CTK at 10:45 am this day only. COL will still hold its regular worship service & Sunday School at 10:45 am.

Pre-Annual Meeting Forums on Sunday, February 15

Our Pre-Annual Meeting Info Forums will be held on **Sunday, February 15, at 9:30 am at COL and 10:30 am at CTK.** Join Treasurer Michelle Duerr and Finance Chair Tim Herman, along with other Council members, to hear how 2025 ended and get the 2026 budget they will propose at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 (see below). In addition to reading reports from our Staff and Council members, you'll be able to review ministry summaries and ask any questions you have.

Envelope 'starter' packs

There are a variety of ways to give a financial gift to support the ministry of the church. Many people prefer to give electronically. Other people appreciate the reminder and accountability of offering envelopes. In answer to their request, packs of 12 regular envelopes and 5 Lenten envelopes have been created. Packs can be found in the Narthex at both campuses.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of faith and responsible planning.

To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

UNITY's Sew Comfy Receives \$3,000 Grant from Green Bay Packers Foundation!

The Green Bay Packers Foundation focused on awarding their 2025 annual grants to nonprofit organizations that will use the funds for health and wellness among others. Sew Comfy provides pillows to people who will undergo surgery at Froedter's Breast Cancer Center or UW ProHealth's Breast Cancer Center in Pewaukee. In 2025, they donated 577 pillows to these organizations. Sew Comfy was represented by Tami and Mark Miller at the awards luncheon held at Lambeau Field on December 17.

Pillows are available at the entry door at each campus for anyone to share with someone who would benefit from this. Please help yourself if you know someone who could use one! For full details and photos, see the January, 2026 Newsletter article!

Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

The Mitten Tree at CTK and the Mitten Bin at COL are welcoming donations. This is the perfect way to help the kids at our partner church Hephatha and their neighborhood kids stay warm this winter! Scarves and hats are always welcome, but nice, warm mittens and gloves are *especially* needed. CTK's tree is in the narthex and COL's bin is in the vestibule at the fireplace entrance. One shipment has already been delivered and distributed this season. They are happy to have as much as we send. Thank you so very much for your support of Hephatha. Items will continue to be picked up and sent out several times during the season. These are much-needed replacements for items that fall by the wayside. Questions? Contact Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-227-9645. *Thanks for warming kids' hands, heads and hearts this holiday ... and all winter long!*

Snow shoveling Sign up for 2026

Would you consider helping us shovel and salt the sidewalks and entrances at each campus? Sign up for a week online. You may get lucky and pick a week when it doesn't snow! If by

chance it does, thank you for your help and let us know if you have any questions or need some help. Shovels/salt are inside at each campus and should it really start to pile up, we also have a snow blower at each campus too! See Property section below for more details.

Flower Sign Up for 2026

Sponsors Needed each week for Altar Flowers at both campuses! All the details you need are on the SignUp Genius and the 2026 calendar is now available on our webpage. This is a convenient way to choose a weekend and campus, and the cost is only \$25 (payable by check or online). You can take flowers home at the end of the weekend's last service, but please return the vase as soon as you can. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, contact Lynn by calling the UNITY office.

SUNDAY, Jan. 18th UNITY welcomes Wild Church to our beautiful backyard again!

Once a month, on the third Sunday, at 4pm, Pastor Larry Harpster leads worship utilizing our pavilion (if weather is prohibitive, they will worship in our Community Room.) Wild Church is a Synod-Authorized Worshipping Community that will worship in four different spaces celebrating Gods creation. The purpose is to create spaces for those who yearn for a connection with God but aren't finding their way into traditional worship styles. These new ministries are leaning into the changing nature of the church. UNITY members are welcome to experience Wild Church as well. You can reach Pastor Larry at PastorLHarpster@gmail.com or 262-344-5942 to find out more as well as other locations where they meet, or see the ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod website for additional information www.milwaukee-synod.org and search for Wild Church.

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids to Hold Servant Sundays!

In January and February during Sunday School, our students will be participating in Servant Sundays. We will once again hold the Birthday Gift Bag Drive for the Food Pantry. We will also perform a variety of other ministry tasks for our servant partners – such as assembling Craft Kits for the kids in El Salvador for our Mission of Healing Trip and tying fleece blankets for our friends at Hephatha Lutheran Church. Watch for more info to come, but please plan to support our Sunday School kids in any way you can! With questions, please contact Michelle Aprahamian at michelle@unitybrookfield.org.

Sunday School Birthday Gift Bag Drive Thru January 18

We just celebrated Jesus' birthday. What a perfect time to help others celebrate theirs! Sunday School kids are collecting birthday cake mix, frosting, candles and party ware (plates, cups, etc.) to create Birthday Gift Bags for families shopping at the Waukesha Food Pantry. **Please drop off your birthday supply donations at either campus through Sunday, January 18.** Questions about Sunday School events? Contact Michelle Aprahamian at michelle@unitybrookfield.org.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

Confirmation continues Sunday night at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the COL campus with Sherrie Lorbeck as the Lead Teacher as they pick back up with Jesus and the Gospels. For any of you that missed the Orientation meeting, check in Michelle, Justin or Sherrie and check your email/website for links to all the important information!

SALT (formerly Sunday Fusion) meets again on Jan 11 and Jan 18, 2026, 9:30-10:30am in Room 208 at COL campus. These two Sundays will be spent learning about our partnership with El Salvador. This is a two part series to learn more about our partnership with El Salvador. Hear from past travelers through pictures and stories. I'm sure you've heard about Rutilio Grande and Cordero De Dios, now come and learn about it first hand from the folks who have been to each of these areas. We will even try some pupusas, a traditional El Salvadoran dish!

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Donations Needed for El Salvador Trip by February 8

Our next Mission of Healing Trip to El Salvador will be February 14-21. Please take a look at what we need and if you can donate anything, please bring items to either campus and drop in the bins labeled "Supplies for El Salvador Trip" in the narthex area by **February 8:**

The Salvadoran kids and adults *love* working with arts and crafts between stops at the clinic. We could use:

Beads - Cording - Stickers
Coloring Books for Kids & Adults
Colored Pencils - Colored Markers
Pencil Sharpeners - School Scissors

Glue Sticks (non-liquid)
Toothbrushes (adult & kids)
Sendiks bags (for to-go items at clinic)

Any questions, please contact Greg Buck at gbbwis@gmail.com.

A request for help from The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry

The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry has been working for the last 5 years to gather furniture that has useful life. They then work with a number of partners to deliver that furniture to provide Hope and Comfort to those in Milwaukee and surrounding areas.

They have 2 needs right now.

1. They are short of beds and dressers. They take queen, full and twin size beds; and take them with mattresses, box springs, frames and bedding (any parts of these are ok.) They need to have pieces with useful life. For the dressers, upright or chest of drawers are preferred. If they are horizontal or a bureau style, they need to be less than 60 inches long.
2. They need some help with moving the furniture. They are doing all of the pickups and deliveries with a small staff. It sometimes is difficult to manage as it is only when people contact them to pick up something, then they need people available. They are NOT a service.

In 2025 they delivered to more than 60 locations and over 50 beds. This has helped to get families to have members not sleep on the floor. They run on a small budget and have begun and provide letters asking for free will donations for our pickups. They appreciate any consideration and help. Any questions should be directed to Andy Dederich, Share Our Best Furniture Ministry Coordinator

Help feed hungry people through a simple 1-hour time commitment! UPDATED!!

Hebron Housing Services needs volunteers to help pick up and deliver food to two of its facilities. How does it work? It's easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Pick up food at Chick-fil-A at 1454 Capitol Dr. in Pewaukee between **9:30-9:45 am** (food will already be prepared and paid for.) [**NOTE: NEW TIME!**]
- 2) Deliver as follows for each to take their portion of the food:
 - Siena House at 1519 Summit Ave. in Waukesha (**NOTE: NEW STOP!**)
 - Sentry House at 1210 Sentry Dr. in Waukesha.
 - Juno House at 812 N. East Ave. in Waukesha.
- 3) Deliver any remaining food to the Hope Center at 101 W. Broadway in Waukesha.
That's all there is to it!

UNITY is responsible for delivery every other Monday on these dates:

January 26, February 9 & 23, March 9 & 23, April 6 & 23, May 4 & 18, June 1, 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24, September 7 & 21, October 5 & 19, November 2, 16 & 30, and December 14 & 28.

Please sign up through SignUp Genius on our Sign Up web page.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate, Jane Boorse, at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. *Thank you for helping feed hungry people through this simple but significant ministry.*

Hebron Shelters Need Your Donations

Hebron Housing Services needs our help with the following items:

- Sanitizing wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Bleach
- Sponges
- Garbage Bags (13- & 30-gallon)
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- Razors, shampoo/conditioners
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Twin size bed sheets

Please place your donations in the labeled boxes in the entryway at either of our campuses. Questions? Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. Thank you!

It's simple. Drink coffee? Buy coffee! Support the farmers in Tanzania who are part of the Mt Meru Coffee Project. Go to mtmerucoffee.org and explore all the coffee that is available. Click on the profile icon to set up an account, then click on About US to register as a congregation member/customer, in order to get the discounted congregation pricing. Detailed instructions for this are on UNITY's website if you need it – click on Sign-ups, Docs and Forms. Enjoy a warm cup of premium coffee, and the warm feeling of knowing you are improving the lives of farmers the Project has trained and supported. Your orders will be delivered to church for you to pick up. Pickup location: CTK - coffee bar; COL - kitchen cart labeled Mt. Meru Coffee Order Pick-Up. Questions? Contact Janet McMahon at janetamcmahon@gmail.com or 414-550-3110.

Ongoing Service Opportunities:

UNITY has standing volunteer “shifts” at various partners that we commit to covering as a church. Each one is coordinated by a different Unity member... each one has its own sign up page on the church website... and each one is an opportunity for you!

- **Waukesha Food Pantry Food Distribution:** Each month, 4th Saturday, 9am-12pm; 5th Monday 5:45 - 8 pm. Help clients make their food selections as you walk them through an organized mini grocery store.
- **Serenity Inns Recovery Program Fellowship Dinners:** cook, deliver, or serve a meal for 12 residents. Each month, 1st Sunday and 2nd Friday, 6 - 7pm. Kids welcome.

Property Needs

Contact Denny Thompson, Director of Buildings and Properties
c: 262-844-0556, email: dennyt325@yahoo.com
Al Bengston, c: 414-322-6445 , email: allanbengst234@gmail.com

Mark your calendars and plan to lend a hand (or two) at the following Spring Clean Ups!

- CTK will be held on Saturday, April 11, from 9 am to noon.
- COL will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 9 am to noon.

Indoors, we'll do deep cleaning like you do at home (high dusting, vacuuming corners, etc.). Please bring step stools and vacuums with hoses if possible. Outdoors, many hands are needed to help us rake, clear planting beds, take down dead trees, and prepare our grounds for the season. We'll have lots of tools on site, but if you have them, please bring pruners, rakes, wheelbarrows, trailers for hauling brush, etc. In addition at COL we will be rebuilding a retaining wall on the west side, and planting landscaping material on the east end. Lots to do at both campuses! Lunch is provided and outdoor cleanup is held rain or shine. Contact is Denny Thompson at dennyt325@yahoo.com. Please help us spiff up our building and grounds for members and visitors!

Help needed with Snow Blowing/Shoveling at both campuses!:

THANK YOU to all who have recently signed up to help with this important ministry! Winter has arrived and we need help with keeping our campuses cleared and safe. If you are a person who doesn't mind helping to clear the sidewalks and throw some salt down, check out the details in the SignUpGenius on our website. You sign up for just 1 campus, and we ask for a 1 week commitment starting on Wednesdays and running through the following Tuesday. When you sign up, helpful details will be emailed to you, and a reminder is emailed 3 days prior to your start date. Thank you for helping!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following forums:

- **Sunday, February 1: Aging Parents (Room 208)**
Join Jen Nowak and Eric Gravenkamp as we share resources, answer questions about our parents' aging journey and help support each other. This can often be a difficult time in your life. Come together with others to hear tips on how to navigate this time. It is very powerful to know you are not alone. Join us Sunday, February 1, at 9:30 am in COL Room 202.
- **Pre-Annual Meeting Forums on Sunday, February 15 at both campuses**
Our Pre-Annual Meeting Info Forums will be held on **Sunday, February 15, at 9:30 am at COL and 10:30 am at CTK**. Join Treasurer Michelle Duerr and Finance Chair Tim Herman, along with other Council members, to hear how 2025 ended and get the 2026 budget they will propose at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 (see below). In addition to reading reports from our Staff and Council members, you'll be able to review ministry summaries and ask any questions you have.

Bible Study: A 3 Week Study to Prepare us for Lent: January 25, February 1, and February 8 at 9:30 am at COL (Room 202): Led by Dave Meissner

1. What's the purpose of Lent? To help us grow spiritually closer to God.
2. What's the pathway Lent provides to grow in Christ? We'll study the Bible and identify ways and options for personal spiritual growth.
3. What's MY plan to grow in my awareness of God in my daily life during Lent? By the end of the third week, we'll each be able to answer that question.

The season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18, is a gift to strengthen and further empower us in our faith-journey with Jesus. Let's take advantage of this three-week pre-Lenten Bible study to prepare and equip us for the journey. No preregistration necessary. Just bring your Bibles and a heart open to the Spirit! (Led by Dave Meissner)

Day by day, day by day,
O, dear Lord, three things I pray:
To see Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly,
Day by day, by day, by day. (Robin Lamont)

Bible Study: Lead Like Her: a Look at the Leading Ladies of the Bible

Join us for the last in this session of our special Bible Study **on Tuesday, January 20 from 6:00pm-7:00pm** in **COL room 202**. Childcare will be provided. Questions? Contact Madison Arredondo at madison@unitybrookfield.org. Come join us!

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

The evening sheepshead group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the second and fourth Mondays at 1:00pm in the Christ the King community room. Mark your calendars for **Monday afternoon January 26th, and Thursday evening January 29th**. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't come before. Please contact Mary Huss at mhwis@hotmail.com with any questions.

UNITY Bowling Night on January 22: All Adults Invited!

Join us for a fun night on the lanes! We will meet for two games of bowling on Thursday, January 22, at 6:30 pm at Krueger's Bowling in Menomonee Falls (N87W16471 Appleton Ave.). Adults of all ages and bowling skill levels are welcome! Plan for \$15 for the cost of bowling and shoes. Sign up through SignUpGenius on our Sign Up web page. Questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, January 28th from 6:30-8:00 pm at COL in room 202. - When Life Isn't the Same ...

If you have lost a spouse or a parent or someone else close to you, the grieving doesn't end after the funeral. We invite you to a safe space where you can share more about where you are at in your journey ... learn more about the stages of grief ... and get help finding your way through what you need most for the road ahead.

We invite you to join us for our Grief Group. If this is the right time for you, or if someone you know could benefit from being a part of this, please join us! ***A zoom link can be provided if you are not able to meet in person.*** If you have questions or just want to discuss whether this is the right place for you, contact any of the pastors.

Worship & Music Opportunities

Director of Music, Contact Lynn Key, c: 414-507-5888 e: lynn@unitybrookfield.org
Children's Choirs, Contact Sydney Haines, c: 847-903-1393 e: sydneyh.unity@gmail.com
Fellowship Choir, Contact Molly Pufall-Brown, c: 920-265-6881, e: mpufall@gmail.com
Handbells & Praise Band, Contact Stacey Nordmeyer, c: 414-617-7673,
e: staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com

UNITY's All-Music Tuesdays is back in full swing after the holidays! Children's choirs start up again this week!

We rehearse every Tuesday night through mid-May. Come join us even if you can't make it every week. Nursery and child care are available. No auditions are necessary. Talk to any of our music staff if you have questions.

- **JOYFUL NOISE MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages PreK–Grade 1 • 6:00pm to 6:30pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 20th.**
- **CELEBRATION MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages Grade 2–Grade 6 • Tuesdays: 6:30pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 20th.**
- **HOSANNA BELLS** - Beginning to Early Intermediate Ringers • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:00pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 13th.**
- **FELLOWSHIP CHOIR** - Ages 7th Grade–Adult • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall • Directed by Molly Pufall-Brown. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 13th.**
- **GLORIA DEI BELLS** - Late Intermediate to Advanced Ringers • Tuesdays: 6:15pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer. Rehearsals resume **Tuesday, January 13th.**

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Come check out the newly painted room! Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Saturday, January 17th, Lock-In from 7:00pm - 8am Sunday

Join us Saturday night for a Lock-In. We'll go bowling, enjoy snacks, play games, and watch Back to The Future. Then in the morning, for those able, we'll go to 8:30 church, and you may also stay for Senior High Cafe! Cost is \$15 per person.

Friday and Saturday, Jan 23-24, Senior High Ski Trip at Devil's Head

Last call - please sign up on GroupMe, by **Sunday, January 18th**. Get ready to hit the slopes on our annual ski trip. Don't worry, if you don't have experience, we have folks that can help you! We plan to leave Friday by 5:00 pm. After we arrive at the resort, we'll eat, then you may go night skiing, or take a swim in the the pool. Saturday, we'll ski all day, then leave by 5:00 pm.

Saturday, Jan 31, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Waukesha, 9:30am - noon

We have an awesome servant opportunity to help build beds for children who don't have one to sleep on. UNITY's very own Tim Culhane is the Waukesha Chapter President for this organization. He brings together kids from all over southern Wisconsin to work on building the beds. No skills or tools needed. Volunteer leaders provide training in each area to give a tutorial, then supervise the process. Ideally, we would like a few parents on hand too, to oversee things. There will be an online permission slip for participation.

2026 Summer Servant Trip July 18 - 25 — Appalachia Service Project

Parents, we plan to go July 18 - 25, however, we may add additional groups and dates. We have heard that many families would like to participate, however, kids have conflicts that last week of July. Please look for a link in your "Senior High Happenings" email, to share availability for alternate weeks.

We typically take 2 adults (1 male and 1 female) for every 5 students, where you are grouped together and given a project or a couple to work on through out the week. NO worries if you have NEVER done any work like this before! All skill levels welcome! We also bring along a number of experienced adults in this area and there are detailed manuals available for your specific project. In the past, groups have done everything from installing drywall and painting to adding vinyl siding to installing vinyl plank flooring to building porches and/or ramps, and creating water flow channels away from housing.

We also have preparation events to let everyone practice using the tools and equipment that they may use during the week, along with covering safety and other topics including what to expect culturally in this region.

For those who have been in the past, they have returned home proud of what they were able to do in the short time there especially when they had never used a hammer or power tools prior! (Also, we are blessed that we are able to include an ice cream budget as a significant priority....i.e. a DAILY TREAT after a day's work!)

Partner of the Month: Cordero de Dios

Our church is proud to feature **Cordero de Dios** (“*Lamb of God*” in Spanish) as our Partner of the Month! For many years, UNITY has walked alongside this congregation in San Salvador, El Salvador, supporting their ministries, education programs, and community health initiatives.

Our partnership began long before gangs moved into the area, when Pastor Norma, Pastor Rafael and the congregation welcomed UNITY delegations into their community. Since our **first trip in 2003**, UNITY travelers have returned annually, building relationships, sharing worship, and supporting programs that make a lasting difference. Over time, our trips expanded to include medical care, vocational training, and educational scholarships for children and adults in this low-resource community.

A Legacy of Care and Growth

- UNITY’s Mission of Healing teams bring medical care to hundreds in need each year, transforming Cordero into a clinic and seeing tangible improvements in overall health.
- The congregation has grown despite challenges, including urban violence and leadership transitions, and continues to thrive under the guidance of Pastor Rafael and Briseda. Briseda’s social work expertise allows Cordero to connect even more deeply with the community through schooling, vocational classes, and other programs.

Our Shared Vision

Through years of collaboration, UNITY has witnessed the powerful impact of faithful partnership. From worship and cultural exchange to medical care and education, our relationship with Cordero de Dios reminds us that even small acts of service can create lasting change.

How You Can Support:

- Donate items for the upcoming trip (see weekly bulletin for a list)
- Help organize and pack suitcases
- Consider joining as a traveler next year
- Make a special donation earmarked for El Salvador
- Most importantly, **pray for our travelers and the Cordero de Dios community**

We are deeply grateful for this partnership, and for the ways God’s love continues to flow through our shared ministry in El Salvador.



Partner we are praying for this month: Cordero de Dios

*The altar flowers at COL are given by Cindy Boyd
In celebration of her dad's & brother's birthdays*

Thank you to Leslie O'Connell for arranging the altar flowers this weekend

Thank you to Cathy Buck for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider
sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz,
Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Clark Varin, Greg O'Connell,
Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel,
Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Jeff Stark, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu,
Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen,
Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplin,
Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube, Marlene & Dave Hess

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

January 17-18

Mary Ann Spights (cancer diagnosis), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

January 10-11

Nathalie Guerrero (evidence of brain aneurysm), sister-in-law of Madison Arredondo
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Mary Noll (extensive surgery & cancer treatment), friend of Karen Hartzler
Jamie Kujawski (going through chemotherapy treatments), friend of the Dowlings
Jim Barry (battling cancer & hospitalized with pneumonia), friend of Fred Petran
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

January 3-4

Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Darla (cancer treatments), sister of Diana Koenen
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Eric (cancer), nephew of Diana Koenen
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

December 27-28

James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (ICU breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty Schneider
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John Horner-Ibler	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally Thomas
James Mace, member of UNITY	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family
Jack Peterson, son of Anne & Dave Peterson	

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

COL 5:00 p.m.

Ministers for Saturday, January 17, 2026

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Key
Greeters: Karen Beres, Tim Nustad
Acolyte: Maya Wuerl, James Lorbeck
Ushers: Jill Barney, Jack Guenther
Worship Assistant: Greg Buck
Reader: Cathy Buck
Communion Assistants: Cheryl Caraulia, Kay Koepsel-Benning
ABC: Lynn Key
Musician: Stacey Nordmeyer
Sound: Kevin Nordmeyer
Visual Projection: Duane Maas
Song Leader: Natalie Schneider
Sunday School Leaders: Beth Ann Wuerl
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 18, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Fonda Kapitan
Greeters: Jann & Dave Meissner
Acolyte: Charlie Rentmeester, Logan Lunak, Jacoby Perrizo
Ushers: Mark Hilgart, Paul Langer
Worship Assistant: Mike Aprahamian
Reader: Colleen King
Communion Assistants: Debbie Riederer, Susie Hilgart, Sandi John, Denny Thompson
ABC: Denny Thompson
Musician: Stacey Nordmeyer
Sound: Kevin Nordmeyer
Livestream: Clyde Reay
Visual Projection: David Kapitan
Song Leader: Melissa Bemus
Sunday School Teachers: Jordan Lunak, Laura Bengs, Joanne Rentmeester
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Maddy Paradis
Coffee:

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 18, 2026**

Greeters: Kathy Grunwald, Logan Graesser
Acolyte: Annalise Nordstrom, Joshua Graesser
Ushers: Art Keup, David Koenen
Worship Assistant: Diana Koenen
Reader: Peter Grunwald
Communion Assistants: Melissa Graesser, Patty Zais
ABC: Patty Zais
Musician: Janet Day
Visual Projection: Parker Godfrey
Song Leader: Corynn Nordstrom
Sunday School Teachers: Korrin Gumieny
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery: Ali Allar
Coffee: Kathy Grunwald

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 18, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Pelzel
Greeters: Lisa Welch, Davida Kroepfl
Acolyte: Max Herington, Dexter Welch
Ushers: Keira Kroepfl, JJ Steichen
Worship Assistant: Steve Brewer
Reader: Jeff Stark
Communion Assistants: Violet Herington, Jackie Herington
ABC: Patricia Pelzel
Musician: Stacey Nordmeyer
Sound: Kevin Nordmeyer
Visual Projection: Joe Herington
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Jennifer Loverine, Kelly Shoff
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Maddy Paradis



UNITY
Lutheran Church

Third Weekend of Epiphany

January 24-25, 2026

Saturday, January 24, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, January 25, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

Third Weekend of Epiphany

January 24-25, 2026

Prelude

"I Love To Tell the Story/Tell Me the Story of Jesus" arr. Line (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee" Emma Lou Diemer (9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

One: Jesus said, "Come follow me and I will have you fish for people."

Many: Well that's great but I really don't like touching worms!

One: Jesus said, "Come follow me and I will have you fish for people."

Many: But fishing isn't really my thing. I have different skills and experiences.

One: Then use those skills and experiences to the glory of God. If you are a carpenter then Jesus says, "Come follow me and I will have you build the Church." If you are an extrovert then Jesus says "Follow me by standing up and standing out." Whoever you are and however God made you, we need more of those gifts in the Church.

Many: Oh, I get it. The most important part is the first part.

One: That's right. Jesus starts by saying, "Come follow me."

Many: So . . . that means we are all called to be Disciples - to use our talents and life experiences to share God's love as followers of Jesus.

One: All those talents and life experiences show us that God's love is real. They connect us to God and they connect us to each other. When we follow Jesus, we grow together together and become a Church family.

Many: Following Jesus, that's the work of Disciples. Offering our talents and life experiences, that's the work of the Church.

One: Jesus calls us to follow him and so we gather for worship. We come together to count our blessings and to thank our Lord.

Many: Then we go out and try to make our world a better place. We do our best to follow Jesus. We share God's love . . . and we fish for people!

Opening Hymn

"Listen, God is Calling"

ELW 513 vs. 1-3

(All Services)

Children's Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. Lamb of God...

Many: You take away the sins of the world. Your love is expressed in the cross but it doesn't begin and end there. Your love is always with us. You call us together as a Church family. In baptism, you wash us clean and forgive our sins. In Holy Communion, you show us what love and sacrifice look like. Then you invite us to follow you. Thank you for leading the way. Use the gifts we offer to accomplish your work. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Anthem

"We Seek the Tiny King" Ruth Elaine Schram (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

Fellowship Choir; Molly Pufall-Brown, Director

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. F. Thomas Simpson (Video 9:30)

Gloria Dei Bell Choir; Stacey Nordmeyer, Director

Gospel Acclamation

"Thy Word"

(All Services)

Reading of the Good News Matthew 4:12-23

After being baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist and receiving God's Holy Spirit, Jesus begins his public ministry by calling a group of fishermen. They are an unremarkable group but they hear Jesus' invitation to follow him and they respond immediately. The Disciples are far from perfect but they are perfectly loved.

One: The Gospel according to Matthew, the fourth chapter

Many: Glory to you O, Lord.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness

have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death

light has dawned."

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. ¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: "Asking for Directions"

Eric Silberschmidt

The Washing of Holy Baptism Presentation of the Child

This weekend we welcome Liliana Noelle Nitschke at the 8:30 service. Liliana Noelle is presented by her parents, Mitch & Kirsten, & her sponsors, Alissa Fischer & Nick Hainsey.

Pastor: Who presents Liliana Noelle to receive the blessings of Holy Baptism?

Parents & Sponsors: We do.

Role of the Parents and Sponsors

One: In Christian love, you have presented Liliana Noelle for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully care for her and help her in every way God gives you opportunity, that Liliana Noelle may bear witness to the faith we hold, and that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in Communion with the people of God, she may lead a life of goodness and service until the day of Jesus Christ. Parents and sponsors, do you promise to fulfill these obligations? If so, please answer, "I do."

Prayer

Pastor: Holy God, we give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the baptism of his own death and resurrection, your beloved Son, Jesus the Christ, has set us free from the final power of sin and death, and has opened the way to everlasting life. He made water a sign of cleansing and of birth into the family of God. As Jesus' followers, we do as he taught us, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit so that Liliana Noelle may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as your own sons and daughters, inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

All: Amen.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Baptism Baptismal Prayer

Pastor: Lord God, we give you thanks for freeing your children from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy washing. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Liliana Noelle: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and respect for the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

All: Amen.

The Mark of Christ

Liliana Noelle, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Presentation of the Baptismal Candle

One: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (*Matthew 5:16*)

Pastor: Through Baptism, God has made this sister of ours a member of the ministry of reconciliation we all share in Christ Jesus. May we proclaim the greatness and love of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

Greeting of the Child by the Congregation

People: Liliana Noelle, we welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly father, and a worker with us in the Kingdom of God. Amen.

Pastor: Peace be with you.

Parents & Sponsors: Peace be with you.

Hymn of the Day/Baptismal Hymn

"Here I Am, Lord"

ELW 574 vs. 1-3

(5:00, 9:30, 10:45)

"Borning Cry"

ELW 732

(8:30)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Congregation response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "hear our prayer.")

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response (*as gifts are brought forward*)

"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

ELW 301 vs. 3

Sages from the east afar, when they saw this wondrous star,

went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations

to the child, the newborn king, to the child, the newborn king.



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Merciful God,

Many: in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

arr. Lorie Line

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

John Carter

(9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn *"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"* ELW 674 vs. 1-3 (All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

Setting by John Carter (5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Steven Scott

(9:30)

This Weekend at UNITY!

Welcome to worship in this season of Epiphany! Today we hear Jesus invite us to follow him. More than following, Jesus is inviting us to be the Church together and to have an impact on the world around us. It's so simple - love God and love your neighbor. In Jesus, we keep learning from his example. Choose faith instead of fear. Faith helps us follow Jesus and faith can move mountains.

Forum

Growing Nearer To God: A 3 Week Bible Study to Prepare us for Lent:

January 25th, February 1st and 8th at 9:30 am at COL (Room 202): Led by Dave Meissner

1. What's the purpose of Lent? To help us grow spiritually closer to God.
2. What's the pathway Lent provides to grow in Christ? We'll study the Bible and identify ways and options for personal spiritual growth.
3. What's MY plan to grow in my awareness of God in my daily life during Lent? By the end of the third week, we'll each be able to answer that question.

The season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18, is a gift to strengthen and further empower us in our faith-journey with Jesus. Let's take advantage of this three-week pre-Lenten Bible study to prepare and equip us for the journey. No preregistration necessary. Just bring your Bibles and a heart open to the Spirit! (Led by Dave Meissner)

Day by day, day by day,

O, dear Lord, three things I pray:

To see Thee more clearly,

Love Thee more dearly,

Follow Thee more nearly,

Day by day, by day, by day. (Robin Lamont)

Confirmation

Confirmation continues Sunday night at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the COL campus

We'll pick back up with our theme for this trimester: Jesus and the Gospels. For any who might have missed the Orientation meeting, check in Michelle, Justin or Sherrie and check your email/website for links to all the important information!

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

UNITY Highlights

SEVERE BLOOD SHORTAGE: Sign Up to Donate at UNITY's next Blood Drive, Thursday, February 5, 1pm-6pm COL campus.

You may have seen this on the news, but on January 20, a National Appeal for blood began. This means blood is being sent to hospitals faster than it is being donated. **There hasn't been an appeal for a few years, so this is significant! *Of special note:***

- **This is a severe blood shortage.** Hospital needs have stayed the same, but they're now outpacing the number of available blood donations.
- The blood supply has dropped by 35% over the past month.
- **This is the worst flu season in 20 years.** Donors are asked to wait 24 hours after their last symptom which has reduced the number of eligible donors.
- **Over 400 blood drives have been canceled due to winter weather this month.** There are still several weeks left of winter and more storms could potentially further impact the blood supply.
- The shortage is especially significant for **blood types O-, O+, A-, and B-**. Donors with these blood types are encouraged to donate red cells through a Power Red donation.

Sign up is live on the church website. Please contact Marilyn Ranney, UNITY Blood Drive Advocate with any questions or if you need assistance in getting signed up. You can contact her at 414-975-5606 or email her at ranneymarilyn@ gmail.com. ***If you EVER considered donating blood, now is the time to do so.***

Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 at 9:30 am

Please make every effort to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22, at 9:30 am. At COL we'll have a shortened 8:30 am worship, then people can remain in the building for the meeting at 9:30 am. For those at the CTK campus, come to CTK at 9:30 am, grab your doughnut & coffee and head into the sanctuary for the meeting ... then stay for a worship service at 10:45 am! A Zoom link will be available for anyone attending our Annual Meeting at home. Please watch for that to come through email. NOTE: There will be a worship service and Sunday School at CTK at 10:45 am this day only. COL will still hold its regular worship service & Sunday School at 10:45 am.

Pre-Annual Meeting Forums on Sunday, February 15

Forums will be held **Sunday, Feb. 15, 9:30am at COL and 10:30am at CTK**. Join Treasurer Michelle Duerr and Finance Chair Tim Herman, along with other Council members, to hear how 2025 ended and get the 2026 budget they will propose at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 22 (above). In addition to reports from our Staff and Council members, you'll be able to review ministry summaries and ask any questions you have.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ... US!!

We are coming up on the 10 year anniversary of UNITY. On April 17, 2016 we voted on: Our new name, new mission words, new mission statement, and Constitution and Bylaws.

So let's celebrate 10 years of UNITY! We are looking for a team of people who would like to collaborate and develop a plan for this wonderful celebration. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Lynn Key or speak with any of the pastors.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to

discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of

To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

UPDATE: Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

A big, HUGE, stupendous thank you, UNITY! To date we have sent out *117 pairs of gloves and mittens, 116 hats, and 12 scarves*-in addition to other sorts of winter gear- to our friends at Hephatha. The tree and bin will remain in place until mid February, at which time, all remaining items will be delivered. But for the next three weeks, be on the look out for mittens especially; they are much needed replacements for those that fall by the wayside.

CTK's tree is in the narthex and COL's bin is in the vestibule at the fireplace entrance. Thank you so very much for your support of Hephatha. Questions? Contact Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-227-9645. *Thanks for warming kids' hands, heads and hearts all winter long!*

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids to Hold Servant Sundays!

In January and February during Sunday School, our students will be participating in Servant Sundays. We will once again hold the Birthday Gift Bag Drive for the Food Pantry. We will also perform a variety of other ministry tasks for our servant partners – such as assembling Craft Kits for the kids in El Salvador for our Mission of Healing Trip and tying fleece blankets for our friends at Hephatha Lutheran Church.

Sunday School Birthday Gift Bag Drive EXTENDED Thru January 25!

We just celebrated Jesus' birthday. What a perfect time to help others celebrate theirs! Sunday School kids are collecting birthday cake mix, frosting, candles and party ware (plates, cups, etc.) to create Birthday Gift Bags for families shopping at the Waukesha Food Pantry. **Please drop off your birthday supply donations at either campus through Sunday, January 25.** Questions about Sunday School events? Contact Michelle Aprahamian at michelle@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Sunday school summer AND Year One Confirmation Camp! We are traveling back to Imago Dei.

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half -week options for kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the the full week and July 15-17 for the half week**

option. If you want more information check out crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

Confirmation continues Sunday night at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the COL campus

We'll pick back up with our theme for this trimester: Jesus and the Gospels. For any who might have missed the Orientation meeting, check in Michelle, Justin or Sherrie and check your email/website for links to all the important information!

Interfaith Partner Visit: Congregation Emanu-El

Confirmation students are invited to learn more about Judaism as we visit Congregation Emanu-El on **Friday, January 30th**. We will meet at 6:00 at COL to travel together. We will attend the breaking of the bread and shabbat services. ***This is a Double C-mail opportunity. Parent drivers are still needed!***

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Donations Needed for El Salvador Trip by February 8

Our next Mission of Healing Trip to El Salvador will be February 14-21. Please take a look at what we need and if you can donate anything, please bring items to either campus and drop in the bins labeled "Supplies for El Salvador Trip" in the narthex area by **February 8**:

The Salvadoran kids and adults *love* working with arts and crafts between stops at the clinic. We could use:

Beads - Cording - Stickers

Coloring Books for Kids & Adults

Colored Pencils - Colored Markers

Pencil Sharpeners - School Scissors

Glue Sticks (non-liquid)

Toothbrushes (adult & kids)

Sendiks bags (for to-go items at clinic)

Any questions, please contact Greg Buck at gbbwis@gmail.com.

A request for help from The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry

The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry has been working for the last 5 years to gather furniture that has useful life. They then work with a number of partners to deliver that furniture to provide Hope and Comfort to those in Milwaukee and surrounding areas.

They have 2 needs right now.

1. They are short of beds and dressers. They take queen, full and twin size beds; and take them with mattresses, box springs, frames and bedding (any parts of these are ok.) They need to have pieces with useful life. For the dressers, upright or chest of drawers are preferred. If they are horizontal or a bureau style, they need to be less than 60 inches long.

2. They need some help with moving the furniture. They are doing all of the pickups and deliveries with a small staff. It sometimes is difficult to manage as it is only when people contact them to pick up something, then they need people available. They are NOT a service.

In 2025 they delivered to more than 60 locations and over 50 beds. This has helped families not sleep on the floor. They run on a small budget and have begun and provide letters asking for free will donations for our pickups. They appreciate any consideration and help. Any questions should to Andy Dederich, Share Our Best Furniture Ministry Coordinator

Help feed hungry people through a simple 1-hour time commitment! UPDATED!!

Hebron Housing Services needs volunteers to help pick up and deliver food to two of its facilities.

How does it work? It's easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Pick up food at Chick-fil-A at 1454 Capitol Dr. in Pewaukee between **9:30-9:45 am** (food will already be prepared and paid for.) [**NOTE: NEW TIME!**]
- 2) Deliver as follows for each to take their portion of the food:
 - Siena House at 1519 Summit Ave. in Waukesha (**NOTE: NEW STOP!**)
 - Sentry House at 1210 Sentry Dr. in Waukesha.
 - Juno House at 812 N. East Ave. in Waukesha.
- 3) Deliver any remaining food to the Hope Center at 101 W. Broadway in Waukesha. *That's all there is to it!*

UNITY is responsible for delivery every other Monday on these dates:

Jan. 26, Feb. 9 & 23, March 9 & 23, April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18, June 1, 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, Aug. 10 & 24, Sept. 7 & 21, Oct. 5 & 19, Nov. 2, 16 & 30, and Dec. 14 & 28.

Please sign up through SignUp Genius on our Sign Up web page.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate, Jane Boorse, at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. *Thank you for helping feed hungry people through this simple but significant ministry.*

Hebron Shelters Need Your Donations

Hebron Housing Services needs our help with the following items:

- Sanitizing wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Bleach
- Sponges
- Garbage Bags (13- & 30-gallon)
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- Razors, shampoo/conditioners
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Twin size bed sheets

Please place your donations in the labeled boxes in the entryway at either of our campuses.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373.

Thank you!

It's simple. Drink coffee? Buy coffee! Support the farmers in Tanzania who are part of the Mt Meru Coffee Project. Go to mtmerucoffee.org and explore all the coffee that is available. Click on the profile icon to set up an account, then click on About US to register as a congregation member/customer, in order to get the discounted congregation pricing. Detailed instructions for this are on UNITY's website if you need it – click on Sign-ups, Docs and Forms. Enjoy a warm cup of premium coffee, and the warm feeling of knowing you are improving the lives of farmers the Project has trained and supported. Your orders will be delivered to church for you to pick up. Pickup location: CTK - coffee bar; COL - kitchen cart labeled Mt. Meru Coffee Order Pick-Up. Questions? Contact Janet McMahon at janetmcmahon@gmail.com or 414-550-3110.

Ongoing Service Opportunities:

UNITY has standing volunteer “shifts” at various partners that we commit to covering as a church. Each one is coordinated by a different Unity member... each one has its own sign up page on the church website... and each one is an opportunity for you!

- **Waukesha Food Pantry Food Distribution:** Each month, 4th Saturday, 9am-12pm; 5th Monday 5:45 - 8 pm. Help clients make their food selections as you walk them through an organized mini grocery store.
- **Serenity Inns Recovery Program Fellowship Dinners:** cook, deliver, or serve a meal for 12 residents. Each month, 1st Sunday and 2nd Friday, 6 - 7pm. Kids welcome.

Property Needs

Contact Denny Thompson, Director of Buildings and Properties
c: 262-844-0556, email: dennyt325@yahoo.com
Al Bengston, c: 414-322-6445 , email: allanbengst234@gmail.com

Mark your calendars & plan to lend a hand (or 2) at the following Spring Clean Ups!

- **CTK will be held on Saturday, April 11, from 9 am to noon.**
- **COL will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 9 am to noon.**

Indoors, we'll do deep cleaning like you do at home (high dusting, vacuuming corners, etc.). Please bring step stools and vacuums with hoses if possible. Outdoors, many hands are needed to help us rake, clear planting beds, take down dead trees, and prepare our grounds for the season. We'll have lots of tools on site, but if you have them, please bring pruners, rakes, wheelbarrows, trailers for hauling brush, etc. In addition at COL we will be rebuilding a retaining wall on the west side, and planting landscaping material on the east end. Lots to do at both campuses! Lunch is provided and outdoor cleanup is held rain or shine. Contact is Denny Thompson at dennyt325@yahoo.com. Please help us spiff up our building and grounds for members and visitors!

Help needed with Snow Blowing/Shoveling at both campuses!:

THANK YOU to all who have recently signed up to help with this important ministry! Winter has arrived and we need help with keeping our campuses cleared and safe. If you are a person who doesn't mind helping to clear the sidewalks and throw some salt down, check out the details in the SignUpGenius on our website. You sign up for just 1 campus, and we ask for a 1 week commitment starting on Wednesdays and running through the following Tuesday. When you sign up, helpful details will be emailed to you, and a reminder is emailed 3 days prior to your start date. Thank you for helping!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following forum:

Sunday, February 1: Aging Parents (Room 208)

Join Jen Nowak and Eric Gravenkamp as we share resources, answer questions about our parents' aging journey and help support each other. This can often be a difficult time in your life. Come together with others to hear tips on how to navigate this time. It is very powerful to know you are not alone. Join us **Sunday, February 1, at 9:30 am in COL Room 208.**

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

The evening sheepshead group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the second and fourth Mondays at 1:00pm in the Christ the King community room. Mark your calendars for **Monday afternoon January 26th, and Thursday evening January 29th.** Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't come before. Please contact Mary Huss at mhwis@hotmail.com with any questions.

Hit the (Indoor!) Links at X-Golf on February 26 at 6:30pm!

Calling all UNITY Golfers! Beat the winter chill and hit the virtual links with us at X-Golf inside American Family Field on Thursday, February 26, at 6:30 - 8:30pm. Low- and high-handicap golfers are welcome! Bring your own clubs or feel free to borrow from Matt's bag (he golfs right-handed). Cost is \$30 for golf; food and beverages are available for purchase. Sign up online for our X-Golf Outing found on our Sign Up web page. Any questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, January 28th from 6:30-8:00 pm at COL in room 202.
- When Life Isn't the Same ...

If you have lost a spouse or a parent or someone else close to you, the grieving doesn't end after the funeral. We invite you to a safe space where you can share more about where you are at in your journey ... learn more about the stages of grief ... and get help finding your way through what you need most for the road ahead.

We invite you to join us for our Grief Group. If this is the right time for you, or if someone you know could benefit from being a part of this, please join us! ***A zoom link can be provided if you are not able to meet in person.*** If you have questions or just want to discuss whether this is the right place for you, contact any of the pastors.

Worship & Music Opportunities

Director of Music, Contact Lynn Key, c: 414-507-5888 e: lynn@unitybrookfield.org
Children's Choirs, Contact Sydney Haines, c: 847-903-1393 e: sydneyh.unity@gmail.com
Fellowship Choir, Contact Molly Pufall-Brown, c: 920-265-6881, e: mpufall@gmail.com
Handbells & Praise Band, Contact Stacey Nordmeyer, c: 414-617-7673,
e: staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com

Join us for All-Music Tuesdays!

Find a group that matches what you are looking for from the list below. We rehearse every Tuesday night through mid-May. Come join us even if you can't make it every week. Nursery and child care are available. No auditions are necessary. Talk to any of our music staff if you have questions.

- **JOYFUL NOISE MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages PreK–Grade 1 • 6:00pm to 6:30pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall.
- **CELEBRATION MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages Grade 2–Grade 6 • Tuesdays: 6:30pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall.
- **HOSANNA BELLS** - Beginning to Early Intermediate Ringers • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:00pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer.
- **FELLOWSHIP CHOIR** - Ages 7th Grade–Adult • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall • Directed by Molly Pufall-Brown.
- **GLORIA DEI BELLS** - Late Intermediate to Advanced Ringers • Tuesdays: 6:15pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Saturday, Jan 31, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Waukesha, 9:30am - noon

We have an awesome servant opportunity to help build beds for children who don't have one to sleep on. UNITY's very own Tim Culhane is the Waukesha Chapter President for this organization. He brings together kids from all over southern Wisconsin to work on building the beds. No skills or tools needed. Volunteer leaders provide training in each area to give a tutorial, then supervise the process. Ideally, we would like a few parents on hand too, to oversee things. There will be an online permission slip for participation. Families, see the Sr. High Updates Friday email containing the sign up link, or email Nancy O.



2026 Summer Servant Trip July 18 - 25 — Appalachia Service Project

Parents, we plan to go July 18 - 25, however, we may add additional groups and dates. We have heard that many families would like to participate, however, kids have conflicts that last week of July. Please look for a link in "Sr. High Happenings" email to share availability for alternate weeks.

We typically take 2 adults (1 male and 1 female) for every 5 students, where you are grouped together and given a project or a couple to work on through out the week. NO worries if you have NEVER done any work like this before! All skill levels welcome! We also bring along a number of experienced adults in this area and there are detailed manuals available for your specific project. In the past, groups have done everything from installing drywall and painting to adding vinyl siding to installing vinyl plank flooring to building porches and/or ramps, and creating water flow channels away from housing.

We also have preparation events to let everyone practice using the tools and equipment that they may use during the week, along with covering safety and other topics including what to expect culturally in this region.

For those who have been in the past, they have returned home proud of what they were able to do in the short time there especially when they had never used a hammer or power tools prior! (Also, we are blessed that we are able to include an ice cream budget as a significant priority....i.e. a DAILY TREAT after a day's work!)

Partner of the Month: Cordero de Dios

Our church is proud to feature **Cordero de Dios** (“*Lamb of God*” in Spanish) as our Partner of the Month! For many years, UNITY has walked alongside this congregation in San Salvador, El Salvador, supporting their ministries, education programs, and community health initiatives.

Our partnership began long before gangs moved into the area, when Pastor Norma, Pastor Rafael and the congregation welcomed UNITY delegations into their community. Since our **first trip in 2003**, UNITY travelers have returned annually, building relationships, sharing worship, and supporting programs that make a lasting difference. Over time, our trips expanded to include medical care, vocational training, and educational scholarships for children and adults in this low-resource community.

A Legacy of Care and Growth

- UNITY’s Mission of Healing teams bring medical care to hundreds in need each year, transforming Cordero into a clinic and seeing tangible improvements in overall health.
- The congregation has grown despite challenges, including urban violence and leadership transitions, and continues to thrive under the guidance of Pastor Rafael and Briseda. Briseda’s social work expertise allows Cordero to connect even more deeply with the community through schooling, vocational classes, and other programs.

Our Shared Vision

Through years of collaboration, UNITY has witnessed the powerful impact of faithful partnership. From worship and cultural exchange to medical care and education, our relationship with Cordero de Dios reminds us that even small acts of service can create lasting change.

How You Can Support:

- Donate items for the upcoming trip (see weekly bulletin for a list)
- Help organize and pack suitcases
- Consider joining as a traveler next year
- Make a special donation earmarked for El Salvador
- Most importantly, **pray for our travelers and the Cordero de Dios community**

We are deeply grateful for this partnership, and for the ways God’s love continues to flow through our shared ministry in El Salvador.



Thank you to Cheryl Schiesl for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz, Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Clark Varin, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Jeff Stark, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplin, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube, Marlene & Dave Hess

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

January 24-25

Ruth Humphrey (colon cancer diagnosis, undergoing treatment), aunt of Deborah Nustad
Pat (recovery from surgery), friend of Bill & Melanie Rooney
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (ICU breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

January 17-18

Mary Ann Spights (cancer diagnosis), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

January 10-11

Nathalie Guerrero (evidence of brain aneurysm), sister-in-law of Madison Arredondo
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Mary Noll (extensive surgery & cancer treatment), friend of Karen Hartzler
Jamie Kujawski (going through chemotherapy treatments), friend of the Dowlings
Jim Barry (battling cancer & hospitalized with pneumonia), friend of Fred Petran
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

January 3-4

Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Darla (cancer treatments), sister of Diana Koenen
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Eric (cancer), nephew of Diana Koenen
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
James Mace, member of UNITY	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank	

COL 5:00 p.m.

Ministers for Saturday, January 24, 2026

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Key
Greeters: Kay Koepsel-Benning, Adam Fogltanz
Acolyte: Maxwell Fogltanz, Nate Maritz
Ushers: Judie & Paul McGhee
Worship Assistant: Kim Klug
Reader: Phil Roemaat
Communion Assistants: Kim Urchell, Cheryl Caraulia
ABC: Kim Urchell
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Mark Shady
Visual Projection: Duane Maas
Song Leader: Molly Pufall-Brown
Sunday School Teacher: Adrienne Krueger
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Frances Paradis

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 25, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Key
Greeters: Darcy & Jan Constable
Acolyte: Charlotte, Quinnell, Maya Wuerl
Ushers: Alex Hahn, Danita Hahn
Worship Assistant: Leslie O'Connell
Reader: Leslie O'Connell
Communion Assistants: Jan Constable, Tim Herman, Erica Pergande, David Kapitan
ABC: Jen Nowak
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Mike Aprahamian
Livestream: Kaleigh Jolliff
Visual Projection: Paul Karrels
Song Leader: Molly Pufall-Brown
Sunday School Teachers: Eric & Corey Quinnell, Danielle Butula, Joanne Rentmeester
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Tracy Karrels

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 25, 2026**

Greeters: Diana VanSlyke, Katie Bray
Acolyte: Betsy Bray, Rileigh Loomis
Ushers: Jerry Kipp, Neal Borkenhagen
Worship Assistant: Jim Johnsen
Reader: Barb Patterson
Communion Assistants: Barb Hemmingsen, Diana VanSlyke
ABC: Barb Borkenhagen
Musician: Janet Day
Visual Projection: Julie Smith
Song Leader: Nicole Krause
Sunday School Teachers: Katie Bray, Jessica Loomis
Sunday School Support: Ingrid Stoffel
Nursery: Jade Epding
Coffee: Marge Kipp

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, January 25, 2026**

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Scott Reay
Acolyte: Josephine Toussaint, Sebastian Dandridge
Ushers: Joy Czarnik, Collette Tatera
Worship Assistant: Jeff Key
Reader: Jeff Stark
Communion Assistants: Jeff Stark
ABC:
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Clyde Reay
Visual Projection: Dustin Vrab
Song Leader: Molly Pufall-Brown
Sunday School Teachers: Jennifer Loverine,, Jamie Toussaint
Sunday School Support: Tiffany Reay
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell



UNITY
Lutheran Church

Fourth Weekend of Epiphany

January 31-February 1, 2026

Saturday, January 31, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, February 1, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

Fourth Weekend of Epiphany January 31-February 1, 2026

Prelude

“Gather Us In”

Haugen

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Arise”

Praise Band

(9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

One: Jesus saw the crowd, went up the mountain, and sat down to talk.

Many: So we’re here to listen.

One: He didn’t start with rules or instructions. He started with blessing.

Many: That’s good news for us.

One: Jesus says blessing belongs to people who feel empty, to people who are grieving, to people who are tired of the way things are.

Many: That sounds like us.

One: He says blessing belongs to those who choose gentleness, who care about what’s right, who show mercy and try to make peace.

Many: That’s the kind of people we want to be.

One: And even when following Jesus is hard, even when it costs us something...

Many: God is still with us.

One: So come as you are. Bring your questions, your worries, your hope.

Many: We’re ready to worship.

One: Let’s worship the God who meets us wherever life leads us.

Many: Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

ELW 873 vs. 1-4

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Our Great God”

Praise Band

(9:30)

Children’s Message

The Washing of Holy Baptism Presentation of the Child

This weekend we welcome Ainsley Anne, Declan Sanguinetti, Callum David, and Sullivan George at the 10:45 service. Ainsley Anne, Declan Sanguinetti, Callum David, and Sullivan George are presented by their parents, Patrick and Marie Morrell & their sponsors, Carlos Sava and Ally Billings.

Pastor: Who presents Ainsley Anne, Declan Sanguinetti, Callum David, and Sullivan George to receive the blessings of Holy Baptism?

Parents & Sponsors: We do.

Role of the Parents and Sponsors

One: As parents and sponsors, you should, in Christian love, faithfully be an example for these children. Care for them and help them in every way God gives you opportunity. Help Ainsley, Declan, Callum, and Sullivan grow in faith so they may use their lives to share God's love and bear witness to the faith we hold dear. May they live in the covenant of their Baptism and in Communion with the people of God. May they lead lives of kindness and service until the day of Jesus Christ. Parents and sponsors, do you promise to do your best to fulfill these obligations? If so, please answer, "I do."

Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. Holy God, we give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the baptism of his own death and resurrection, your beloved Son, Jesus the Christ, has set us free from the final power of sin and death, and has opened the way to everlasting life. He made water a sign of cleansing and of birth into the family of God. As Jesus' followers, we do as he taught us, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit so that Ainsley, Declan, Callum, and Sullivan may be given new life. We give thanks that you wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as your own sons and daughters, inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

All: Amen.

***Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Baptism Baptismal Prayer

Pastor: Lord God, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising us up to a new life through this holy washing. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Ainsley, Declan, Callum, and Sullivan: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and respect for you, Lord, and help them experience the spirit of joy in your presence.

All: Amen.

The Mark of Christ

Pastor: Ainsley, Declan, Callum, and Sullivan, you are children of God. Now receive the sign of the cross. Know that you have been washed clean in the waters of baptism and sealed by the Holy Spirit. You are marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Presentation of the Baptismal Candles

One: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (*Matthew 5:16*)

Pastor: Through Baptism, God has made these brothers and sisters of ours a member of the ministry of reconciliation we all share in Christ Jesus. May we proclaim the greatness and love of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

All: Amen.

Greeting of the Children by the Congregation

All: Ainsley, Declan, Callum, and Sullivan, we welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly father, and workers with us in the Kingdom of God. Amen.

Pastor: Peace be with you.

Parents & Sponsors: And also with you.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. Lamb of God...

Many: You take away the sins of the world. Your love is expressed in the cross but it doesn't begin and end there. Your love is always with us. You call us together as a Church family. In baptism, you wash us clean and forgive our sins. In Holy Communion, you show us what love and sacrifice look like. Then you invite us to follow you. Thank you for leading the way. Use the gifts we offer to accomplish your work. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Anthem

"Lord of the Dance"

arr. Jason W. Krug

(9:30)

Gloria Dei Bell Choir; Stacey Nordmeyer, Director

Gospel Acclamation

"Thy Word"

(All Services)

Reading of the Good News Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus begins his teaching by speaking words of blessing over people who don't usually feel blessed. He names God's kingdom as present among those who are grieving, struggling, seeking justice, and trying to live faithfully. These words reveal a God who meets people where they are and calls them into a new way of life.

One: The Gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter

Many: **Glory to you O, Lord.**

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Good News for Tired People" Justin Kierzek

Hymn of the Day/Baptismal Hymn

"Blest Are They"

ELW 728 vs. 1-4

(5:00, 8:30)

"Your Name"

Praise Band

(9:30)

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

ELW 798 vs. 1, 4, 5

(10:45)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Congregation response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "hear our prayer.")

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: **Amen.**

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

"Bright and Glorious Is the Sky"

ELW 301 vs. 3

*Sages from the east afar, when they saw this wondrous star,
went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations
to the child, the newborn king, to the child, the newborn king.*



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Gracious God,

Many: in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"My Faith Looks Up To Thee"
"The Table"

Lowell Mason, arr. Austin (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
Praise Band (9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Rise Up, O Saints of God!"
"Days of Elijah"

ELW 669 vs. 1-3 (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
Praise Band (9:30)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

“Nocturne Op. 72 No. 1”

“Days of Elijah” Reprise

Chopin

Praise Band

(5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

(9:30)

Partner of the Month: Bread of Healing Clinic

Bread of Healing Clinic is a free, faith-based medical clinic serving low-income and uninsured people in Milwaukee who face barriers to accessing ongoing health care. Through three clinic locations (with plans for a fourth), Bread of Healing provides free, high-quality medical, dental, vision, and behavioral health care for patients with chronic illnesses, especially those who experience gaps in coverage or are in between health insurance plans. Each year, the clinic serves more than 2,000 patients who might otherwise fall through the cracks of the health care system.

Bread of Healing is also a place of learning and shared healing. The clinic creates an educational environment for both patients and volunteers, offering opportunities to learn about the treatment of chronic illness in communities that often experience disparities in care. Patients, providers, and volunteers alike are invited to experience, request, and offer healing, recognizing that wholeness is something we seek together.

Rooted in Christian faith, Bread of Healing believes health is an issue of faith, social justice, and wholeness. Jesus’ ministry of healing inspires this work, affirming that health is a right belonging to all people, regardless of ability to pay, and that true healing includes physical, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being. This ministry began at Cross Lutheran Church and continues today as a collaborative effort across multiple church and community partners.

UNITY is deeply thankful for our partnership with Bread of Healing and for our personal connection through Dr. Barbara Horner-Ibler, Medical Director of the clinic and wife of Pastor John Horner-Ibler. As Bread of Healing celebrates 25 years of ministry, we give thanks for their continued commitment to sharing hope, restoring dignity, and responding to God’s call to healing in every arena of human life.



This Weekend at UNITY!

Most of the time, we think being "blessed" means having something close to a perfect life. Maybe it's getting that promotion or finding ourselves in the middle of a stress-free week. But, in our Gospel lesson for this week, Jesus flips that script entirely. He looks at the people who feel empty, the ones who are grieving, and the ones just trying to keep the peace in a messy world, and He calls *them* blessed. It's not that the struggle itself is good, but that God meets us right in the middle of it. This week, we're invited to stop striving for whatever we see as perfection and start seeing the real blessing found in God's grace.

Annual Giving Statements Available NOW

Your annual giving statement for 2025 is now available at the campus where you typically worship. There are boxes on tables in the narthex of both campuses with statements in alphabetical order and they can be picked up anytime between **now and February 8**. Unlike the quarterly statements, annual statements are NOT emailed. Any remaining statements after Feb. 8 will be mailed. If you would like to confirm which campus your statement is in, or whether the office is open, please call the church at (262) 781-7600 and speak to Lynn or Matt.

Forums

Sunday, February 1: Aging Parents (Room 208)

Join Jen Nowak and Eric Gravenkamp as we share resources, answer questions about our parents' aging journey and help support each other. This can often be a difficult time in your life. Come together with others to hear tips on how to navigate this time. It is very powerful to know you are not alone. Join us Sunday, February 1, at 9:30 am in COL Room 208.

Growing Nearer To God: A 3 Week Bible Study to Prepare us for Lent:

Continues February 1st and 8th at 9:30 am at COL (Room 202): Led by Dave Meissner

1. What's the purpose of Lent? To help us grow spiritually closer to God.
2. What's the pathway Lent provides to grow in Christ? We'll study the Bible and identify ways and options for personal spiritual growth.
3. What's MY plan to grow in my awareness of God in my daily life during Lent? By the end of the third week, we'll each be able to answer that question.

The season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18, is a gift to strengthen and further empower us in our faith-journey with Jesus. Let's take advantage of this three-week pre-Lenten Bible study to prepare and equip us for the journey. No preregistration necessary. Just bring your Bibles and a heart open to the Spirit! (Led by Dave Meissner)

Day by day, day by day,

O, dear Lord, three things I pray:

To see Thee more clearly,

Love Thee more dearly,

Follow Thee more nearly,

Day by day, by day, by day. (Robin Lamont)

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

This week, we're going paint cards using water colors. Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

All Things Lent!

We begin our season of Lent with Ash Wednesday worship on February 18. We will worship at two times: 12:00 at CTK and 7:00 PM at COL. The services will include the imposition of ashes and communion. While we tend to avoid or deny the realities we'd rather not think about, this powerful day not only reminds us of our mortality, but that the God who created us from the dust of the earth also has the power to rise up new life out of the ashes. Come and receive a cross on your forehead (made from the palm branches of Palm Sunday) and remember that as you were marked with the cross of Christ at your baptism, there is nothing that can separate us from God's love, for even at the end of this life, we return to our God who created us and gives us life everlasting.

Our Lent theme this year is 'Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time' - A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. Each Wednesday of Lent, we share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Wednesday Meals and Worship: Lunch + Worship at CTK, Dinner + Worship at COL
Join us for a meal & worship the 5 Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday: Feb 25-Mar 25.

At Christ the King: We'll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

At Cross of Life: Dinner and worship will start at approximately 6:00 pm with the evening typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help with Lent Wednesdays?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: We need people to provide soups, sides, and desserts. There will be paper signups at both campuses. (Special thanks to Karen Sporleder for the setup and cleanup at these events!)

For Lenten Dinners at COL: We need help with the following:

- Shop for food items ahead of time
- Provide desserts (homemade or store-bought are equally great)
- Set out food and beverages (custodians set up tables & chairs)
- Last-minute prep before serving
- Clean up (hopefully not very time-consuming since many hands help at the end of service)

To help at COL, there will be paper signups at both campuses, in addition to a SignUpGenius. Individuals or groups (like a Small Group!) are invited to help. Questions about signing up or need help doing so? Contact Lynn Key at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or 262-781-7600.

Meal Making Group at COL:

Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. Do you like to cook but not do it alone? Each Wednesday we make the meal in the COL kitchen at 3:00 pm. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. There's no need to sign up; just show up! Questions about cooking? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

COL Weekly Meal Menus:

February 25: Chili and Cornbread
March 4: Pasta bar
March 11: Taco bar

March 18: Breakfast for dinner

March 25: Baked Potato bar

**Chicken nuggets option each week for kids*

This year's Lenten Offering: Power in Connection

Our Lenten offering will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong.

UNITY Highlights

SEVERE BLOOD SHORTAGE: Sign Up to Donate at UNITY's next Blood Drive, Thursday, February 5, 1pm-6pm COL campus.

You may have seen this on the news, but on January 20, a National Appeal for blood began. This means blood is being sent to hospitals faster than it is being donated. **There hasn't been an appeal for a few years, so this is significant!** *Of special note:*

- **This is a severe blood shortage.** Hospital needs have stayed the same, but they're now outpacing the number of available blood donations.
- The blood supply has dropped by 35% over the past month.
- **This is the worst flu season in 20 years.** Donors are asked to wait 24 hours after their last symptom which has reduced the number of eligible donors.
- **Over 400 blood drives have been canceled due to winter weather this month.** There are still several weeks left of winter and more storms could potentially further impact the blood supply.
- **The shortage is especially significant for blood types O-, O+, A-, and B-.** Donors with these blood types are encouraged to donate red cells through a Power Red donation.
- As a thank you, anyone who donates between January 26 and February 28 will receive a \$20 e-gift card to the merchant of their choice (e.g. Amazon, Target, Starbucks, etc.). Visit redcrossblood.org/heart to see all options.

PLEASE Donate at UNITY's Blood Drive on Thursday, February 5, from 1:00-6:00 pm at our COL campus. Sign up is live on the church website. Please contact Marilyn Ranney, UNITY Blood Drive Advocate with any questions or if you need assistance in getting signed up. You can contact her at 414-975-5606 or email her at ranneymarilyn@gmail.com. ***If you EVER considered donating blood, now is the time to do so.***

Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 at 9:30 am

Please make every effort to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22, at 9:30 am. At COL we'll have a shortened 8:30 am worship, then people can remain in the building for the meeting at 9:30 am. For those at the CTK campus, come to CTK at 9:30 am, grab your doughnut & coffee and head into the sanctuary for the meeting ... then stay for a worship service at 10:45 am! A Zoom link will be available for anyone attending our Annual Meeting at home. Please watch for that to come through email. NOTE: There will be a worship service and Sunday School at CTK at 10:45 am this day only. COL will still hold its regular worship service & Sunday School at 10:45 am.

Pre-Annual Meeting Forums on Sunday, February 15

Our Pre-Annual Meeting Info Forums will be held on **Sunday, February 15, at 9:30 am at COL and 10:30 am at CTK.** Join Treasurer Michelle Duerr and Finance Chair Tim Herman, along with other Council members, to hear how 2025 ended and get the 2026 budget they will propose at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 (see below). In addition to reading reports from our Staff and Council members, you'll be able to review ministry summaries and ask any questions you have.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ... US!!

We are coming up on the 10 year anniversary of UNITY. On April 17, 2016 we voted on:

- Our new name: UNITY Lutheran Church, Inc.
- Our new mission words: Celebrate, Share, Renew
- Our new mission statement:

United in Christ we...

Celebrate in our worship and lives

Share with generous purpose

Renew our communities and the creation

...all through the One who keeps us together in ministry.

- Our new Constitution and Bylaws.

So let's celebrate 10 years of UNITY! We are looking for a **team of people** who would like to collaborate and develop a plan for this wonderful celebration. If you are interested in joining in on the team, please let Lynn Key know at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or in the office, or speak with any of the pastors.

New Worship Volunteer Schedule will begin February 19th, right after Ash Wednesday and will run through the end of the program year, June 7th. Please look for the email from Lynn (Unity) and let us know about any weekends you are not available to serve, or sign up for services you'd like to help at. ***We will not automatically schedule anyone for Holy Week or Easter, April 5,*** so please check out those dates and sign up where you can help. Thank you for all the ways you help our members to come together to worship! If you have any questions, contact Lynn Key, lynn@unitybrookfield.org or one of the pastors.

Envelope 'starter' packs

There are a variety of ways to give a financial gift to support the ministry of the church. Many people prefer to give electronically. Other people appreciate the reminder and accountability of offering envelopes. In answer to their request, packs of 12 regular envelopes and 5 Lenten envelopes have been created. Packs can be found in the Narthex at both campuses.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of

To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Flower Sign Up for 2026

Sponsors Needed each week for Altar Flowers at both campuses! All the details you need are on the SignUp Genius and the 2026 calendar is now available on our webpage. This is a convenient way to choose a weekend and campus, and the cost is only \$25 (payable by check or online). You can take flowers home at the end of the weekend's last service, but please return the vase as soon as you can. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, contact Lynn by calling the UNITY office.

Are we in your spam?? Please check!

For some time we have had issues with communications from UNITY email addresses going into spam/junk email boxes, even when the sender is in the receivers contacts, or even when we are *responding* to your email. With recent service provider changes we hope to be able to eliminate this problem. BUT FIRST... when you find our emails in spam, please mark the sender as safe to receive from, and that should eliminate the problem going forward. If it doesn't, be sure to let us know! If you are not receiving emails from us at all, please reach out to Lynn in the office to confirm we have the correct email address(es). We don't want to miss you, and don't want you to miss hearing from us!

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids to Hold Servant Sundays!

In January and February during Sunday School, our students will be participating in Servant Sundays. We will once again hold the Birthday Gift Bag Drive for the Food Pantry. We will also perform a variety of other ministry tasks for our servant partners – such as assembling Craft Kits for the kids in El Salvador for our Mission of Healing Trip and tying fleece blankets for our friends at Hephatha Lutheran Church.

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

March 13-14, 7pm-7:30am, Grades 4-6 lock in at COL campus.

March 20, 6-8pm, 4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over) at CTK campus

April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am, Grades 2-3 lock in at CTK campus

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school>Yearly Events. Parents, please consider how you can help at the event or by bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Education team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

UNITY Sunday school summer AND Year One Confirmation Camp! We are traveling back to Imago Dei.

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half -week options for

kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the full week and July 15-17 for the half week option**. If you want more information check out crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

Slurp's Up Before Confirmation Class This Weekend!

Before confirmation class this Sunday, join us for a build-your-own ramen bar! We'll have a variety of ramen flavors and plenty of toppings so everyone can create a bowl just the way they like it. If ramen isn't your thing, there are always peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and chips available! Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m.! Come hungry and ready to mix, match, and enjoy before class.

Confirmation Class Continues Sunday night at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the COL campus

After dinner, we'll hold our regular confirmation class from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the COL campus. Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Let's Get Cookin' - Mass Meal Prep on February 4: just 3 more adult chefs needed!

One Wednesday each month from **4:00-6:30 pm**, 4 adults will work with 4 Confirmation students to whip up a delicious recipe in the COL Kitchen for 25 men at Aspen Center! It's easy: cooking stations are all set up and ready for our Sous Chefs to step in. What if cooking really isn't your thing but you still want to help? No problem! We also need the following support: 1 or 2 shoppers, 2 home bakers, and 1 meal delivery driver. It's a big team effort, so

what a blessing you will be! Sign up online by clicking on the appropriate links: Adult Signup or Confirmation Signup. Questions? Contact Cindy Flynn at 262-391-7870 or cindylouflynn@aol.com.

Donations Needed for El Salvador Trip by February 8

Our next Mission of Healing Trip to El Salvador will be February 14-21. Please take a look at what we need and if you can donate anything, please bring items to either campus and drop in the bins labeled "Supplies for El Salvador Trip" in the narthex area by **February 8:**

The Salvadoran kids and adults *love* working with arts and crafts between stops at the clinic. We could use:

Beads - Cording - Stickers	Glue Sticks (non-liquid)
Coloring Books for Kids & Adults	Toothbrushes (adult & kids)
Colored Pencils - Colored Markers	Sendiks bags (for to-go items at clinic)
Pencil Sharpeners - School Scissors	

Any questions, please contact Greg Buck at gbbwis@gmail.com.

UPDATE: Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

A big, HUGE, stupendous thank you, UNITY! To date we have sent out *117 pairs of gloves and mittens, 116 hats, and 12 scarves*-in addition to other sorts of winter gear- to our friends at Hephatha. The tree and bin will remain in place until mid February, at which time, all remaining items will be delivered. But for the next three weeks, be on the look out for mittens especially; they are much needed replacements for those that fall by the wayside.

CTK tree is in the narthex and COL's bin is in the vestibule at the fireplace entrance. Thank you so very much for your support of Hephatha. Questions? Contact Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-227-9645. *Thanks for warming kids' hands, heads and hearts all winter long!*

Waukesha Food Pantry - Senior High Pickup on Sunday, March 1

Mark your calendars! On Sunday March 1, Senior High students, with the help of parent drivers, will drive to your home to pick up food donations. More information on sign-ups coming soon!

A request for help from The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry

The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry has been working for the last 5 years to gather furniture that has useful life. They then work with a number of partners to deliver that furniture to provide Hope and Comfort to those in Milwaukee and surrounding areas.

They have 2 needs right now.

1. They are short of beds and dressers. They take queen, full and twin size beds; and take them with mattresses, box springs, frames and bedding (any parts of these are ok.) They need to have pieces with useful life. For the dressers, upright or chest of drawers are preferred. If they are horizontal or a bureau style, they need to be less than 60 inches long.

2. They need some help with moving the furniture. They are doing all of the pickups and deliveries with a small staff. It sometimes is difficult to manage as it is only when people contact them to pick up something, then they need people available. They are NOT a service.

In 2025 they delivered to more than 60 locations and over 50 beds. This has helped to get families to have members not sleep on the floor. They run on a small budget and have begun and provide letters asking for free will donations for our pickups. They appreciate any consideration and help. Any questions should be directed to Andy Dederich, Share Our Best Furniture Ministry Coordinator at shareourbest@holycrosslutheran.org.

Help feed hungry people through a simple 1-hour time commitment! UPDATED!!

Hebron Housing Services needs volunteers to help pick up and deliver food to two of its facilities. How does it work? It's easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Pick up food at Chick-fil-A at 1454 Capitol Dr. in Pewaukee between **9:30-9:45 am** (food will already be prepared and paid for.) [**NOTE: NEW TIME!**]
- 2) Deliver as follows for each to take their portion of the food:
 - Siena House at 1519 Summit Ave. in Waukesha (**NOTE: NEW STOP!**)
 - Sentry House at 1210 Sentry Dr. in Waukesha.
 - Juno House at 812 N. East Ave. in Waukesha.
- 3) Deliver any remaining food to the Hope Center at 101 W. Broadway in Waukesha. *That's all there is to it!*

UNITY is responsible for delivery every other Monday on these dates:

Feb. 9 & 23, March 9 & 23, April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18, June 1, 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24, Sept 7 & 21, Oct 5 & 19, Nov 2, 16 & 30, and Dec 14 & 28.

Please sign up through SignUp Genius on our Sign Up web page.

Questions: Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse: 262-781-1373 / janeboorse43@gmail.com. *Thank you for helping feed hungry people through this simple, significant ministry.*

Hebron Shelters Need Your Donations of the following items:

- Sanitizing wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Bleach
- Sponges
- Garbage Bags (13- & 30-gallon)
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- Razors, shampoo/conditioners
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Twin size bed sheets

Please place your donations in the labeled boxes in the entryway at either of our campuses.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. Thank you!

It's simple. Drink coffee? Buy coffee! Support the farmers in Tanzania who are part of the Mt Meru Coffee Project. Go to mtmerucoffee.org and explore all the coffee that is available. Click on the profile icon to set up an account, then click on About US to register as a congregation member/customer, in order to get the discounted congregation pricing. Detailed instructions for this are on UNITY's website if you need it—click on Sign-ups, Docs and Forms. Enjoy a warm cup of premium coffee and the warm feeling of knowing you are improving the lives of farmers the Project has trained and supported. Your orders will be delivered to church for you to pick up. Pickup location: CTK - coffee bar; COL - kitchen cart labeled Mt. Meru Coffee Order Pick-Up. Questions? Contact Janet McMahon at janetamcmahon@gmail.com or 414-550-3110.

Ongoing Service Opportunities:

UNITY has standing volunteer "shifts" at various partners that we commit to covering as a church. Each one is coordinated by a different Unity member... each one has its own sign up page on the church website... and each one is an opportunity for you!

- **Waukesha Food Pantry Food Distribution:** Each month, 4th Saturday, 9am-12pm; 5th Monday 5:45 - 8 pm. Help clients make their food selections as you walk them through an organized mini grocery store.
- **Serenity Inns Recovery Program Fellowship Dinners:** cook, deliver, or serve a meal for 12 residents. Each month, 1st Sunday and 2nd Friday, 6 - 7pm. Kids welcome.

Property Needs

Contact Denny Thompson, Director of Buildings and Properties
c: 262-844-0556, email: dennyt325@yahoo.com
Al Bengston, c: 414-322-6445, email: allanbengst234@gmail.com

Mark your calendars and plan to lend a hand (or two) at the following Spring Clean Ups!

- **CTK will be held on Saturday, April 11, from 9 am to noon.**
- **COL will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 9 am to noon.**

Indoors, we'll do deep cleaning like you do at home (high dusting, vacuuming corners, etc.). Please bring step stools and vacuums with hoses if possible. Outdoors, many hands are needed to help us rake, clear planting beds, take down dead trees, and prepare our grounds for the season. We'll have lots of tools on site, but if you have them, please bring pruners, rakes, wheelbarrows, trailers for hauling brush, etc. In addition at COL we will be rebuilding a retaining wall on the west side, and planting landscaping material on the east end. Lots to do at both campuses! Lunch is provided and outdoor cleanup is held rain or shine. Contact is Denny Thompson at dennyt325@yahoo.com. Please help us spiff up our building and grounds for members and visitors!

Help needed with Snow Blowing/Shoveling at both campuses!:

THANK YOU to all who have recently signed up to help with this important ministry! Winter has arrived and we need help with keeping our campuses cleared and safe. If you are a person who doesn't mind helping to clear the sidewalks and throw some salt down, check out the details in the SignUpGenius on our website. You sign up for just 1 campus, and we ask for a 1 week commitment starting on Wednesdays and running through the following Tuesday. When you sign up, helpful details will be emailed to you, and a reminder is emailed 3 days prior to your start date. Thank you for helping!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Tuesday Men's Breakfast meets Tuesday, February 3rd

Meet up with UNITY men for breakfast and fellowship the first Tuesday of each month. The group meets at 7 AM at The Crossings Restaurant in Pewaukee (across from Kwik Trip on Watertown Road and Hwy F). New people always welcome!

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

The evening sheepshead group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the second and fourth Mondays at 1:00pm in the Christ the King community room. Mark your calendars for **Monday afternoon February 9th, and Thursday evening February 5th.**

Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't come before. Please contact Mary Huss at mhwis@hotmail.com with any questions.

Lunch Bunch on February 11th

Join us the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 am at Maxim's. (18025 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield.) **The next meeting is February 11th.** Everyone is welcome, no matter your age or stage: younger, older, singles, couples, regular or occasional. Just show up because the nice thing about Maxim's is that seating is endlessly expandable. And, if you have any questions before you come, Esther McKee is your point person: (262) 246-6443.

Men's Third Saturday Breakfast meets Saturday, February 21, 7:30-9:00 am at COL

We get together, survive our own cooking and talk about the readings used in worship that weekend. Never tried it out? Been part for years? Either way, how about joining us next time?

Hit the (Indoor!) Links at X-Golf on February 26 at 6:30pm!

Calling all UNITY Golfers! Beat the winter chill and hit the virtual links with us at X-Golf inside American Family Field on Thursday, February 26, at 6:30 - 8:30pm. Low- and high-handicap golfers are welcome! Bring your own clubs or feel free to borrow from Matt's bag (he golfs right-handed). Cost is \$30 for golf; food and beverages are available for purchase. Sign up online for our X-Golf Outing found on our Sign Up web page. Any questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, February 11th from 6:30-8:00 pm at COL in room 202. During Lent (2/25, 3/11 and 3/25) they will meet after Lenten worship from 7-8 pm. - When Life Isn't the Same ...

If you have lost a spouse or a parent or someone else close to you, the grieving doesn't end after the funeral. We invite you to a safe space where you can share more about where you are at in your journey ... learn more about the stages of grief ... and get help finding your way through what you need most for the road ahead.

We invite you to join us for our Grief Group. If this is the right time for you, or if someone you know could benefit from being a part of this, please join us! ***A zoom link can be provided if you are not able to meet in person.*** If you have questions or just want to discuss whether this is the right place for you, contact any of the pastors.

Worship & Music Opportunities

Director of Music, Contact Lynn Key, c: 414-507-5888 e: lynn@unitybrookfield.org
Children's Choirs, Contact Sydney Haines, c: 847-903-1393 e: sydneyh.unity@gmail.com
Fellowship Choir, Contact Molly Pufall-Brown, c: 920-265-6881, e: mpufall@gmail.com
Handbells & Praise Band, Contact Stacey Nordmeyer, c: 414-617-7673,
e: staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com

Join us for All-Music Tuesdays!

Find a group that matches what you are looking for from the list below. We rehearse every Tuesday night through mid-May. Come join us even if you can't make it every week. Nursery and child care are available. No auditions are necessary. Talk to any of our music staff if you have questions.

- **JOYFUL NOISE MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages PreK–Grade 1 • 6:00pm to 6:30pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall.
- **CELEBRATION MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages Grade 2–Grade 6 • Tuesdays: 6:30pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall.
- **FELLOWSHIP CHOIR** - Ages 7th Grade–Adult • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall • Directed by Molly Pufall-Brown.
- **GLORIA DEI BELLS** - Late Intermediate to Advanced Ringers • Tuesdays: 6:15pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

This week, we're going paint cards using water colors. Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, February 15th, Game Show Battle Room, 6:20 - 7:30pm

For this event, we're looking for two parent volunteers to oversee the group and play along, while Nancy and Pastor Sherrie are in El Salvador, and Pastor Justin leads Confirmation. Youth will gather at the Game Show Battle Room (12565 W. Feerick St., Suite B, Brookfield, WI 53005) Participants will be divided into 2 teams, and play Game Show style contests, using their wit and dexterity to determine the champion.

Sunday, February 22nd, Snow Tubing at Crystal Ridge, 5:20 - 7:30pm

Bundle up and let's have a snow adventure together, tubing at Crystal Ridge. Since the location is a bit further than most of our Sunday night events, we will be meeting a bit earlier than usual to ensure we have enough time to revel in the fun, and still return by 7:30 pm. Parent drivers requested.

Sunday, March 1, Waukesha Food Pantry Food Roundup, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Compete for a great cause! We'll meet at church, divide into groups, and go out with parent drivers on assigned routes to pickup food donations to benefit the Waukesha Food Pantry. We'll gather names and addresses in advance, to map and optimize the driving. Parent drivers requested.

2026 Summer Servant Trip July 18 - 25 — Appalachia Service Project

Parents, we plan to go July 18 - 25, however, we may add additional groups and dates. We have heard that many families would like to participate, however, kids have conflicts that last week of July. Please look for a link in your "Senior High Happenings" email, to share availability for alternate weeks.

We typically take 2 adults (1 male and 1 female) for every 5 students, where you are grouped together and given a project or a couple to work on through out the week. NO worries if you have NEVER done any work like this before! All skill levels welcome! We also bring along a number of experienced adults in this area and there are detailed manuals available for your specific project. In the past, groups have done everything from installing drywall and painting to adding vinyl siding to installing vinyl plank flooring to building porches and/or ramps, and creating water flow channels away from housing.

We also have preparation events to let everyone practice using the tools and equipment that they may use during the week, along with covering safety and other topics including what to expect culturally in this region.

For those who have been in the past, they have returned home proud of what they were able to do in the short time there especially when they had never used a hammer or power tools prior! (Also, we are blessed that we are able to include an ice cream budget as a significant priority....i.e. a DAILY TREAT after a day's work!)

*The altar flowers at CTK are given by Sandy Huss
In memory of Donald Huss on his 100th birthday, February 2nd*

Thank you to Jane Dowling for arranging the altar flowers this weekend

Thank you to Kelsey Morrison for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider
sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz,
Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Clark Varin, Greg O'Connell,
Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel,
Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Jeff Stark, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu,
Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen,
Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplin,
Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube, Marlene & Dave Hess

We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the baptism of:

Ainsley, Declan, Callum, and Sullivan Morrell

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones
as they mourn the death of a loved one:

Christ the King Campus

Diana Anderson

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

January 31-February 1

Dr. Caroline Schilder (grief and loss), friend of Oberhauser family
Jason Suttle (broken leg/ankle & surgery), nephew of Lynn & Jeff Key
Annette Caraulia (heart issues), daughter-in-law of Cheryl Caraulia
Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Darla (cancer treatments), sister of Diana Koenen
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Eric (cancer), nephew of Diana Koenen
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

January 24-25

Ruth Humphrey (colon cancer diagnosis, undergoing treatment), aunt of Deborah Nustad
Pat (recovery from surgery), friend of Bill & Melanie Rooney
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

January 17-18

Mary Ann Spights (cancer diagnosis), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

January 10-11

Nathalie Guerrero (evidence of brain aneurysm), sister-in-law of Madison Arredondo
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Mary Noll (extensive surgery & cancer treatment), friend of Karen Hartzler
Jamie Kujawski (going through chemotherapy treatments), friend of the Dowlings
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
James Mace, member of UNITY	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank	

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Karen Beres, Dawn Conlin
Acolyte: Emma Jolliff, Betty Bredemus
Ushers: Al Bredemus, Duane Maas
Worship Assistant: Kim Klug
Reader: Sue Fisher
Communion Assistants: Nicki & Mark Shady
ABC: Kim Klug
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound: Luke Jolliff
Visual Projection: Tim Culhane
Song Leader: Becki Culhane
Sunday School Teacher: Adrienne Krueger
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 1, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Kathy Bruhnke
Greeters: Jo & Ralph Gould
Acolyte: Addison Kahle, Eliza Van Hoorn, Johnny Steigerwald
Ushers: Diane & Dick Dressler
Worship Assistant: Paul Langer
Reader: Megan Van Hoorn
Communion Assistants: Tracy & Paul Karrels, Jeanne Bonk, Bernd Bruhnke
ABC: Sandi John
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound: Eric Gravenkamp
Livestream: Ananya Ebenezer
Visual Projection: Kaleigh Jolliff
Song Leader: Kathy Kindler
Sunday School Teachers: Katie McInnis, Laura Bengs, Lisa Kahle
Sunday School Support: Tiffany Reay
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Bernd Bruhnke

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 1, 2026**

Greeters: Julie Smith, Chad McFadden
Acolyte: Isla Docksey, Miles Docksey
Ushers: Melanie & Hayden Stuber
Worship Assistant: Linda Johnson
Reader: Mary Huss
Communion Assistants: Barb Patterson, Linda Wilson
ABC: Barb Borkenhagen
Musician: Praise Band
Visual Projection: Parker Godfrey
Song Leader: Praise Band
Sunday School Teachers: Korrin Gumieny, Chad McFadden
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery: Jade Epding
Coffee: Emily McFadden

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 1, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Greg Hoesly
Greeters: Drew Olsson, Lauren Cervero
Acolyte: Abby Henk, Liam Komassa
Ushers: JJ Steichen, Collette Tatera
Worship Assistant: Melanie Varin
Reader: Kelly Shoff
Communion Assistants: Carole Syse, Joy Czarnik
ABC:
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound:
Visual Projection: Steve Brewer
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Davida Kroepfl
Sunday School Support: Sophie Miesfeld
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell



UNITY
Lutheran Church

Fifth Weekend of Epiphany

February 7-8, 2026

Saturday, February 7, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, February 8, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

Fourth Weekend of Epiphany January 31-February 1, 2026

Prelude

“Arise”

Praise Band

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Prelude on “St. Thomas”

David Lasky

(9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

One: You become who you believe you are in life...

Many: So...if I believe I can throw the football like a laser-beam, I can replace Jordan Love?

One: Not exactly, it's more related to things like priorities, and values, and especially, God.

Many: So...when Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth...”

One: He wanted us to have an identity, *His* identity. We bring flavor to the blandness of so much that passes for meaning in human life.

Many: Positions and possessions come and go, seeming feasts to our material eyes, but bland toast in God's.

One: The flavor we bring is amazing: hope for those who hurt, patience with those who fall short, love without condition.

Many: And when we live like salt, then we reflect God's glory...

One: And Jesus says of us in those moments, “You are the light of the world!”

Many: Make us salt this week, O God. Make us shine. Make us...

One: sing with thankfulness,

Many: the amazing goodness of the Lord, our greatest example!

Opening Hymn

“Our Great God”

Praise Band

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

ELW 873 vs. 1-4

(9:30)

Children's Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Congregation response to “Lord, in your mercy” is “hear our prayer.”)

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: **Amen.**



venmo

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

“Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

ELW 301 vs. 3

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. God, our Creator,

Many: **you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord’s Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

“I Give You My Heart/Here I Am to Worship” Praise Band (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Be Thou My Vision” arr. Fred Bock (9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace and peace.

Many: **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Days of Elijah" Praise Band (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
"Rise Up, O Saints of God!" ELW 669 vs. 1-3 (9:30)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Days of Elijah" Reprise Praise Band (5:00, 8:30; 10:45)
"On Our Way Rejoicing" Lani Smith (9:30)

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Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

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Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

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Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

Partner of the Month: Bread of Healing Clinic

Bread of Healing Clinic is a free, faith-based medical clinic serving low-income and uninsured people in Milwaukee who face barriers to accessing ongoing health care. Through three clinic locations (with plans for a fourth), Bread of Healing provides free, high-quality medical, dental, vision, and behavioral health care for patients with chronic illnesses, especially those who experience gaps in coverage or are in between health insurance plans. Each year, the clinic serves more than 2,000 patients who might otherwise fall through the cracks of the health care system.

Bread of Healing is also a place of learning and shared healing. The clinic creates an educational environment for both patients and volunteers, offering opportunities to learn about the treatment of chronic illness in communities that often experience disparities in care. Patients, providers, and volunteers alike are invited to experience, request, and offer healing, recognizing that wholeness is something we seek together.

Rooted in Christian faith, Bread of Healing believes health is an issue of faith, social justice, and wholeness. Jesus' ministry of healing inspires this work, affirming that health is a right belonging to all people, regardless of ability to pay, and that true healing includes physical, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being. This ministry began at Cross Lutheran Church and continues today as a collaborative effort across multiple church and community partners.

UNITY is deeply thankful for our partnership with Bread of Healing and for our personal connection through Dr. Barbara Horner-Ibler, Medical Director of the clinic and wife of Pastor John Horner-Ibler. As Bread of Healing celebrates 25 years of ministry, we give thanks for their continued commitment to sharing hope, restoring dignity, and responding to God's call to healing in every arena of human life.



This Weekend at UNITY!

This weekend is the Fifth Weekend of Epiphany. Having built momentum with his audience through the cadence of the Beatitudes, today, in our Gospel lesson, Jesus pushes into the heart of the Sermon on the Mount. His very first words not only provide us with an identity, but a positive calling to live into: “You are the salt of the earth! You are the light of the world.”

On any given day, we may struggle to see purpose or goodness in others or ourselves, but when Jesus is allowed to define the day that begins to change. He not only gives us permission to spice things up but the confidence to set our light high on a hill. Humility before God, it turns out, does not mean passivity towards life, but instead, the supreme confidence to know that if Jesus taught it, the world needs it and we’re the ones to give it.

Annual Giving Statements Available this weekend in Narthex

Your annual giving statement for 2025 is now available at the campus where you typically worship. There are boxes on tables in the narthex of both campuses with statements in alphabetical order and they can be picked up anytime between **now and February 8**. Unlike the quarterly statements, annual statements are NOT emailed. Any remaining statements after February 8 will be mailed. If you would like to confirm which campus your statement is in, or whether the offices are open, please call the church at (262) 781-7600 and speak to Lynn or Matt.

Growing Nearer To God: A 3 Week Bible Study to Prepare us for Lent: Concludes February 8th at 9:30 am at COL (Room 202): Led by Dave Meissner

1. What’s the purpose of Lent? To help us grow spiritually closer to God.
2. What’s the pathway Lent provides to grow in Christ? We’ll study the Bible and identify ways and options for personal spiritual growth.
3. What’s MY plan to grow in my awareness of God in my daily life during Lent? By the end of the third week, we’ll each be able to answer that question.

The season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 18, is a gift to strengthen and further empower us in our faith-journey with Jesus. Let’s take advantage of this three-week pre-Lenten Bible study to prepare and equip us for the journey. No preregistration necessary. Just bring your Bibles and a heart open to the Spirit! (Led by Dave Meissner)

Day by day, day by day,
O, dear Lord, three things I pray:
To see Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly,
Day by day, by day, by day. (Robin Lamont)

Confirmation

NOTE: Revised from printed schedule: Different time this Sunday due to Super Bowl!

Confirmation continues THIS SUNDAY FROM NOON UNTIL 1:30 p.m. at COL

After a sub lunch at 11:45 we’ll hold confirmation class from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the COL campus. Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Join us while we paint cards using watercolors. Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

All Things Lent!

We begin our season of Lent with Ash Wednesday worship on February 18. We will worship at two times: 12:00 at CTK and 7:00 PM at COL. The services will include the imposition of ashes and communion. While we tend to avoid or deny the realities we'd rather not think about, this powerful day not only reminds us of our mortality, but that the God who created us from the dust of the earth also has the power to rise up new life out of the ashes. Come and receive a cross on your forehead (made from the palm branches of Palm Sunday) and remember that as you were marked with the cross of Christ at your baptism, there is nothing that can separate us from God's love, for even at the end of this life, we return to our God who created us and gives us life everlasting.

Our Lent theme this year is 'Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time'

A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. Each Wednesday of Lent, we will share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Wednesday Meals and Worship: Lunch + Worship at CTK, Dinner + Worship at COL
Join us for a meal & worship the five Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday: Feb. 25 - March 25.

At Christ the King: We'll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

At Cross of Life: Dinner and worship will start at approximately 6:00 pm with the evening typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help with Lent Wednesdays?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: We need people to provide soups, sides, and desserts. There are paper signups at both campuses. (Special thanks to Karen Sporleder for the setup and cleanup at these events!)

For Lenten Dinners at COL: We need help with the following:

- Shop for food items ahead of time
- Provide desserts (*homemade or purchased*)
- Clean up (hopefully not very time-consuming since many hands help at the end of service)
- Set out food and beverages
- Last-minute prep before serving

For helping at COL, there are paper signups at both campuses, in addition to a SignUpGenius now live online! Individuals or groups (like a Small Group!) are invited to help. Questions about signing up or need help doing so? Contact Lynn Key at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or 262-781-7600.

Meal Making Group at COL:

Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. Do you like to cook but not do it alone? Each Wednesday we make the meal in the COL kitchen at 3:00 pm. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. There's no need to sign up; just show up! Questions about cooking? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

COL Weekly Meal Menus:

February 25: Chili and Cornbread

March 18: Breakfast for dinner

March 4: Pasta bar

March 25: Baked Potato bar

March 11: Taco bar

*** A chicken nugget option will be available for kids each week (except 3/18) ***

Nursery will be available for every service at COL

This year's Lenten Offering: *Power in Connection*

Our Lenten offering will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong.

UNITY Highlights

Thank you to all who gave blood at the UNITY Blood Drive on Thursday, February 5th. We had 45 donors signed up - way to go! Mark your calendars and go in and sign up for our next drive on **Saturday, May 30th at COL from 7-11am.** Sign up is live on the church website. Please contact Marilyn Ranney, UNITY Blood Drive Advocate with any questions or if you need assistance in getting signed up. You can contact her at ranneymarilyn@gmail.com or 414-975-5606.

Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 at 9:30 am

Please make every effort to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22, at 9:30 am. At COL we'll have a shortened 8:30 am worship, then people can remain in the building for the meeting at 9:30 am. For those at the CTK campus, come to CTK at 9:30 am, grab your doughnut & coffee and head into the sanctuary for the meeting ... then stay for a worship service at 10:45 am! A Zoom link will be available for anyone attending our Annual Meeting at home. Please watch for that to come through email. NOTE: There will be a worship service and Sunday School at CTK at 10:45 am this day only. COL will still hold its regular worship service & Sunday School at 10:45 am.

Pre-Annual Meeting Forums on Sunday, February 15

We invite you to join us for a brief year-in-review forum following worship this weekend at both campuses. **Our Pre-Annual Meeting Info Forums will be held on Sunday, February 15, at 9:30 am at COL and 10:30 am at CTK.** Please join Treasurer Michelle Duerr and Finance Chair Tim Herman, along with other Council members, as they share how 2025 ended and walk through the proposed 2026 budget that will be presented at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22. This is a chance to reflect on the past year, look ahead to where God is leading us, and learn more about our church's finances. Last year brought some challenges, including large unanticipated property expenses. We will look back at the last year together, assess where we are today, and look ahead to the shared ministry that God continues to grow among us in 2026.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ... US!!

We are coming up on the 10 year anniversary of UNITY. On April 17, 2016 we voted on:

- Our new name: UNITY Lutheran Church, Inc.
- Our new mission words: Celebrate, Share, Renew
- Our new mission statement:
- Our new Constitution and Bylaws.

So let's celebrate 10 years of UNITY! We are looking for a **team of people** who would like to collaborate and develop a plan for this wonderful celebration. If you are interested in joining in on the team, please let Lynn Key know at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or speak with any of the pastors.

New Worship Volunteer Schedule will begin February 19th, right after Ash Wednesday and will run through the end of the program year, June 7th. Please look for the email from Lynn (Unity) and let us know about any weekends you are not available to serve, or sign up for services you'd like to help at **by THIS SUNDAY, 2/8.** ***We will not automatically schedule anyone for Holy Week or Easter, April 5,*** so please check out those dates and sign up where you can help. Thank you for all the ways you help our members to come together to worship! If you have any questions, contact Lynn Key, lynn@unitybrookfield.org or call/text anytime at 414-507-5888.

We did not automatically schedule anyone for Ash Wednesday, 2/18 at either the 12:00 or 7:00 services. Thank you to all who have volunteered to date! We have many volunteer positions still open so please check out that date in MSP and sign up where you can help. There are also **paper sign ups in the narthex at both campuses** if you prefer that.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of

To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Flower Sign Up for 2026

Sponsors Needed each week for Altar Flowers at both campuses! All the details you need are on the SignUp Genius and the 2026 calendar is now available on our webpage. This is a convenient way to choose a weekend and campus, and the cost is only \$25 (payable by check or online). You can take flowers home at the end of the weekend's last service, but please return the vase as soon as you can. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, contact Lynn by calling the UNITY office.

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids complete Servant Sundays!

Wow! What a productive month. Our eager Sunday school kids and teachers packed up 50 birthday bags for the Waukesha Food Pantry thanks to your generous donations. They also made six fleece tied blankets, cleaned thousands of toys in the nursery, and made about 200 craft kits for the kids in El Salvador during the Mission of Healing Trip. While the kids expressed their fingers hurt, especially after all they blankets, they are still looking for more projects. If you know of an organization in need or something we can do for one of our UNITY partners, please talk to Michelle or one of our teachers. Thank you again for supporting this effort and helping our kids live out their faith through service.

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

- **March 13-14**, 7pm-7:30am, Grades 4-6 lock in at COL campus.
- **March 20**, 6-8pm, 4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over) at CTK
- **April 24-25**, 7pm-7:30 am, Grades 2-3 lock in at CTK campus

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school>Yearly Events. Parents, please consider how you can help at the event or by bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Education team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

UNITY Sunday school summer AND Year One Confirmation Camp! We are traveling back to Imago Dei.

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half-week options for kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the the full week and July 15-17 for the half week option**. If you want more information check out crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **Grades 4-6 lock in** - March 13-14, 7pm-7:30am at the COL campus
- **4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over)** - March 20, 6-8pm at the CTK campus
- **Grades 2-3 lock in** - April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am at CTK campus
- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

NOTE: Revised from printed schedule: Different time this Sunday due to Super Bowl!

Confirmation continues THIS SUNDAY FROM NOON UNTIL 1:30 p.m. at COL

After a sub lunch at 11:45 we'll hold confirmation class from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the COL campus. Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

The next confirmation SALT meeting is **Sunday, February 15, 9:30-10:30 in room 208 at COL**. Dr. Barbara Horner-Ibler and Diane Dressler will visit us to talk more about the Bread of Healing Clinic and why this clinic and health care is instrumental to the community it serves. There will be a small service project for the kids to work on while they learn more about the clinic. We will not meet on Feb. 22 as originally planned due to the Annual meeting taking place at 9:30 am.

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Thanks to all who helped with our Mass Meal Prep on February 4 for Aspen Center!
Our next meal prep will be Wednesday, April 8th. Join us!

Donations Needed for El Salvador Trip by THIS SUNDAY, February 8

Our next Mission of Healing Trip to El Salvador will be February 14-21. Please take a look at what we need and if you can donate anything, please bring items to either campus and drop in the bins labeled "Supplies for El Salvador Trip" in the narthex area by **February 8**:

The Salvadoran kids and adults *love* working with arts and crafts between stops at the clinic. We could use:

Beads - Cording - Stickers

Glue Sticks (non-liquid)

Coloring Books for Kids & Adults

Toothbrushes (adult & kids)

Colored Pencils - Colored Markers

Sendiks bags (for to-go items at clinic)

Pencil Sharpeners - School Scissors

Any questions, please contact Greg Buck at gbbwis@gmail.com.

Tile Decorating and Gratitude Journals with Aspen Center!

Sometimes we are our own worst critic. Let's stop the negativity in its tracks! **On Saturday, February 21 from noon until 1:30**, we'll get together in Aspen Center's cafeteria area to decorate some ceramic tiles that we can use as coasters. We'll also learn how to keep a gratitude journal - a great way to practice a little self-love!

UPDATE: Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

A big, HUGE, stupendous thank you, UNITY! To date we have sent out *117 pairs of gloves and mittens, 116 hats, and 12 scarves*-in addition to other sorts of winter gear- to our friends at Hephatha. The tree and bin will remain in place until mid February, at which time, all remaining items will be delivered. But for the next three weeks, be on the look out for mittens especially; they are much needed replacements for those that fall by the wayside.

CTK's tree is in the narthex and COL's bin is in the vestibule at the fireplace entrance. Thank you so very much for your support of Hephatha. Questions? Contact Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-227-9645. *Thanks for warming kids' hands, heads and hearts all winter long!*

Waukesha Food Pantry - Senior High Pickup on Sunday, March 1

Mark your calendars! On Sunday March 1, Senior High students, with the help of parent drivers, will drive to your home to pick up food donations. More information on sign-ups coming soon!

A request for help from The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry

The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry has been working for the last 5 years to gather furniture that has useful life. They then work with a number of partners to deliver that furniture to provide Hope and Comfort to those in Milwaukee and surrounding areas.

They have 2 needs right now.

1. They are short of beds and dressers. They take queen, full and twin size beds; and take them with mattresses, box springs, frames and bedding (any parts of these are ok.) They need to have pieces with useful life. For the dressers, upright or chest of drawers are preferred. If they are horizontal or a bureau style, they need to be less than 60 inches long.

2. They need some help with moving the furniture. They are doing all of the pickups and deliveries with a small staff. It sometimes is difficult to manage as it is only when people contact them to pick up something, then they need people available. They are NOT a service.

In 2025 they delivered to more than 60 locations and over 50 beds. This has helped to get families to have members not sleep on the floor. They run on a small budget and have begun and provide letters asking for free will donations for our pickups. They appreciate any consideration and help. Any questions should be directed to Andy Dederich, Share Our Best Furniture Ministry Coordinator at shareourbest@holycrosslutheran.org.

Help feed hungry people through a simple 1-hour time commitment! UPDATED!!

Hebron Housing Services needs volunteers to help pick up and deliver food to two of its facilities. How does it work? It's easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Pick up food at Chick-fil-A at 1454 Capitol Dr. in Pewaukee between **9:30-9:45 am** (food will already be prepared and paid for.) [**NOTE: NEW TIME!**]
- 2) Deliver as follows for each to take their portion of the food:
 - Siena House at 1519 Summit Ave. in Waukesha (**NOTE: NEW STOP!**)
 - Sentry House at 1210 Sentry Dr. in Waukesha.
 - Juno House at 812 N. East Ave. in Waukesha.
- 3) Deliver any remaining food to the Hope Center at 101 W. Broadway in Waukesha. *That's all there is to it!*

UNITY is responsible for delivery every other Monday on these dates:

February 9 & 23, March 9 & 23, April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18, June 1, 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24, September 7 & 21, October 5 & 19, November 2, 16 & 30, and Dec 14 & 28.

Please sign up through SignUp Genius on our Sign Up web page.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate, Jane Boorse, at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. *Thank you for helping feed hungry people through this simple but significant ministry.*

Hebron Shelters Need Your Donations

Hebron Housing Services needs our help with the following items:

- Sanitizing wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Bleach
- Sponges
- Garbage Bags (13- & 30-gallon)
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- Razors, shampoo/conditioners
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Twin size bed sheets

Please place your donations in the labeled boxes in the entryway at either of our campuses.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373.

Thank you!

It's simple. Drink coffee? Buy coffee! Support the farmers in Tanzania who are part of the Mt Meru Coffee Project. Go to mtmerucoffee.org and explore all the coffee that is available. Click on the profile icon to set up an account, then click on About US to register as a congregation member/customer, in order to get the discounted congregation pricing. Detailed instructions for this are on UNITY's website if you need it – click on Sign-ups, Docs and Forms. Enjoy a warm cup of premium coffee, and the warm feeling of knowing you are improving the lives of farmers the Project has trained and supported. Your orders will be delivered to church for you to pick up. Pickup location: CTK - coffee bar; COL - kitchen cart labeled Mt. Meru Coffee Order Pick-Up. Questions? Contact Janet McMahon at janetmcmahon@gmail.com or 414-550-3110.

Ongoing Service Opportunities:

UNITY has standing volunteer “shifts” at various partners that we commit to covering as a church. Each one is coordinated by a different Unity member... each one has its own sign up page on the church website... and each one is an opportunity for you!

- **Waukesha Food Pantry Food Distribution:** Each month, 4th Saturday, 9am-12pm; 5th Monday 5:45 - 8 pm. Help clients make their food selections as you walk them through an organized mini grocery store.
- **Serenity Inns Recovery Program Fellowship Dinners:** cook, deliver, or serve a meal for 12 residents. Each month, 1st Sunday and 2nd Friday, 6 - 7pm. Kids welcome.

Property Needs

Contact Denny Thompson, Director of Buildings and Properties
c: 262-844-0556, email: dennyt325@yahoo.com

Al Bengston, c: 414-322-6445 , email: allanbengst234@gmail.com

Mark your calendars and plan to lend a hand (or two) at the following Spring Clean Ups!

- **CTK will be held on Saturday, April 11, from 9 am to noon.**
- **COL will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 9 am to noon.**

Indoors, we'll do deep cleaning like you do at home (high dusting, vacuuming corners, etc.). Please bring step stools and vacuums with hoses if possible. Outdoors, many hands are needed to help us rake, clear planting beds, take down dead trees, and prepare our grounds for the season. We'll have lots of tools on site, but if you have them, please bring pruners, rakes, wheelbarrows, trailers for hauling brush, etc. In addition at COL we will be rebuilding a retaining wall on the west side, and planting landscaping material on the east end. Lots to do at both campuses! Lunch is provided and outdoor cleanup is held rain or shine. Contact is Denny Thompson at dennyt325@yahoo.com. Please help us spiff up our building and grounds for members and visitors!

Help needed with Snow Blowing/Shoveling at both campuses!:

THANK YOU to all who have recently signed up to help with this important ministry! Winter has arrived and we need help with keeping our campuses cleared and safe. If you are a person who doesn't mind helping to clear the sidewalks and throw some salt down, check out the details in the SignUpGenius on our website. You sign up for just 1 campus, and we ask for a 1 week commitment starting on Wednesdays and running through the following Tuesday. When you sign up, helpful details will be emailed to you, and a reminder is emailed 3 days prior to your start date. Thank you for helping!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Growing Nearer To God: A 3 Week Bible Study to Prepare us for Lent: Concludes February 8th at 9:30 am at COL (Room 202): Led by Dave Meissner

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)! The evening sheepshead group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the second and fourth Mondays at 1:00pm in the Christ the King community room. Mark your calendars for Monday afternoon February 9th, and Thursday evening February 19th. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't come before. Please contact Mary Huss at mhwis@hotmail.com with any questions.

Lunch Bunch on February 11th Join us the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 am at Maxim's. (18025 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield.) **The next meeting is February 11th.** Everyone is welcome, no matter your age or stage: younger, older, singles, couples, regular or occasional. Just show up because the nice thing about Maxim's is that seating is endlessly expandable. And, if you have any questions before you come, Esther McKee is your point person: (262) 246-6443.

Men's Third Saturday Breakfast meets Saturday, February 21, 7:30-9:00 am at COL

We get together, survive our own cooking and talk about the readings used in worship that weekend. If you've never tried it out, or been part of it for years, join us this next time!

Hit the (Indoor!) Links at X-Golf on February 26 at 6:30pm!

Calling all UNITY Golfers! Beat the winter chill and hit the virtual links with us at X-Golf inside American Family Field on Thursday, February 26, at 6:30 - 8:30pm. Low- and high-handicap golfers are welcome! Bring your own clubs or feel free to borrow from Matt's bag (he golfs right-handed). Cost is \$30 for golf; food and beverages are available for purchase. Sign up online for our X-Golf Outing found on our Sign Up web page. Any questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, February 11th from 6:30-8:00 pm at COL in room 202. During Lent (2/25, 3/11 and 3/25) they will meet after Lenten worship from 7-8 pm. - When Life Isn't the Same ...

If you have lost a spouse or a parent or someone else close to you, the grieving doesn't end after the funeral. We invite you to a safe space where you can share more about where you are at in your journey ... learn more about the stages of grief ... and get help finding your way through what you need most for the road ahead.

We invite you to join us for our Grief Group. If this is the right time for you, or if someone you know could benefit from being a part of this, please join us! ***A zoom link can be provided if you are not able to meet in person.*** If you have questions or just want to discuss whether this is the right place for you, contact any of the pastors.

Worship & Music Opportunities

Director of Music, Contact Lynn Key, c: 414-507-5888 e: lynn@unitybrookfield.org
Children's Choirs, Contact Sydney Haines, c: 847-903-1393 e:sydneyh.unity@gmail.com
Fellowship Choir, Contact Molly Pufall-Brown, c: 920-265-6881, e: mpufall@gmail.com
Handbells & Praise Band, Contact Stacey Nordmeyer, c: 414-617-7673,
e: staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com

Join us for All-Music Tuesdays at COL Campus!

Find a group that matches what you are looking for from the list below. We rehearse every Tuesday night through mid-May. Come join us even if you can't make it every week. Nursery and child care are available. No auditions are necessary. Talk to any of our music staff if you have questions.

- **JOYFUL NOISE MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages PreK–Grade 1 • 6:00pm to 6:30pm.
- **CELEBRATION MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages Grade 2–Grade 6 • 6:30pm to 7:15pm.
- **FELLOWSHIP CHOIR** - Ages 7th Grade–Adult • 7:15pm to 8:15pm
- **GLORIA DEI BELLS** - Late Intermediate to Advanced Ringers • 6:15pm to 7:15pm

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Join us while we paint cards using watercolors. Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, February 15th, Game Show Battle Room, 6:20 - 7:30pm

For this event, we're looking for two parent volunteers to oversee the group and play along, while Nancy and Pastor Sherrie are in El Salvador, and Pastor Justin leads Confirmation. Youth will gather at the Game Show Battle Room (12565 W. Feerick St., Suite B, Brookfield, WI 53005) Participants will be divided into 2 teams, and play Game Show style contests, using their wit and dexterity to determine the champion.

Sunday, February 22nd, Snow Tubing at Crystal Ridge, 5:20 - 7:30pm

Bundle up and let's have a snow adventure together, tubing at Crystal Ridge. Since the location is a bit further than most of our Sunday night events, we will be meeting a bit earlier than usual to ensure we have enough time to revel in the fun, and still return by 7:30 pm. Parent drivers requested.

Sunday, March 1, Waukesha Food Pantry Food Roundup, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Compete for a great cause! We'll meet at church, divide into groups, and go out with parent drivers on assigned routes to pickup food donations to benefit the Waukesha Food Pantry. We'll gather names and addresses in advance, to map and optimize the driving. Parent drivers needed.

2026 Summer Servant Trip July 18 - 25 — Appalachia Service Project

Parents, we plan to go July 18 - 25, however, we may add additional groups and dates. We have heard that many families would like to participate, however, kids have conflicts that last week of July. Please look for a link in your "Senior High Happenings" email, to share availability for alternate weeks.

We typically take 2 adults (1 male and 1 female) for every 5 students, where you are grouped together and given a project or a couple to work on through out the week. NO worries if you have NEVER done any work like this before! All skill levels welcome! We also bring along a number of experienced adults in this area and there are detailed manuals available for your specific project. In the past, groups have done everything from installing drywall and painting to adding vinyl siding to installing vinyl plank flooring to building porches and/or ramps, and creating water flow channels away from housing.

We also have preparation events to let everyone practice using the tools and equipment that they may use during the week, along with covering safety and other topics including what to expect culturally in this region.

For those who have been in the past, they have returned home proud of what they were able to do in the short time there especially when they had never used a hammer or power tools prior! (Also, we are blessed that we are able to include an ice cream budget as a significant priority....i.e. a DAILY TREAT after a day's work!)

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

February 7-8

Janet & Don Mours (health concerns), parents of Bryan and Sue Mours
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

January 31-February 1

Dr. Caroline Schilder (grief and loss), friend of Oberhauser family
Jason Suttle (broken leg/ankle & surgery), nephew of Lynn & Jeff Key
Annette Caraulia (heart issues), daughter-in-law of Cheryl Caraulia
Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Darla (cancer treatments), sister of Diana Koenen
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Eric (cancer), nephew of Diana Koenen
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

January 24-25

Ruth Humphrey (colon cancer diagnosis, undergoing treatment), aunt of Deborah Nustad
Pat (recovery from surgery), friend of Bill & Melanie Rooney
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

January 17-18

Mary Ann Spights (cancer diagnosis), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
James Mace, member of UNITY	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank	

Thank you to Jency Engle for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider
sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz,
Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Clark Varin, Greg O'Connell,
Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel,
Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Marlene & Dave Hess, Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Sharon Prohl,
Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer,
Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann,
Marilyn Koplin, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube

COL 5:00 p.m.

Ministers for Saturday, February 7, 2026

Worship Coordinator: Lynn Key
Greeters: Deborah Nustad, Lori Collins
Acolyte: Jameson Krueger, Wyatt Krueger
Ushers: Dan Collins
Worship Assistant: Jeff Key
Reader: Melissa Grabowski
Communion Assistants: Melissa Grabowski, Deborah Nustad
ABC: Lynn Key
Musician: Praise Band
Sound: Kevin Nordmeyer
Visual Projection:
Song Leader: Praise Band
Sunday School Teacher: Adrienne Krueger
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 8, 2026**

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Deanna Brownell, Kelsey Krom
Acolyte: Elliott Griepentrog
Ushers: Dave Meissner
Worship Assistant: Leslie O'Connell
Reader: Abigail Mace
Communion Assistants: Lisa & Kevin Nass, Charlie Nass, Matt Kamenick
ABC: Jann & Dave Meissner
Musician: Praise Band
Sound: Kevin Nordmeyer
Livestream: Rudy Schneider
Visual Projection: Kaleigh Jolliff
Song Leader: Praise Band
Sunday School Teachers: Kelsey Kromm, Emily Reinhardt
Sunday School Support: Joy Griepentrog
Nursery:
Coffee: Kathy Bruhnke

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 8, 2026**

Greeters: Emma & Kyle Jansson
Acolyte: Josh Graesser
Ushers: Art Keup, Eric Godfrey
Worship Assistant: Steve Johnson
Reader: Greg Peterson
Communion Assistants: Patty Zais, Jim Leifer
ABC: Barb Hemmingsen
Musician: Janet Day
Visual Projection: Mary Huss
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Korrin Gumieny
Sunday School Support: Ingrid Stoffel
Nursery: Ali Allar
Coffee: Ann-Marie Bergman

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 8, 2026**

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Dustin Vrab, Tiffany Reay
Acolyte: Austin Alft, Max Herington
Ushers: Joy Czarnik, Collette Tatera
Worship Assistant: Steve Brewer
Reader: Steve Brewer
Communion Assistants: Melanie & Fred Varin
ABC:
Musician: Praise Band
Sound: Kevin Nordmeyer
Visual Projection: Joe Herington
Song Leader: Praise Band
Sunday School Teachers: Julie Miesfeld, Kelly Shoff
Sunday School Support: Ellie Miesfeld
Nursery:



UNITY
Lutheran Church

Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 14-15, 2026

Saturday, February 14, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, February 15, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 14-15, 2026

Prelude

"There Is Sunshine In My Soul Today"

arr. Line

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Interlude No. 2"

Paul Tate

(9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

One: Have you ever heard of "Mountain Top" experiences?

Many: They are awesome and overwhelming moments - like when you look out from the top of a mountain.

One: In the Bible, lots of special and Holy things happened on the top of mountains.

Many: Noah's Ark came to rest on the top of a mountain and Moses received the 10 Commandments on the top of a mountain.

One: The Son of God was crucified on the top of one mountain and ascended into Heaven from the top of another.

Many: So when Jesus leads three of his followers up a mountain, we should KNOW what it means - that something big is about to happen.

One: Transfiguration happened up on the top of the mountain. Imagine being one of the Disciples up there with Jesus. Imagine seeing the light of God's love and hearing God speak directly to you.

Many: Then imagine Jesus saying to you, "Tell no one what you have seen."

One: Those poor Disciples, they must've been overwhelmed by it all. I don't think they could have explained what happened up on the mountain top anyway! Who would have believed them?

Many: What do we do with revelations that are too deep for words? Do we hold on tight to these Holy moments up on the top of the mountain?

One: The wonder of God's love isn't meant to stay up on the mountain. No, God's love is meant to be shared down in the valley and in the everyday things of life. Things like: water and bread and wine.

Many: It's shared in words of promise and love that Jesus spoke to all of us. Words like: "Loved and forgiven" or "Washed clean". Words like "This is my body given for you." or "This is my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin."

One: These are the real "Wow" moments in life. We are brought together today to receive these "Mountain Top" experiences.

Many: And then we are sent down from the Mountain Top to share God's love.

Opening Hymn *"Christ, Be Our Light"*

ELW 715 vs 1-3, 5

(All Services)

Anthem

- “*Let My Light Shine Bright*” Sam Vofkerichian (5:00)
Celebration Music Makers: Sydney Haines, Director; Lynn Key, Accompanist
- “*Clap Hands!*” Douglas Wagner (8:30)
Joyful Noise Music Makers: Sydney Haines, Director; Lynn Key, Accompanist

Children’s Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. Loving Lord,

Many: We give thanks that you call us to follow you up to the Mountain Top to experience the wonder of your love. Help us understand that the story doesn’t end there. What matters most is how your love was revealed in the Valley below. Today we celebrate your Transfiguration and the light of your love. But may we be truly in awe of the sacrificial love you reveal in our Lenten journey to Jerusalem and the cross. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

“*Thy Word*”

(All Services)

Reading of the Good News Matthew 17:1-9

The Transfiguration is a mountaintop story in every sense of the word. It literally took place on top of a mountain. It is also a high point of Jesus’ ministry. Jesus has gathered Disciples and performed miracles on his way to the mountain. The mountain top is a special and Holy place but the story of Jesus and his Disciples does not end on the top of the mountain. God’s love does not call us away from each other. God’s love calls us to come down from the mountain to connect with each other and to share God’s love. In the same way, the Church comes together for worship in this special and Holy place. Then we are sent out to offer hope and healing in Jesus’ name.

One: The Gospel according to Matthew, the 17th chapter

Many: Glory to you O, Lord.

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: “This Little Light of Mine”

Eric Silberschmidt

Hymn of the Day

“How Good Lord, to Be Here!”

ELW 315 vs 1, 2, 3, 5 (All Services)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Congregation response to “Lord, in your mercy” is “**Hear our prayer.**”)

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response (as gifts are brought forward)

“Bright and Glorious Is the Sky”

ELW 301 vs. 3

*Sages from the east afar, when they saw this wondrous star,
went to find the king of nations and to offer their oblations
to the child, the newborn king, to the child, the newborn king.*



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

Many: **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us... ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord’s Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us"

arr. Line

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"All That We Have"

Gary Ault

(9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* ELW 815 vs. 1-3 (All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

arr. Mark Hayes

(5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

"Nocturne Op 72 No. 1"

Chopin

(9:30)

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory

Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

Partner of the Month: Bread of Healing Clinic

Bread of Healing Clinic is a free, faith-based medical clinic serving low-income and uninsured people in Milwaukee who face barriers to accessing ongoing health care. Through three clinic locations (with plans for a fourth), Bread of Healing provides free, high-quality medical, dental, vision, and behavioral health care for patients with chronic illnesses, especially those who experience gaps in coverage or are in between health insurance plans. Each year, the clinic serves more than 2,000 patients who might otherwise fall through the cracks of the health care system.

Bread of Healing is also a place of learning and shared healing. The clinic creates an educational environment for both patients and volunteers, offering opportunities to learn about the treatment of chronic illness in communities that often experience disparities in care. Patients, providers, and volunteers alike are invited to experience, request, and offer healing, recognizing that wholeness is something we seek together.

Rooted in Christian faith, Bread of Healing believes health is an issue of faith, social justice, and wholeness. Jesus' ministry of healing inspires this work, affirming that health is a right belonging to all people, regardless of ability to pay, and that true healing includes physical, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being. This ministry began at Cross Lutheran Church and continues today as a collaborative effort across multiple church and community partners.

UNITY is deeply thankful for our partnership with Bread of Healing and for our personal connection through Dr. Barbara Horner-Ibler, Medical Director of the clinic and wife of Pastor John Horner-Ibler. As Bread of Healing celebrates 25 years of ministry, we give thanks for their continued commitment to sharing hope, restoring dignity, and responding to God's call to healing in every arena of human life.



This Weekend at UNITY!

We prepare to enter the season of Lent with the story of **Jesus' Transfiguration on the mountain with three of the disciples**. Awesome events happened on the mountain top but the most amazing examples of God's love in Jesus Christ will be revealed in the weeks ahead. May you be transformed by your encounter with the Holy this weekend and may you be prepared for your Lenten journey!

Saturday morning, February 14th, our group for the February Mission of Healing Trip to El Salvador departed, including UNITY members and friends, plus travelers from Atonement Lutheran Church in Muskego. Please pray for our 18 travelers: Cari Corozza, Cindy Dostal, Mary Ehresman, Eric Gravenkamp, Mike Gutzeit, Julie Hoesly, Janice Johnson, Mike Johnson, Rachel Johnson, Justin Kuehl, Sherrie Lorbeck, Rachel Manganaro, Sue Mours, Nancy Oberhauser, Sam Ranney McBride, Amy Spomer, Alice Thomson, and Fred Varin. They travel on February 14, worship with Cordero de Dios on February 15, and visit a different town each day from February 16-19 to help run a clinic and health fair. On February 20, they'll debrief the week with our Salvadoran pastors and leaders and then each other, then they'll have lunch by the beach catching up with Pastor Muriel and her daughters Alice and Sal, along with Muriel's aunt and cousin who are visiting for a few days. They will travel home on Sat., February 21.

Forums

Pre-Annual Meeting Forums this Sunday, February 15 at both campuses!

We invite you to join us for a brief year-in-review forum following worship this weekend at both campuses. **Our Pre-Annual Meeting Info Forums will be held on Sunday, February 15, at 9:30 am at COL and 10:30 am at CTK.** Please join Treasurer Michelle Duerr and Finance Chair Tim Herman, along with other Council members, as they share how 2025 ended and walk through the proposed 2026 budget that will be presented at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22. This is a chance to reflect on the past year, look ahead to where God is leading us, and learn more about our church's finances. Last year brought some challenges, including large unanticipated property expenses. We will look back at the last year together, assess where we are today, and look ahead to the shared ministry that God continues to grow among us in 2026.

Confirmation

Confirmation Class Continues Sunday night at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the COL campus

After dinner, we'll hold our regular confirmation class from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the COL campus. Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

Confirmation SALT is meeting **Sunday, February 15, 9:30-10:30 in room 208 at COL.** Dr. Barbara Horner-Ibler and Diane Dressler will visit us to talk more about the Bread of Healing Clinic and why this clinic and health care is instrumental to the community it serves. There will be a small service project for the kids to work on while they learn more about the clinic. We will not meet on Feb. 22 as originally planned due to the Annual meeting taking place at 9:30 am.

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

All Things Lent!

We begin our season of Lent with Ash Wednesday worship on February 18. We will gather for worship at two times: 12:00 PM at CTK and 7:00 PM at COL. The services will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. While we tend to avoid or deny the realities we'd rather not think about, this powerful day not only reminds us of our mortality, but that the God who created us from the dust of the earth also has the power to rise up new life out of the ashes. Come and receive a cross on your forehead (The ashes are made from the palm branches of Palm Sunday.) and remember that as you were marked with the cross of Christ at your baptism, there is nothing that can separate you from God's love, for even at the end of this life, you return to your God who created you and gives you life everlasting.

Our Lent theme this year is 'Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time'

A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. Each Wednesday of Lent, we will share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Wednesday Meals and Worship: Lunch + Worship at CTK, Dinner + Worship at COL
Join us for a meal & worship the five Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday: Feb. 25 - March 25.

At Christ the King: We'll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

At Cross of Life: Dinner and worship will start at approximately 6:00 pm with the evening typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help with Lent Wednesdays?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: We need people to provide soups, sides, and desserts. There are paper signups at both campuses. (Special thanks to Karen Sporleder for the setup and cleanup at these events!)

For Lenten Dinners at COL: We need help with the following:

- Shop for food items ahead of time
- Provide desserts (*homemade or purchased*)
- Clean up (hopefully not very time-consuming since many hands help at the end of service)
- Set out food and beverages
- Last-minute prep before serving

For helping at COL, there are paper signups at both campuses, in addition to a SignUpGenius now live online! Individuals or groups (like a Small Group!) are invited to help. Questions about signing up or need help doing so? Contact Lynn Key at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or 262-781-7600.

Meal Making Group at COL:

Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. Do you like to cook but not do it alone? Each Wednesday we make the meal in the COL kitchen at 3:00 pm. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. There's no need to sign up; just show up! Questions about cooking? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

COL Weekly Meal Menus:

February 25: Chili and Cornbread

March 18: Breakfast for dinner

March 4: Pasta bar

March 25: Baked Potato bar

March 11: Taco bar

*** A chicken nugget option will be available for kids each week (except 3/18) ***

Nursery will be available for every service at COL

This year's Lenten Offering: *Power in Connection*

Our Lenten offering will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong.

UNITY Highlights

Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22 at 9:30 am

Please make every effort to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22, at 9:30 am. At COL we'll have a shortened 8:30 am worship, then people can remain in the building for the meeting at 9:30 am. For those at the CTK campus, come to CTK at 9:30 am, grab your doughnut & coffee and head into the sanctuary for the meeting ... then stay for a worship service at 10:45 am! A Zoom link will be available for anyone attending our Annual Meeting at home. Please watch for that to come through email. NOTE: There will be a worship service and Sunday School at CTK at 10:45 am this day only. COL will still hold its regular worship service & Sunday School at 10:45 am.

Can you help with Ash Wednesday Services? *We did not automatically schedule anyone for Ash Wednesday, 2/18 at either the 12:00 or 7:00 services.* Thank you to all who have volunteered to date! We have many volunteer positions still open so please check out that date in MSP and sign up where you can help. There are also **paper sign ups in the narthex at both campuses** if you prefer that.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of

To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Support Group hosted at UNITY's Cross of Life Campus:

I lost my beautiful son Bryan Michael Barney on February 10, 2017, to an accidental overdose. It was 11 long months before I found a group called **GRASP (*Grief Recovery After a Substance Passing*)**, where I finally felt comfortable and was able to really begin the healing process. After attending meetings at the Greenfield chapter of GRASP for a couple of years, their facilitator asked if I would be willing to start a chapter on the west side of Milwaukee or Waukesha. I talked to then Pastor John, and even though we were still in the throes of COVID, he said the mission was too important not to provide space to meet. Brookfield GRASP has been meeting at the Cross of Life campus for several years now, and it seemed right to remind my church family of this opportunity to receive help to

“recover” from a loss due to substance abuse (drug or alcohol). And though I facilitate, those who come to our meetings both receive and provide help and insight to other attendees. Ours is a small, intimate group, and everyone finds it easy to talk about what they’ve encountered as they struggle with the grief of a stigmatized passing of someone they loved dearly. If you have experienced such a loss, our group **meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays each month**. We meet either around the table in the fireplace room outside the kitchen, or in our assigned room 208 on the 2nd floor. Attendance is free.

If you (or someone you know) are struggling with grief of this nature, please consider attending a meeting to see if it may be right for you. If you are interested, please send me an email to jillbarney444@gmail.com. God bless you...

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids complete Servant Sundays!

Wow! What a productive month. Our eager Sunday school kids and teachers packed up 50 birthday bags for the Waukesha Food Pantry thanks to your generous donations. They also made six fleece tied blankets, cleaned thousands of toys in the nursery, and made about 200 craft kits for the kids in El Salvador during the Mission of Healing Trip. While the kids expressed their fingers hurt, especially after all they blankets, they are still looking for more projects. If you know of an organization in need or something we can do for one of our UNITY partners, please talk to Michelle or one of our teachers. Thank you again for supporting this effort and helping our kids live out their faith through service.

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

- **March 13-14**, 7pm-7:30am, Grades 4-6 lock in at COL campus.
- **March 20**, 6-8pm, 4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over) at CTK campus
- **April 24-25**, 7pm-7:30 am, Grades 2-3 lock in at CTK campus

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school>Yearly Events. Parents, please consider how you can help at the event or by bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Education team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

UNITY Sunday school summer AND Year One Confirmation Camp! We are traveling back to Imago Dei.

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half-week options for kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the full week and July 15-17 for the half week option**. If you want more information check out

crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **Grades 4-6 lock in** - March 13-14, 7pm-7:30am at the COL campus
- **4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over)** - March 20, 6-8pm at the CTK campus
- **Grades 2-3 lock in** - April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am at CTK campus
- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

Confirmation Class Continues Sunday night at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the COL campus

After dinner, we'll hold our regular confirmation class from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the COL campus. Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

SALT meets **Sunday, February 15, 9:30-10:30 in room 208 at COL.** Dr. Barbara Horner-Ibler and Diane Dressler will visit us to talk more about the Bread of Healing Clinic and why this clinic and health care is instrumental to the community it serves. There will be a small service project for the kids to work on while they learn more about the clinic. We will not meet on Feb. 22 as originally planned due to the Annual meeting taking place at 9:30 am.

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Tile Decorating and Gratitude Journals with Aspen Center!

Sometimes we are our own worst critic. Let's stop the negativity in its tracks! **On Saturday, February 21 from noon until 1:30**, we'll get together in Aspen Center's cafeteria area to decorate some ceramic tiles that we can use as coasters. We'll also learn how to keep a gratitude journal - a great way to practice a little self-love!

UPDATE: Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

A big, HUGE, stupendous thank you, UNITY! To date we have sent out *117 pairs of gloves and mittens, 116 hats, and 12 scarves*-in addition to other sorts of winter gear- to our friends at Hephatha. The tree and bin will remain in place until mid February, at which time, all remaining items will be delivered. But for the next three weeks, be on the look out for mittens especially; they are much needed replacements for those that fall by the wayside.

CTK's tree is in the narthex and COL's bin is in the vestibule at the fireplace entrance. Thank you so very much for your support of Hephatha. Questions? Contact Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-227-9645. *Thanks for warming kids' hands, heads and hearts all winter long!*

Waukesha Food Pantry - Senior High Pickup on Sunday, March 1

Mark your calendars! On Sunday March 1, Senior High students, with the help of parent drivers, will drive to your home to pick up food donations. More information on sign-ups coming soon!

A request for help from The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry

The Share Our Best Furniture Ministry has been working for the last 5 years to gather furniture that has useful life. They then work with a number of partners to deliver that furniture to provide Hope and Comfort to those in Milwaukee and surrounding areas.

They have 2 needs right now.

1. They are short of beds and dressers. They take queen, full and twin size beds; and take them with mattresses, box springs, frames and bedding (any parts of these are ok.) They need to have pieces with useful life. For the dressers, upright or chest of drawers are preferred. If they are horizontal or a bureau style, they need to be less than 60 inches long.
2. They need some help with moving the furniture. They are doing all of the pickups and deliveries with a small staff. It sometimes is difficult to manage as it is only when people contact them to pick up something, then they need people available. They are NOT a service.

In 2025 they delivered to more than 60 locations and over 50 beds. This has helped to get families to have members not sleep on the floor. They run on a small budget and have begun and provide letters asking for free will donations for our pickups. They appreciate any consideration and help. Any questions should be directed to Andy Dederich, Share Our Best Furniture Ministry Coordinator at shareourbest@holycrosslutheran.org.

Help feed hungry people through a simple 1-hour time commitment! UPDATED!!

Hebron Housing Services needs volunteers to help pick up and deliver food to two of its facilities. How does it work? It's easy as 1-2-3!

- 1) Pick up food at Chick-fil-A at 1454 Capitol Dr. in Pewaukee between **9:30-9:45 am** (food will already be prepared and paid for.) [**NOTE: NEW TIME!**]
- 2) Deliver as follows for each to take their portion of the food:
 - Siena House at 1519 Summit Ave. in Waukesha (**NOTE: NEW STOP!**)
 - Sentry House at 1210 Sentry Dr. in Waukesha.
 - Juno House at 812 N. East Ave. in Waukesha.
- 3) Deliver any remaining food to the Hope Center at 101 W. Broadway in Waukesha.
That's all there is to it!

UNITY is responsible for delivery every other Monday on these dates:

February 9 & 23, March 9 & 23, April 6 & 20, May 4 & 18, June 1, 15 & 29, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24, September 7 & 21, October 5 & 19, November 2, 16 & 30, and December 14 & 28.

Please sign up through SignUp Genius on our Sign Up web page.

Questions? Contact Servant Advocate, Jane Boorse, at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. *Thank you for helping feed hungry people through this simple but significant ministry.*

Hebron Shelters Need Your Donations

Hebron Housing Services needs our help with the following items:

- Sanitizing wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Hand Soap
- Bleach
- Sponges
- Garbage Bags (13- & 30-gallon)
- Ziploc Bags (all sizes)
- Razors, shampoo/conditioners
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Twin size bed sheets

Please place your donations in the labeled boxes in the entryway at either of our campuses. Questions? Contact Servant Advocate Jane Boorse at janeboorse43@gmail.com or 262-781-1373. Thank you!

It's simple. Drink coffee? Buy coffee! Support the farmers in Tanzania who are part of the Mt Meru Coffee Project. Go to mtmerucoffee.org and explore all the coffee that is available. Click on the profile icon to set up an account, then click on About US to register as a congregation member/customer, in order to get the discounted congregation pricing. Detailed instructions for this are on UNITY's website if you need it – click on Sign-ups, Docs and Forms. Enjoy a warm cup of premium coffee, and the warm feeling of knowing you are improving the lives of farmers the Project has trained and supported. Your orders will be delivered to church for you to pick up. Pickup location: CTK - coffee bar; COL - kitchen cart labeled Mt. Meru Coffee Order Pick-Up. Questions? Contact Janet McMahon at janetamcmahon@gmail.com or 414-550-3110.

Ongoing Service Opportunities:

UNITY has standing volunteer “shifts” at various partners that we commit to covering as a church. Each one is coordinated by a different Unity member... each one has its own sign up page on the church website... and each one is an opportunity for you!

- **Waukesha Food Pantry Food Distribution:** Each month, 4th Saturday, 9am-12pm; 5th Monday 5:45 - 8 pm. Help clients make their food selections as you walk them through an organized mini grocery store.
- **Serenity Inns Recovery Program Fellowship Dinners:** cook, deliver, or serve a meal for 12 residents. Each month, 1st Sunday and 2nd Friday, 6 - 7pm. Kids welcome.

Property Needs

Contact Denny Thompson, Director of Buildings and Properties

c: 262-844-0556, email: denny325@yahoo.com

Al Bengston, c: 414-322-6445 , email: allanbengst234@gmail.com

Mark your calendars & plan to lend a hand (or 2) at the following Spring Clean Ups!

• **CTK will be held on Saturday, April 11, from 9 am to noon.**

• **COL will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 9 am to noon.**

Indoors, we'll do deep cleaning like you do at home (high dusting, vacuuming corners, etc.). Please bring step stools and vacuums with hoses if possible. Outdoors, many hands are needed to help us rake, clear planting beds, take down dead trees, and prepare our grounds for the season. We'll have lots of tools on site, but if you have them, please bring pruners, rakes, wheelbarrows, trailers for hauling brush, etc. In addition at COL we will be rebuilding a retaining wall on the west side, and planting landscaping material on the east end. Lots to do at both campuses! Lunch is provided and outdoor cleanup is held rain or shine. Contact is Denny Thompson at denny325@yahoo.com. Please help us spiff up our building and grounds for members and visitors!

Help needed with Snow Blowing/Shoveling at both campuses!:

THANK YOU to all who have recently signed up to help with this important ministry! Winter has arrived and we need help with keeping our campuses cleared and safe. If you are a person who doesn't mind helping to clear the sidewalks and throw some salt down, check out the details in the SignUpGenius on our website. You sign up for just 1 campus, and we ask for a 1 week commitment starting on Wednesdays and running through the following Tuesday. When you sign up, helpful details will be emailed to you, and a reminder is emailed 3 days prior to your start date. Thank you for helping!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or

Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

The evening sheepshead group meets on the first and third Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and the second and fourth Mondays at 1:00pm in the Christ the King community room.

Mark your calendars for **Thursday evening February 19th and Monday afternoon**

February 23rd. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't come before. Please contact Mary Huss at mhwis@hotmail.com with any questions.

Men's Third Saturday Breakfast meets Saturday, February 21, 7:30-9:00 am at COL

We get together, survive our own cooking and talk about the readings used in worship that weekend. If you've never tried it out, or been part of it for years, join us this next time!

Hit the (Indoor!) Links at X-Golf on February 26 at 6:30pm!

Calling all UNITY Golfers! Beat the winter chill and hit the virtual links with us at X-Golf inside American Family Field on Thursday, February 26, at 6:30 - 8:30pm. Low- and high-handicap golfers are welcome! Bring your own clubs or feel free to borrow from Matt's bag (he golfs right-handed). Cost is \$30 for golf; food and beverages are available for purchase. Sign up online for our X-Golf Outing found on our Sign Up web page. Any questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, February 25th from 7:00-8:00pm (after Lenten worship) at COL in room 202 - When Life Isn't the Same ...

If you have lost a spouse or a parent or someone else close to you, the grieving doesn't end after the funeral. We invite you to a safe space where you can share more about where you are at in your journey ... learn more about the stages of grief ... and get help finding your way through what you need most for the road ahead.

We invite you to join us for our Grief Group. If this is the right time for you, or if someone you know could benefit from being a part of this, please join us! ***A zoom link can be provided if you are not able to meet in person.*** If you have questions or just want to discuss whether this is the right place for you, contact any of the pastors.

Worship & Music Opportunities

Director of Music, Contact Lynn Key, c: 414-507-5888 e: lynn@unitybrookfield.org
Children's Choirs, Contact Sydney Haines, c: 847-903-1393 e: sydneyh.unity@gmail.com
Fellowship Choir, Contact Molly Pufall-Brown, c: 920-265-6881, e: mpufall@gmail.com
Handbells & Praise Band, Contact Stacey Nordmeyer, c: 414-617-7673,
e: staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com

Join us for All-Music Tuesdays!

Find a group that matches what you are looking for from the list below. We rehearse every Tuesday night through mid-May. Come join us even if you can't make it every week. Nursery and child care are available. No auditions are necessary. Talk to any of our music staff if you have questions.

- **JOYFUL NOISE MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages PreK–Grade 1 • 6:00pm to 6:30pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall.
- **CELEBRATION MUSIC MAKERS** - Ages Grade 2–Grade 6 • Tuesdays: 6:30pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall.
- **FELLOWSHIP CHOIR** - Ages 7th Grade–Adult • Tuesdays: 7:15pm to 8:15pm • Cross of Life North Fellowship Hall • Directed by Molly Pufall-Brown.
- **GLORIA DEI BELLS** - Late Intermediate to Advanced Ringers • Tuesdays: 6:15pm to 7:15pm • Cross of Life Sanctuary • Directed by Stacey Nordmeyer.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, February 15th, Game Show Battle Room, 6:20 - 7:30pm

Youth will gather at the Game Show Battle Room (12565 W. Feerick St., Suite B, Brookfield, WI 53005) Participants will be divided into 2 teams, and play Game Show style contests, using their wit and dexterity to determine the champion.

Sunday, February 22nd, Snow Tubing at Crystal Ridge, 5:20 - 7:30pm

Bundle up and let's have a snow adventure together, tubing at Crystal Ridge. Since the location is a bit further than most of our Sunday night events, we will be meeting a bit earlier than usual to ensure we have enough time to revel in the fun, and still return by 7:30 pm. Parent drivers requested.

Sunday, March 1, Waukesha Food Pantry Food Roundup, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Compete for a great cause! We'll meet at church, divide into groups, and go out with parent drivers on assigned routes to pickup food donations to benefit the Waukesha Food Pantry. We'll gather names and addresses in advance, to map and optimize the driving. Parent drivers requested.

Sunday, March 8, Appalachia Service Project Trip Information Night, 6:00 - 7:30pm

It's time to discuss all of the planning and preparation needed for the ASP. Reach out to Nancy or Pastor Sherrie if you have any questions about the trip.

2026 Summer Servant Trip July 18 - 25 — Appalachia Service Project

Parents, we plan to go July 18 - 25. We typically take 2 adults (1 male and 1 female) for every 5 students, where you are grouped together and given a project or a couple to work on through out the week. NO worries if you have NEVER done any work like this before! All skill levels welcome! We also bring along a number of experienced adults in this area and there are detailed manuals available for your specific project. In the past, groups have done everything from installing drywall and painting to adding vinyl siding to installing vinyl plank flooring to building porches and/or ramps, and creating water flow channels away from housing.

We also have preparation events to let everyone practice using the tools and equipment that they may use during the week, along with covering safety and other topics including what to expect culturally in this region.

For those who have been in the past, they have returned home proud of what they were able to do in the short time there especially when they had never used a hammer or power tools prior! (Also, we are blessed that we are able to include an ice cream budget as a significant priority....i.e. a DAILY TREAT after a day's work!)

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

February 14-15

Peyton (health concerns), granddaughter of Barb & Neal Borkenhagen
Ruth Ungeran (facing palliative care, late stage Parkinsons), sister-in-law of Judie Born, aunt & godmother of Lisa Reed
Jim Buege (prayers for a successful cancer surgery & recovery), husband of Laura Buege
Rose Aspinwall (hospitalized with a stroke), aunt of Diana Koenen
Family of Ellie Bottoni (18 yo BEHS recent grad that passed), friend of Deborah Nustad
Mary Ann Spights (cancer diagnosis), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

February 7-8

Janet & Don Mours (health concerns), parents of Bryan and Sue Mours
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

January 31-February 1

Dr. Caroline Schilder (grief and loss), friend of Oberhauser family
Jason Suttle (broken leg/ankle & surgery), nephew of Lynn & Jeff Key
Annette Caraulia (heart issues), daughter-in-law of Cheryl Caraulia
Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

January 24-25

Ruth Humphrey (colon cancer diagnosis, all tumors removed!), aunt of Deborah Nustad
Pat (recovery from surgery), friend of Bill & Melanie Rooney
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family

*Thank you to Leslie O'Connell for arranging the altar flowers this weekend
Thank you to Cathy Buck for making this weekend's communion breads*

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider
sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz,
Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Clark Varin, Greg O'Connell,
Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel,
Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Marlene & Dave Hess, Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Sharon Prohl,
Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer,
Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann,
Marilyn Koplín, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones
as they mourn the death of a loved one:

Cross of Life Campus
Emmy Perrizo, mother of Bert Perrizo, grandmother of Jacoby and Camila

COL 5:00 p.m.

Ministers for Saturday, February 14, 2026

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Key
Greeters: Cheryl Caraulia, Jessica Schrieber
Acolyte: Josephine Toussaint, Maxwell Roemaat
Ushers: Mary Jo & Jim Eggert
Worship Assistant: Greg Buck
Reader: Cathy Buck
Communion Assistants: Caroline Halbach, Tim Culhane
ABC: Cheryl Caraulia
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound:
Visual Projection: Tim Culhane
Song Leader: Becki Culhane
Sunday School Teacher: Jamie Toussaint
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 15, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Kathy Bruhnke
Greeters: Alex Hahn, Nicholas Hahn
Acolyte: Sophia Mrachek, Connor Hahn, Charlie Rentmeester
Ushers: Collette Tatera, Emmett Hoffe
Worship Assistant: Paul Langer
Reader: Kate Harder
Communion Assistants: Cindy & Brian Flynn, Danita Hahn, Elliana Harder
ABC:
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound:
Livestream: Connor Hubert
Visual Projection: Bennett Hahn
Song Leader: Laura Bengs
Sunday School Teachers: Becky & Nick Van Deraa, Joanne Rentmeester, Davida Kroepfl
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Bernd Bruhnke

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 15, 2026**

Greeters: Chris Wagner, Anna Jansson
Acolyte: Emma Jansson, Ben Jansson
Ushers: Parker Godfrey, Eric Godfrey
Worship Assistant: Melanie Stuber
Reader: Barb Patterson
Communion Assistants: Jenny & Mike Collins
ABC: Diana VanSlyke
Musician: Will Kiefer
Visual Projection: Julie Smith
Song Leader: Corynn Nordstrom
Sunday School Teachers: Anna Jansson
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery: Ali Allar
Coffee: Marge Kipp

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 15, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Greg Hoesly
Greeters: Lauren Cervero, Drew Olsson
Acolyte: Robin Cervero-Vrab
Ushers: Nancy Oberhauser, Joy Czarnik
Worship Assistant: Leslie O'Connell
Reader: Steve Brewer
Communion Assistants: Heidi & Todd Blatnik
ABC: Jeff Pelzel
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Dustin Vrab
Visual Projection: Joe Herington
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Jennifer Loverine, Davida Kroepfl
Sunday School Support: Donna LeClaire
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell

REMEMBER...
YOU ARE DUST



AND TO DUST YOU
SHALL RETURN

Ash Wednesday
February 18, 2026
12:00 pm CTK Campus
7:00 pm COL Campus

UNITY Lutheran Church
Ash Wednesday ~ February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent, a forty-day journey of repentance, renewal, and return to God. The ashes we receive today are a visible reminder of our own mortality and also a sign of God's love and mercy for us through Jesus. This season of Lent helps slow us down and points us back to the grace of God who meets us in our brokenness and calls us into something new.

Prelude *"Near the Cross"* arr. Line

Welcome

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

One: We come before God and one another aware of our errors and omissions.

Many: We are eager for your forgiveness God and so we make confession of our sins.

(Please sit. At CTK you may kneel as you are able)

One: Let us open our hearts and minds to God.

Many: Oh merciful One, we are mere mortals. Our time here so brief and incomplete. Alone, our souls easily give in to selfishness. Together our souls easily give in to despair. We lay this all before you: confessing what we've added to the hurts of this world.

(close your eyes for reflection and confession)

One: Oh God, we are so aware that we try to take the speck out of our neighbor's eye while ignoring the log within our own. Open our wounded eyes we pray:

(open your eyes and look at the sanctuary cross)

One: Behold the cross; in all its mystery and power and life:

Many: Eyes alone cannot fully see what the cross reveals. In it, you reveal love beyond measure, an invitation to all, and a meal to share in your presence!

One: Friends, believe the great Good News. In Jesus Christ we are loved and connected. We are cherished and forgiven. Do not doubt it for yourself. Do not fail to share it with others!

Many: We were created by God for good and we are saved by Christ for the sake of the world. Alive, we are the communion of saints... the community of Christ... bearers of the light for every soul's eye! Amen!

Opening Hymn

"O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"

ELW 319 vs. 1-4

Children's Message

First Lesson Isaiah 58:1-12

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked. Sincere repentance will lead to a dramatic improvement of their condition.

¹ Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

The Imposition of Ashes

One: “Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.”

Many: Graveside words. Final words. Words spoken over someone who has died.

One: Final words? Far from it. Words of life actually. Similar to ones that will be spoken tonight...

Many: “Remember, you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

One: Words that point us not to death but fullness of life.

Many: Possessions, fears, sin... these things kill. But when we are reminded of our true identity...

One: ...dust, yes...but also as a humble, well-grounded people who’s ultimate purpose is to seek and serve the divine...

Many: Then, and really only then, do we come alive. Set free from human limits and jolted alive with God’s perfect perspective!

One: Oh, Spirit of God, free us from all that we fear and when the ashes touch our foreheads tonight...

Many: ...may we receive your blessing, a reminder not of our end but of every new beginning in you! Amen.

After the invitation of the pastor, all who desire to receive ashes may do so. People of any age are welcome to come forward. An ash cross will be marked on your forehead with the words: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” As you hear the words spoken, trust that though none of us lives forever in this life, when we die to this world we return to the One who created us from the very dust of the ground for good. After returning to your seat, or as you wait, you are invited to spend time in quiet contemplation and prayer. If you wish to receive ashes and are unable to travel to the front, please let one of the ushers know and they will be brought back to you where seated.

Anthem

“From the Ashes (Something Beautiful He Brings)” Lloyd Larson 12:00
Jeff Stark, Soloist; Lynn Key, Accompanist
“Psalm of Gratitude” Jason Krug 7:00
Gloria Dei dedicates this piece, with gratitude and love, for God’s healing power in the life of our dear friend, and fellow ringer, Greg O’Connell
Gloria Dei Bell Choir; Stacey Nordmeyer, Director; Lynn Key, Accompanist

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Out of love for humankind, Christ experienced sin and suffering, so that the saving power of God could penetrate the most forbidding and tragic depths of human experience. No aspect of our life is ignored by the presence of God’s grace. Because of this, Paul announces that this day is a day of God’s grace, an acceptable time to turn toward God’s mercy.

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we entreat you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶in purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true, ⁹as unknown and yet are well known, as dying and look—we are alive, as punished and yet not killed, ¹⁰as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing everything.

Sung Response “Jesus, Remember Me” ELW 616
(sung through three times, join song leader when they begin)

Gospel Lesson Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

This reading is part of Jesus’ first big public speech, often called the “Sermon on the Mount.” In this part Jesus encourages people to pray and give to charity because they love God, not because they think it will make them look good to other people. He reminds them to work for eternal things, not physical things, because they are what matter most.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the sixth chapter.

Many: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶“And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Message *“Honesty of Ashes”*

Justin Kierzek

Hymn *“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

ELW 807 vs. 1 -3

Offering

UNITY’s 2026 Lent offerings will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong. Anything you give during Wednesday Lent services, as well as anything given online, in Lent envelopes, or designated “Lent offering,” will help provide them Power in Connection.

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

“Lamb of God”

Twila Paris

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Gracious God,

Many: **we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. We entrust to you the night; we rest secure, for you are our help, and you neither slumber nor sleep. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

We serve communion in a continuous fashion. Please come forward down the center aisle at the invitation of the ushers. As you pass your communion station, you will first receive the bread, then the cup. The dark liquid is wine; the light is grape juice. Please place your empty cup in the acolyte's tray and return to your seat via the side aisle. Non-communing children are invited to come forward for a blessing. Though this is "continuous" communion, do not feel rushed. Receive the elements at a prayerful pace! If you wish to receive communion and are unable to come forward, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.

Communion Meditation *"Lamb of God"* Twila Paris, setting by Joel Raney

Post Communion Blessing

Spoken Response: Amen.

Prayer after Communion:

One: Let us pray. Merciful God,

Many: accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gifts of love and knowledge, heart and mind, that we may provide for those who have need, pray for those in hardship, fast from self-indulgence, and find our treasure in the life of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn *"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"* ELW 325 vs. 1-3

Dismissal

One: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude *"O Thou Fount of Every Blessing"* arr. Lorie Line

Lent 2026: *'Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time'*

Our Lent theme this year! A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. Each Wednesday of Lent, we will share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Wednesday Meals and Worship: Lunch + Worship at CTK, Dinner + Worship at COL

At Christ the King: We'll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

At COL: Dinner and worship will start at approx. 6 pm and typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help with Lent Wednesdays?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: Help by providing soups, sides, and desserts.

For Lenten Dinners at COL: Help by shopping, providing desserts, setting out food and beverages, last minute prep, refilling food as necessary and/or cleanup.

There are paper signups at both campuses, in addition to a SignUp Genius online for COL! Individuals or groups are invited to help. Questions about signing up or need help doing so? Contact Lynn Key at 262-781-7600 or lynn@unitybrookfield.org.

Meal Making Group at COL: Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm if you like to cook. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. Just show up! Questions? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

(See Lent 2026 box on the website for everything you need to know)

12:00 p.m. CTK

Ministers for Wednesday, February 18

Greeter: Barb Patterson, Kim Urchell
Usher: David Koenen, Marv Wunder
Reader: Eric Godfrey, Jane Boorse
Communion Assistants: Barb Patterson, Debbie Riederer, Mary Huss, Eric Godfrey
ABC: Jane Boorse
Worship Musician: Lynn Key
Visual Projection: Tim Culhane
Song Leader: Jeff Stark

7:00 p.m. COL

Ministers for Wednesday, February 18

Worship Coordinator: Greg Hoesly
Greeters: Jean & Randy Daul
Acolyte:
Usher: Jeff Key, David Kapitan
Worship Assistant: Melanie Varin
Reader: Carole Syse, Jean Daul
Communion Assistants: Carole Syse, Joy Czarnik, Melanie Rooney, Nicole Krause
Worship Musician: Lynn Key
ABC: Jann & Dave Meissner
Sound: Kevin Nordmeyer
Livestream: Connor Hubert
Visual Projection: Duane Maas
Song Leader: Stacey Nordmeyer
Nursery: Ali Allar



UNITY
Lutheran Church

The First Weekend in Lent

February 21-22, 2026

Saturday, February 21, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, February 22, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

The First Weekend in Lent

February 21-22, 2026

Prelude

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” arr. Shackley (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” Scholtes/Wilson (9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Time of Confession and Forgiveness

Each weekend during Lent, we use a different form of confession out of our Lutheran tradition. This week we will use the Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness from the Lutheran Book of Worship.

One: We are gathered here to worship in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Many: Amen.

One: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Pause for silence and reflection)

One: Most merciful God,

Many: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

One: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Many: Amen.

Opening Hymn “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” ELW 611 vs. 1-3 (All Services)

Children’s Message

The Washing of Holy Baptism Presentation of the Child

This weekend we welcome Mary Elizabeth, Mitchell David, and Keira Grace at the 5:00 service. Mary Elizabeth, Mitchell David, and Keira Grace are presented by their parents, John and Holly Ferguson & their sponsors/grandparents, Kay and John Ferguson.

Pastor: Who presents Mary Elizabeth, Mitchell David, and Keira Grace to receive the blessings of Holy Baptism?

Parents & Sponsors: We do.

Role of the Parents and Sponsors

One: As parents and sponsors, you should, in Christian love, faithfully be examples for these children. Care for them and help them in every way God gives you opportunity. Help Mary, Mitchell, and Keira grow in faith so they may use their lives to share God's love and bear witness to the faith we hold dear. May they live in the covenant of their Baptism and in Communion with the people of God. May they lead lives of kindness and service until the day of Jesus Christ. Parents and sponsors, do you promise to do your best to fulfill these obligations? If so, please answer, "I do."

Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray. Holy God, we give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the baptism of his own death and resurrection, your beloved Son, Jesus the Christ, has set us free from the final power of sin and death, and has opened the way to everlasting life. He made water a sign of cleansing and of birth into the family of God. As Jesus' followers, we do as he taught us, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit so that Mary, Mitchell, and Keira may be given new life. We give thanks that you wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as your own sons and daughters, inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

All: Amen.

***Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Baptism

Baptismal Prayer

Pastor: Lord God, we give you thanks that you free your sons and daughters from the power of sin and that you raise us up to a new life through this holy washing. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Mary, Mitchell, and Keira: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and respect for you, Lord, and help them experience the spirit of joy in your presence.

All: Amen.

The Mark of Christ

Pastor: Mary, Mitchell, and Keira, you are children of God. Now receive the sign of the cross. Know that you have been washed clean in the waters of baptism and you are sealed by the Holy Spirit. You are marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Presentation of the Baptismal Candles

One: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (*Matthew 5:16*)

Pastor: Through Baptism, God has made these little ones members of the ministry of reconciliation we all share in Christ Jesus. May we proclaim the greatness and love of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

All: Amen.

Greeting of the Children by the Congregation

All: Mary, Mitchell, and Keira, we welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly father, and workers with us in the Kingdom of God. Amen.

Pastor: Peace be with you.

Parents & Sponsors: And also with you.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. Lord God, you are our strength,

Many: The battle of good and evil rages within and around us. Our ancient foe tempts us to turn away from you with his deceits and empty promises. Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word. When we wander and when we fall, lift us up. Restore us through the love and forgiveness we receive through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lenten Gospel Response

“Jesus, Remember Me”

ELW 616

(All Services)

Reading of the Good News Matthew 4:1-11

Lent is a Season of Repentance. “To Repent” means to turn toward God. The discipline of Lent (including fasting) are opportunities for us to turn our lives and priorities toward God. Our 40-day Season of Lent has begun, as we turn to Matthew’s account of Jesus’ 40-day Season of Temptation in the wilderness.

One: The Gospel according to Matthew, the fourth chapter

Many: Glory to you O, Lord.

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon	“Unscheduled Wilderness”	Justin Kierzek	(COL)
	“Oooh, That’s Tempting”	Eric Silberschmidt	(CTK)

Hymn of the Day / Baptismal Hymn

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”	ELW 733	(5:00)
“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”	ELW 512	(8:30, 10:45)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*(Congregation response to “Lord, in your mercy” is “**Hear our prayer.**”)*

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: **Amen.**

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

“Lamb of God”

Twila Paris



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Blessed are you,

Many: **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Change My Heart, O God"

arr. Mark Hayes

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Hymns of the Cross"

Keveren

(9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit, strengthen us to serve all who are in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"O Living Bread from Heaven"

ELW 542 vs. 1-3

(All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

arr. Lorie Line

(5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

"Go Forth With Purpose"

Chesterton

(9:30)

This Weekend at UNITY!

Our Ash Wednesday worship this week announced that today is the 1st Sunday in Lent and we begin our Lenten journey of Repentance. We pray that the disciplines of Lent help us turn toward God and seek to do God's work with our hands and our hearts. Join us for worship on the weekends and join us for worship and conversation and a simple meal around a table at our midweek Lenten services as well. May we also seek God's will for our ministry in the year ahead as we gather for the Annual Meeting. May our Lord lead us and guide us this weekend and always.

Annual Meeting this Sunday, February 22 at 9:30 am at both COL and CTK

Please make every effort to attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 22, at 9:30 am. We'll have a shortened 8:30 am worship at COL, then people can remain in the building for the meeting at 9:30 am. For those at the CTK campus, come at 9:30 am, grab your coffee & doughnut and head into the sanctuary for the meeting ... then stay for a worship service and Sunday School at 10:45 am! **A Zoom link is provided below for anyone attending our Annual Meeting who cannot be physically present at one of our campuses.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85630048881>

Meeting ID: 856 3004 8881

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85630048881# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,85630048881# US (New York)

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/85630048881>

[signature=mEvVxSKHXCv6fWx0lbi43SC1oQf-72C6h58IjeDUy5M](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/85630048881?signature=mEvVxSKHXCv6fWx0lbi43SC1oQf-72C6h58IjeDUy5M)

Our El Salvador Mission of Healing Travelers Have Returned!

Saturday night, February 21st, our group of 18 travelers from the February Mission of Healing Trip to El Salvador returned. We pray they return renewed and invigorated by their travels and spending time with friends, new and old, in El Salvador! They worshiped with Cordero de Dios on February 15, and visited a different town each day from February 16-19 to help run a clinic and health fair. On February 20, they debriefed the week with our Salvadoran pastors and leaders and then each other, then had lunch by the beach catching up with Pastor Muriel and her daughters Alice and Sal, along with Muriel's aunt and cousin who were visiting for a few days. They traveled home on Saturday, February 21.

Confirmation

Confirmation Class moves to Wednesday nights starting at 5:45 at the COL campus

At 6:15 class will move to the fellowship hall for dinner and worship. Families, please join us for dinner and worship on these nights as well! Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

Senior High

No Sunday Morning Senior High Cafe - please join us for the Annual Meeting!

All Things Lent!

We continue our Lenten journey this week Wednesday with worship, fellowship and food on February 25.

Our Lent theme this year is ‘Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time’

A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. Each Wednesday of Lent, we will share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Wednesday Meals & Worship: Lunch+Worship at CTK, Dinner+Worship at COL
Join us for a meal & worship the 5 Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday: Feb. 25-Mar 25.

At Christ the King: We’ll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

At Cross of Life: Dinner and worship will start at approximately 6:00 pm with the evening typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help with Lent Wednesdays?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: We need people to provide soups, sides, and desserts. There are paper signups at both campuses. (Special thanks to Karen Sporleder for the setup and cleanup at these events!)

For Lenten Dinners at COL: We need help with the following:

- Shop for food items ahead of time
- Provide desserts (*homemade/purchased*)
- Clean up
- Set out food and beverages
- Last-minute prep before serving

For helping at COL, there are paper signups at both campuses, in addition to a SignUp Genius online! Individuals or groups are invited to help. Questions about signing up or need help doing so? Contact Lynn Key at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or 262-781-7600.

Meal Making Group at COL:

Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. Do you like to cook but not do it alone? Each Wednesday we make the meal in the COL kitchen at 3:00 pm. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. There’s no need to sign up; just show up! Questions? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

COL Weekly Meal Menus:

February 25: Chili and Cornbread

March 18: Breakfast for dinner

March 4: Pasta bar

March 25: Baked Potato bar

March 11: Taco bar

**** A chicken nugget option will be available for kids each week (except 3/18) ****

Nursery will be available for every service at COL

This year’s Lenten Offering: *Power in Connection*

Our Lenten offering will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong.

UNITY Highlights

NEW starting this weekend! See UNITY HAPPENINGS in the Narthex at each campus for a full listing of UNITY's ongoing programs and long-term announcements. Listed in each bulletin going forward are new, more current and upcoming events announcements.

The Worship Volunteer Schedule starting this weekend is out and goes to June 7th!!

This schedule was emailed to all scheduled volunteers. Please mark your calendars with your scheduled dates, or request subs if you find you cannot make a date.

Holy Week services were not automatically scheduled, so please check out those services and sign up where you can help. There are also paper copies in both narthexes to sign up. Thank you for all the ways you help our members to come together to worship! If you have any questions, contact Lynn Key, lynn@unitybrookfield.org. or call/text 414-507-5888.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of faith and responsible planning. To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Sunday School Kids complete Servant Sundays!

Wow! What a productive month. Our eager Sunday school kids and teachers packed up 50 birthday bags for the Waukesha Food Pantry thanks to your generous donations. They also made six fleece tied blankets, cleaned thousands of toys in the nursery, and made about 200 craft kits for the kids in El Salvador during the Mission of Healing Trip. While the kids expressed their fingers hurt, especially after all the blankets, they are still looking for more projects. If you know of an organization in need or something we can do for one of our UNITY partners, please talk to Michelle or one of our teachers. Thank you again for supporting this effort and helping our kids live out their faith through service.

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

- **March 13-14**, 7pm-7:30am, Grades 4-6 lock in at COL campus.
- **March 20**, 6-8pm, 4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over) CTK
- **April 24-25**, 7pm-7:30 am, Grades 2-3 lock in at CTK campus

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school>Yearly Events. Parents, please consider how you can help at the event or by bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Ed team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **Grades 4-6 lock in** - March 13-14, 7pm-7:30am at the COL campus
- **4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over)** - March 20, 6-8pm at the CTK campus
- **Grades 2-3 lock in** - April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am at CTK campus
- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps. (See details in UNITY Happenings)

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
 Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
 Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
 or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

A big thank you for all of the hats, mittens and scarves that were placed in the bin and on the tree this winter. And how many were there? A whopping 153 hats and 154 pairs of gloves and mittens of every imaginable color and size. They have been packed up and shipped off to Hephatha and the bin and tree are tucked away for this season. We are grateful for the hats and mittens; and for your caring hearts!

Waukesha Food Pantry - Senior High Pickup on Sunday, March 1

Mark your calendars! On Sunday March 1, Sr High students, with the help of parent drivers, will pick up food donations from homes. More info on sign-ups coming soon!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)! Our next opportunities are **Thursday evening March 5th and Monday afternoon February 23rd.**

Hit the (Indoor!) Links at X-Golf on February 26 at 6:30pm!

Calling all UNITY Golfers! Beat the winter chill and hit the virtual links with us at X-Golf inside American Family Field on Thursday, February 26, at 6:30 - 8:30pm. Low- and high-handicap golfers are welcome! Bring your own clubs or feel free to borrow from Matt's bag (he golfs right-handed). Cost is \$30 for golf; food and beverages are available for purchase. Sign up online for our X-Golf Outing found on our Sign Up web page. Any questions? Contact Matt Griepentrog at matt@unitybrookfield.org.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, February 25th from 7:00-8:00pm (after Lenten worship) at COL in room 202

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday, February 22nd, Snow Tubing at Crystal Ridge, 5:20 - 7:30pm

Bundle up and let's have a snow adventure together, tubing at Crystal Ridge. Since the location is a bit further than most of our Sunday night events, we will be meeting a bit earlier than usual to ensure we have enough time to revel in the fun, and still return by 7:30 pm. Parent drivers requested.

Sunday, March 1, Waukesha Food Pantry Food Roundup, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Compete for a great cause! We'll meet at church, divide into groups, and go out with parent drivers on assigned routes to pickup food donations to benefit the Waukesha Food Pantry. We'll gather names and addresses in advance, to map and optimize the driving. Parent drivers requested.

Sunday, March 8, Appalachia Service Project Trip Information Night, 6:00 - 7:30pm

It's time to discuss all of the planning and preparation needed for the ASP. Reach out to Nancy or Pastor Sherrie if you have any questions about the trip.

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

February 21-22

Nancy Herrell family (died after struggle with spinal cord lesion), cousin of Sally Thomas
Grant Kempf & parents (depression), cousin, son & husband of Michelle Wilkins
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

February 14-15

Peyton (health concerns), granddaughter of Barb & Neal Borkenhagen
Ruth Ungeran (facing palliative care, late stage Parkinson's), sister-in-law of Judie Born, aunt & godmother of Lisa Reed
Jim Buege (prayers for a successful cancer surgery & recovery), husband of Laura Buege
Family of Ellie Bottoni (18 yo BEHS recent grad that passed), friend of Deborah Nustad
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

February 7-8

Janet & Don Mours (health concerns), parents of Bryan and Sue Mours
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

January 31-February 1

Dr. Caroline Schilder (grief and loss), friend of Oberhauser family
Jason Suttle (broken leg/ankle & surgery), nephew of Lynn & Jeff Key
Annette Caraulia (heart issues), daughter-in-law of Cheryl Caraulia
Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family

Thank you to Cheryl Schiesl for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Ardyce Myhre, Grace Leverenz, Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Marlene & Dave Hess, Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplín, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube

We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the baptism of:

Mary, Mitchell & Keira Ferguson

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones as they mourn the death of a loved one:

Cross of Life Campus

Jack (John) Ramer, former COL member and long-time Mission of Healing dentist

Christ the King Campus

Ruth Aspinwall, aunt of Diana Koenen

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

COL 5:00 p.m. Ministers for Saturday, February 21, 2026

Worship Coordinator:	Jeff Key
Greeters:	Kim Urchell, Sue Fisher
Acolyte:	James Lorbeck
Ushers:	Cheryl Caraulia, Jack Guenther
Worship Assistant:	Kim Klug
Reader:	Kim Klug
Communion Assistants:	Melissa & Kevin Grabowski
ABC:	Kim Urchell
Musician:	Lynn Key
Sound:	
Visual Projection:	Katie Maas
Song Leader:	Natalie Schneider
Sunday School Teacher:	Adrienne Krueger
Sunday School Support:	
Nursery:	Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 22, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Steve Taipala
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Brooke Conway, Blake Duerr, Elliott Griepentrog
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: David Kapitan
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Colleen King
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Jeff Key
Livestream: Rudy Schneider
Visual Projection: Ananya Ebenezer
Song Leader: Melissa Bemus
Sunday School Teachers: Patrick/Caroline Halbach, Danielle Butula, Joanne Rentmeester
Sunday School Support: Joy Griepentrog
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Suzanne Taipala

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 22, 2026**

Greeters: Kathy Grunwald, Confirmation Student
Acolyte:
Ushers: Jerry Kipp, Confirmation Student
Worship Assistant: Linda Johnson
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Diana VanSlyke, Jane Boorse
ABC: Jane Boorse
Musician: Janet Day
Visual Projection: Mary Huss
Song Leader: Corynn Nordstrom
Sunday School Teachers: Emily McFadden
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery: Jade Epding
Coffee: Marge Kipp

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, February 22, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Heidi Blatnik
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Austin Alft, Sebastian Dandridge
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Fred Varin
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Todd Blatnik
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Confirmation Students
Visual Projection: Confirmation Students
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Julie Miesfeld
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell



UNITY
Lutheran Church

The Second Weekend in Lent

February 28-March 1, 2026

Saturday, February 28, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, March 1, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

The Second Weekend in Lent February 28-March 1, 2026

Prelude

"Morning Songs"

Dykes, arr. Tate (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

arr. Line (9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Time for Confession and Forgiveness

Each weekend during Lent, we use a different form of confession out of our Lutheran tradition. Today we use portions of the service for Corporate Confession and Forgiveness from pages 238-242 in our hymnal.

One: Blessed be the holy Three, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Many: Amen.

One: God of grace and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Many: Amen.

One: Holy God, holy and immortal, have mercy on us: For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

Many: Holy God, have mercy on us.

One: For our misuse of the time you give us and our unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

Many: Holy God, have mercy on us.

One: For jealousies that divide families and rivalries that create warfare:

Many: Holy God, have mercy on us.

One: For carelessness with the fruits of creation and forgetfulness in acknowledging the goodness extended us by others:

Many: Holy God, have mercy on us.

One: People of God: God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and has made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved! In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strength you power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Opening Hymn

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

ELW 767 vs. 1-3

(All Services)

Children's Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. God of Love,

Many: We work so hard to do all that we can and to be everything we think we are to be. Along the way though, it often leads us to compare ourselves to others, either judging them for what we think they are not, or feeling as if there is something wrong with us. However, both paths only lead us to death and away from what You seek to help us understand.

When we get overly focused on the wrong things, direct our attention, make it simple in ways we can grasp, and bring clarity in every situation where we experience the power of your love for us through Christ Jesus. Help us fully receive it and be changed by how it grows within us, as we share it with those around us. Help us always to remember that You come to make known Your love for us, and not to condemn or to shame. Forgive us when we forget this and when it's how we live and treat one another.

Let Your Light shine bright in every darkness. Dispel any fear that seeks to keep us from coming to Jesus. Help us these forty days and always to keep following You so that we can see more clearly the amazing goodness of Your love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Anthem

"What Wondrous Love Is This" arr. Hal Wright (Live 9:30)
Fellowship Choir, Molly Pufall-Brown - Director, Lynn Key - Accompanist

Lenten Gospel Response "Jesus, Remember Me" ELW 616 (All Services)

Reading of the Good News John 3:1-17

Here we meet Nicodemus. Pay attention to when he seeks out Jesus to talk with more. While he is one of the religious leaders, Jesus challenges him in a way no question asked about the Scriptures ever has before. Will he come to the light and see more fully just who Jesus is and what that means?

One: The Gospel according to John, the third chapter

Many: Glory to you O, Lord.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having

grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.'
⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."
⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon "Time For A Check Up?" Sherrie Lorbeck

Hymn of the Day

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" ELW 843 vs. 1-3 (All Services)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*(Congregation response to "Lord, in your mercy" is "**Hear our prayer.**")*

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: **Amen.**

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

"Lamb of God"

Twila Paris



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Merciful God,

Many: **in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Wonderful Cross"

Isaac Watts

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Change My Heart, O God"

arr. Mark Hayes

(9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

ELW 803 vs. 1-4

(All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Anthem"

Tom Conry

(5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

arr. Lorie Line

(9:30)

This Weekend at UNITY!

As we begin this season of Lent, you'll notice that we begin our worship with a time of Confession and Forgiveness, which many Lutheran churches used to do every week. Over the years, we have moved to sharing our Call to Worship as a way to engage everyone especially as it relates to the Scripture that day or what else is happening in the life of our faith community that weekend. There is both a great blessing and a downside in a ritual though that is practiced each week. On the one hand, the words become memorized and you may find that they still come back to you as we speak them over the course of the next few weeks. The downside of course with a ritual like this is that you start to speak the words without really giving any thought to the very things you'd like to lift up before God in confession and also acknowledge before your brothers and sisters and ask for forgiveness for.

May this time of Confession and Forgiveness may be one that you not fear or just go through the motions, but honestly, intentionally participate in AND then most importantly, may you hear the words that follow: Of Forgiveness, of second chances, of a clean slate and most of all: God's love and grace for YOU! Having received it, may we offer to those around us this week too!

Confirmation

Confirmation Class moves to Wednesday nights starting at 5:45 at the COL campus. Students can head upstairs to Room 208 for Large Group AND it's a NEW trimester this week, so Mrs. Aprahamian will be the Lead Teacher, so reach out to Michelle with any questions or conflicts, michelle@unitybrookfield.org. **At 6:15, class will move to the fellowship hall for dinner and worship.** Families, please join us for dinner and worship on these nights as well! Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, March 1, Waukesha Food Pantry Food Roundup, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Compete for a great cause! We'll meet at church, divide into groups, and go out with parent drivers on assigned routes to pickup food donations to benefit the Waukesha Food Pantry. We'll gather names and addresses in advance, to map and optimize the driving. Parent drivers requested for this fun service event, when never, ever has there been ANY cheating involved! (Oh and the team with the most points WINS! The Food Pantry is also always in need of baby diapers (size 4 preferably at this time), wipes, formula, along with staples like Peanut butter, in case you were wondering.)

All Things Lent!

We continue our Lenten journey this week Wednesday with worship, fellowship and food on March 4th.

Our Lent theme this year is 'Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time'

A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. Each Wednesday of Lent, we will share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Wednesday Meals & Worship: Lunch+Worship at CTK, Dinner+Worship at COL
Join us for a meal & worship the 5 Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday: Feb. 25-Mar 25.

At Christ the King: We'll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

At Cross of Life: Dinner and worship will start at approximately 6:00 pm with the evening typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help with Lent Wednesdays?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: We need people to provide soups, sides, and desserts. There are paper signups at both campuses.

For Lenten Dinners at COL: We need help with the following:

- Provide desserts (*homemade/purchased*)
- Set out food and beverages
- Last-minute prep before serving
- Clean up

For helping at COL, there are paper signups at both campuses, in addition to a SignUp Genius online! Individuals or groups are invited to help. Questions about signing up or need help doing so? Contact Lynn Key at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or 262-781-7600.

Meal Making Group at COL:

Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. Do you like to cook but not do it alone? Each Wednesday we make the meal in the COL kitchen at 3:00 pm. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. There's no need to sign up; just show up! Questions? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

COL Weekly Meal Menus:

February 25: Chili and Cornbread

March 18: Breakfast for dinner

March 4: Pasta bar

March 25: Baked Potato bar

March 11: Taco bar

**** A chicken nugget option will be available for kids each week (except 3/18) ****

Nursery will be available for every service at COL

This year's Lenten Offering: *Power in Connection*

Our Lenten offering will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong. BOH has been doing paper charting since it's beginning, and are now converting to computerized charting, using the EPIC system, with the help of their partner, Aurora Health Care. With this switch, they are in need of computers for every exam room, for each doctor, for the check-in person, and the pharmacist at each of their three (3) locations, in addition to other tech needs to assist in patient communication, etc. At Hebron Housing Services', the computers that staff take with them to visit their clients, etc. are very old and need to be replaced with new ones.

UNITY Highlights

Worship Dance group is forming, and we're looking for dancers!

Palm Sunday weekend (March 28/29) is one of the most festive weekends of the church year! Part of that festivity is a procession of the congregation from the Fellowship Hall/Narthex into the Sanctuary at the start of worship, and it has become our tradition to have dancers leading that procession. *Anyone Grade 1 - Grade 6* is invited to be part of this group. Do you have to be a trained dancer? **No!** This group is for everyone. All you need is a willingness to move, have fun and learn. They will be led by our Confirmation students who are in Dance, and we will run through this ahead of time on the following dates: March 15, March 22 from 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. at the COL campus, and 10:30 -11:00 a.m. at the CTK campus. **Please Note: Palm Sunday weekend is over Spring Break.** If you are not able to make it for Palm Sunday, come and learn regardless as we'll practice for future dates in worship, such as Pentecost weekend, May 23-24th.

The current Worship Volunteer Schedule doesn't include Holy Week!!

Holy Week services were not automatically scheduled, so please check out those services and sign up where you can help. There are paper copies in both narthexes to sign up. If you have any questions, contact Lynn Key, call/text 414-507-5888 or lynn@unitybrookfield.org.

Easter Flowers!

Easter Sunday is April 5, and in keeping with UNITY tradition, flowers you purchase will once again be "planted" around our altars to help us celebrate this special occasion. You have a variety of beautiful flowers to choose from, which are listed on the order form, along with the cost for each. (The plants will be purchased from Shady Lane Greenhouses.)

You can pick up an order form to complete in the narthex at both campuses, and place it with your check made payable to "UNITY Lutheran Church" in the offering plate or pay via our Donation web page and indicate it is for Easter Flowers. Order forms are also on the UNITY website under Sign Ups or Lent. All orders are due to church **by SUNDAY, 3/22**. All proceeds **benefit the senior high summer servant trip, ASP**. Questions? Contact Nancy Oberhauser at NancyO@unitybrookfield.org or 262-527-8869.

2026 Pledge Appeal

As we begin a new year, we ask that you would take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of faith and responsible planning. To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

- **March 13-14**, 7pm-7:30am, Grades 4-6 lock in at COL campus.
- **March 20**, 6-8pm, 4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over) at CTK campus
- **April 24-25**, 7pm-7:30 am, Grades 2-3 lock in at CTK campus

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school> Yearly Events. Parents, please consider helping at the event or bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Education team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

UNITY Sunday school summer & Year 1 Confirmation Camp travel back to Imago Dei

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half-week options for kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the full week and July 15-17 for the half week option**. If you want more information check out crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **Grades 4-6 lock in** - March 13-14, 7pm-7:30am at the COL campus
- **4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over)** - March 20, 6-8pm at the CTK campus
- **Grades 2-3 lock in** - April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am at CTK campus
- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

Confirmation Class moves to Wednesday nights starting at 5:45 at the COL campus
Students can head upstairs to Room 208 for Large Group AND it's a NEW trimester this week, so Mrs. Aprahamian will be the Lead Teacher, so reach out to Michelle with any questions or conflicts, michelle@unitybrookfield.org. **At 6:15, class will move to the fellowship hall for dinner and worship.** Families, please join us for dinner and worship on these nights as well! Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

Confirmation Dancers are Needed to help teach our Sunday School kids a simple movement flow to process in during the opening hymn on Palm Weekend and future dates, like on Pentecost weekend. Dates are: March 8 - to go through the plan of what to teach them, March 15, March 22 with the kids from 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. at the COL campus, and 10:30 -11:00 a.m. at the CTK campus.

All info about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Fish Fry to Support The FOOD Pantry

Get ready to make a difference on **Friday, March 6!** The Commodore - A Bartolotta Restaurant is hosting a special fish fry from 4:30-7:30pm in the Grand Heritage Ballroom, where every meal will contribute to The FOOD Pantry's mission to provide food, hope, and dignity to those in need. Join the movement and enjoy a delicious meal while supporting a great cause! Make reservations now at thecommodoredelafield.com or call 262-563-8070.

Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

A big thank you for all of the hats, mittens and scarves that were placed in the bin and on the tree this winter. And how many were there? A whopping 153 hats and 154 pairs of gloves and mittens of every imaginable color and size. They have been packed up and shipped off to Hephatha and the bin and tree are tucked away for this season. We are grateful for the hats and mittens; and for your caring hearts!

Waukesha Food Pantry - Senior High Pickup on Sunday, March 1

Mark your calendars! On Sunday March 1, Senior High students, with the help of parent drivers, will drive to your home to pick up food donations. A signup link was sent via email, but you may also sign up after church if you were unable to do so online.

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following forums:

- **Sunday, March 8 at 9:30 at COL:**

Mt. Meru Coffee Project: UNITY is proud to have a special partnership with the Mt. Meru Coffee Project, which is one element of the Global Partnership between the Greater Milwaukee Synod (ELCA) and the Diocese of Meru (ELCT) in Northern Tanzania. This Fair Trade, non-profit project imports 100% premium Arabica coffee from small-scale rural farmers as a way to support them. Read about this in the newsletter article, then join us to learn even more and enjoy some samplings of their coffees!

• **Sunday, March 15 at 9:30 at COL in Room 202: Aging Parents**

Join Jen Nowak and Eric Gravenkamp as we share resources, answer questions about our parents' aging journey and help support each other. This can often be a difficult period in your life. Come together with others to hear tips on how to navigate this time. It is very powerful to know you are not alone. *Special thanks* to Jen and Eric for their time and dedication to this ongoing forum. It is so very appreciated by all who attend!

• **Sunday, March 22nd at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at COL: Donut Social!**

Gather for some purely social time as we mingle with other members and enjoy coffee and donuts! You won't really learn anything... other than how many donuts your fellow members can eat! Join us this Sunday at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at our COL campus to enjoy a sweet treat in a judgement-free zone!

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)! Next opportunities: Thurs evening 3/5 & Mon afternoon 3/9. See UNITY Happenings for full details.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesdays, March 11th and 25th from 7:00-8:00pm (after Lenten worship) at COL in room 202

Home Communion ministers. If you enjoy visiting with people, we are in need of more people to help us visit and bring communion to our members who are not able to get to worship in person. We will give you a simple training and your very own communion kit to use and you can sign up to visit one person a month or more as your time allows. Visits can range anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. If you are interested in learning more, talk to one of the pastors or Nancy Oberhauser.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday, March 8, Appalachia Service Project Trip Information Night, 6:00 - 7:30pm

It's time to discuss all of the planning and preparation needed for the ASP. Reach out to Nancy or Pastor Sherrie if you have any questions about the trip.

We are also opening this trip up to college aged and other adults too! Please contact Nancy or Pastor Sherrie or Matt Griepentrog if you are interested so we can share more information with you and get you registered! The dates will be the same as the Sr. High trip, but you will be working at separate sites than the high school youth, BUT YES, this trip will also include nightly Ice Cream for you all as well!

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

February 28-March 1

Lynn Roemaat (hospital stay and recovery), mom and nana of the Roemaats
Nirupa Cuttler (cancer treatments), friend of Jessica Schrieber
Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

February 21-22

Nancy Herrell family (died after struggle with spinal cord lesion), cousin of Sally Thomas
Grant Kempf & parents (depression), cousin, son & husband of Michelle Wilkins
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

February 14-15

Peyton (health concerns), granddaughter of Barb & Neal Borkenhagen
Ruth Ungeran (facing palliative care, late stage Parkinson's), sister-in-law of Judie Born, aunt & godmother of Lisa Reed
Jim Buege (prayers for a successful cancer surgery & recovery), husband of Laura Buege
Family of Ellie Bottoni (18 yo BEHS recent grad that passed), friend of Deborah Nustad
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

February 7-8

Janet & Don Mours (health concerns), parents of Bryan and Sue Mours
Cindy (waiting on cancer news), friend of Madison Arredondo
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family

*The altar flowers at COL are given by Ralph & Donna Pingel
In celebration of Beth Ann & Mike Wuerl's Anniversary*

Thank you to Jane Dowling for arranging the altar flowers this weekend

Thank you to Kelsey Morrison for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Grace Leverenz, Caroline DeBauche, Nelson Brownell, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Marlene & Dave Hess, Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epling, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplín, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube

We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the renewed health of:

Ardyce Myhre

We celebrate the marriage of:

Alyssa Benning & Connor Burke 2/28/26 in Florida

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones as they mourn the death of a loved one:

Cross of Life Campus

Helen Peterson, mother of Kathy (Mark) Kindler, John (Jill), and Dave (Anne), and grandmother of Thomas, Ben and Andrew Kindler; Annie, Michael & Maddie Peterson, and Jack, Eileen and Lizzie Peterson

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

COL 5:00 p.m. Ministers for Saturday, February 28, 2026

Worship Coordinator:

Greeters: Karen Beres, Adam Fogltanz

Acolyte: Malia Soderstrom

Ushers: Duane Maas, Kevin Grabowski

Worship Assistant: Greg Buck

Reader: Kim Keup

Communion Assistants: Michelle & Brad Wilkins

ABC: Cheryl Caraulia

Musician: Will Kiefer

Sound: Mark Shady

Visual Projection:

Song Leader: Marv Wunder

Sunday School Teacher:

Sunday School Support:

Nursery: Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 1, 2026**

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Addison Kahle, Charlie Rentmeester, Johnny Steigerwald
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Susie Hilgart
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Lisa Nass
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound:
Livestream: Connor Hubert
Visual Projection: Bill Hubert
Song Leader: Laura Bengs
Sunday School Teachers: Erin & Corey Quinnell, Lisa Kahle, Joanne Rentmeester
Sunday School Support: Tiffany Reay
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Eric Thomas

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 1, 2026**

Greeters: Kathy Grunwald, Confirmation Student
Acolyte: Britta Brown, Betsy Bray
Ushers: Fred Petran, Confirmation Student
Worship Assistant: Jim Johnsen
Reader: Confirmation Student
Communion Assistants: Diana Koenen, Steve Walz
ABC: Diana VanSlyke
Musician: Lynn Key
Visual Projection: Julie Smith
Song Leader: Molly Pufall-Brown
Sunday School Teachers: Katie Bray
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery: Annalise Nordstrom
Coffee: Marge Kipp

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 1, 2026**

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte:
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Leslie O'Connell
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC:
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound: Confirmation Students
Visual Projection: Confirmation Students
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Marie Morrell, Kelly Shoff
Sunday School Support: Davida Kroepfl
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell



UNITY
Lutheran Church

The Third Weekend in Lent

March 7-8, 2026

Saturday, March 7, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, March 8, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

The Third Weekend in Lent

March 7-8, 2026

Prelude

“O Thou Fount Of Every Blessing”

arr. Line (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Morning Songs”

Dykes, arr. Tate (9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Time for Confession and Forgiveness

Each weekend during Lent, we use a different form of confession out of our Lutheran tradition.

One: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Many: Amen.

One: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

(silence is kept for reflection)

One: Merciful God,

Many: we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and are not worthy to be called your children. Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways. Bring us back to you as those who once were dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

One: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live in newness of life.

Many: Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”

ELW 777 vs. 1-4

(All Services)

Anthem

“Down in My Heart”

George W. Cooke

(10:45)

Joyful Noise Music Makers, Sydney Haines - Director, Lynn Key - Accompanist

Children’s Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. God of living water,

Many: You are the one who meets us at the well in the heat of the day, speaking truth to our hidden stories with nothing but compassion. This Lent, give us the courage to set down our heavy jars and the things we use to hide our thirst. Help us face ourselves honestly in your light. Pour your living water into our dry hearts so that we may worship you in spirit and in truth, and then send us out to tell the world, "Come and see the One who knows me fully and loves me still." In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Lenten Gospel Response

"Jesus, Remember Me"

ELW 616

Reading of the Good News John 4:5-42

Jesus intentionally crosses deep social and ethnic boundaries to reveal that God's love is for everyone, especially those on the edges. In this conversation, he proves that true worship isn't about our status or location, but about being fully known and loved by a Savior who meets us in our ordinary moments.

One: The Gospel according to John, the fourth chapter

Many: Glory to you O, Lord.

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him."²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called

Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”

²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’” ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon “Leave the Jar”

Justin Kierzek

Hymn of the Day “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” ~ ELW 807

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*(Congregation response to “Lord, in your mercy” is “**Hear our prayer.**”)*

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

“Lamb of God”

Twila Paris



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Gracious God,

Many: in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"There Is A Fountain/My Jesus I Love Thee" arr. Lorie Line (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Wonderful Cross" Isaac Watts (9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" ELW 618 vs. 1-3 (All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"My Faith Looks Up To Thee" arr. Line (5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

"Anthem" Tom Conry (9:30)

This Weekend at UNITY!

During the Season of Lent, we begin our worship with a time of Confession and Forgiveness. That's how many Lutheran churches used to start worship every week. Over the years, we have moved to starting our worship most often by sharing a "Call to Worship". It's meant to be an opportunity to engage everyone and connect what is going on in our lives and in our world with the Scripture for that day.

May a return to this time of Confession and Forgiveness be a blessing to you. May you not fear Confession and may you not just go through the motions during this part of our worship. Instead, may you honestly and intentionally participate in Confession and then, most importantly, may you hear the words that follow. Hear the words spoken for you of Forgiveness and of second chances. Most of all, may you experience God's love and grace for YOU! Having received it, may we help others experience God's love and forgiveness this week too!

Forum

Sunday, March 8 at 9:30 at COL:

Mt. Meru Coffee Project: UNITY is proud to have a special partnership with the Mt. Meru Coffee Project, which is one element of the Global Partnership between the Greater Milwaukee Synod (ELCA) and the Diocese of Meru (ELCT) in Northern Tanzania. This Fair Trade, non-profit project imports 100% premium Arabica coffee from small-scale rural farmers as a way to support them. Read about this in the newsletter article, then join us to learn even more and enjoy some samplings of their coffees!

Confirmation

Confirmation Dancers are Needed to help teach our Sunday School kids a simple movement flow to process in during the opening hymn on Palm Weekend and future dates, like on Pentecost weekend. Dates are: **March 8** - to go through the plan of what to teach them, March 15, March 22 with the kids from 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. at the COL campus, and 10:30 -11:00 a.m. at the CTK campus. Meet Pastor Sherrie in the Narthex at COL!

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30am

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, March 8, Appalachia Service Project Trip Info Night, 6:00 - 7:30pm at COL

It's time to discuss all of the planning and preparation needed for the ASP. Reach out to Nancy or Pastor Sherrie if you have any questions about the trip.

We are also opening this trip up to college aged and other adults too! Please contact Nancy or Pastor Sherrie or Matt Griepentrog if you are interested so we can share more information with you and get you registered! The dates will be the same as the Sr. High trip, but you will be working at separate sites than the high school youth, BUT YES, this trip will also include nightly Ice Cream for you all as well!

All Things Lent!

Our Lenten journey continues Wednesday 3/11 with worship, fellowship and food.
Our Lent theme this year is 'Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time'

A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. Each Wednesday, we share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Wednesday Meals & Worship: Lunch+Worship at CTK, Dinner+Worship at COL

Join us for a meal & worship the 5 Wednesdays following Ash Wednesday: Feb. 25-Mar 25.

At Christ the King: We'll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

At Cross of Life: Dinner and worship will start at approximately 6:00 pm with the evening typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help with Lent Wednesdays?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: We need people to provide soups, sides, and desserts. There are paper signups at both campuses.

For Lenten Dinners at COL: We need help with the following:

- Provide desserts (*homemade/purchased*)
- Last-minute prep before serving
- Set out food and beverages
- Clean up (at the end of service)

For helping at COL, there are paper signups at both campuses, in addition to a SignUp Genius online! Individuals or groups are invited to help. Questions about signing up or need help doing so? Contact Lynn Key at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or 262-781-7600.

Meal Making Group at COL:

Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. Do you like to cook but not do it alone? Each Wednesday we make the meal in the COL kitchen at 3:00 pm. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. There's no need to sign up; just show up! Questions? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

COL Weekly Meal Menus:

March 11: Taco bar **

March 25: Baked Potato bar **

March 18: Breakfast for dinner

****chicken nugget option available for kids**

Nursery will be available for every service at COL

This year's Lenten Offering: *Power in Connection*

Our Lenten offering will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong. BOH has been doing paper charting since it's beginning, and are now converting to computerized charting, using the EPIC system, with the help of their partner, Aurora Health Care. With this switch, they are in need of computers for every exam room, for each doctor, for the check-in person, and the pharmacist at each of their three (3) locations, in addition to other tech needs to assist in patient communication, etc. For Hebron Housing Services', you might ask 'why do women living in a homeless shelter need a computer???' For the same reasons that we all do. To check "help wanted" ads. To write a resume. To apply for a job. To apply for housing assistance. To check on apartments for rent. If they have children, to keep in contact with schools and teachers. For the case managers, they carry them with them to visit clients, and they need updated ones. They are an indispensable tool as they try to help their clients on a path to success. We, at UNITY, can be one of the steps on that path.

UNITY Highlights

NEW! See UNITY HAPPENINGS in the Narthex at each campus for a full listing of UNITY's ongoing programs and long-term announcements. Listed in each bulletin going forward are new, more current and upcoming events announcements.

Worship Dance group is forming, and we're looking for dancers!

Palm Sunday weekend (March 28/29) is one of the most festive weekends of the church year! Part of that festivity is a procession of the congregation from the Fellowship Hall/Narthex into the Sanctuary at the start of worship, and it has become our tradition to have dancers leading that procession. *Anyone Grade 1 - Grade 6* is invited to be part of this group. Do you have to be a trained dancer? **No!** This group is for everyone. All you need is a willingness to move, have fun and learn. They will be led by our Confirmation students who are in dance, and we will run through this ahead of time on the following dates: March 15, March 22 from 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. at the COL campus, and 10:30 -11:00 a.m. at the CTK campus. **Please Note: Palm Sunday weekend is over Spring Break.** If you are not able to make it for Palm Sunday, come and learn regardless as we'll practice for future dates in worship, such as Pentecost weekend, May 23-24th.

Easter Flowers!

Easter Sunday is April 5, and in keeping with UNITY tradition, flowers you purchase will once again be “planted” around our altars to help us celebrate this special occasion. You have a variety of beautiful flowers to choose from, which are listed on the order form, along with the cost for each. (The plants will be purchased from Shady Lane Greenhouses.) You can pick up an order form to complete in the narthex at both campuses, and place it with your check made payable to “UNITY Lutheran Church” in the offering plate or pay via our Donation web page and indicate it is for Easter Flowers. You can also obtain an order form from the UNITY website under Sign Ups. All orders are due to church **by SUNDAY, MARCH 22.** All proceeds **benefit the sr high summer servant trip, ASP.**

2026 Pledge Appeal: We ask that you please take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of faith and responsible planning. To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

- **March 13-14**, 7pm-7:30am, COL campus, Grades 4-6 lock in.
- **March 20**, 6-8pm, CTK 4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over)
- **April 24-25**, 7pm-7:30 am, CTK campus, Grades 2-3 lock in

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school> Yearly Events. Parents, please consider helping at the event or bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Education team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

UNITY Sunday school summer AND Year 1 Confirmation Camp return to Imago Dei!

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half-week options for kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the the full week and July 15-17 for the half week option**. If you want more information check out crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **Grades 4-6 lock in** - March 13-14, 7pm-7:30am at the COL campus
- **4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over)** - March 20, 6-8pm at the CTK campus
- **Grades 2-3 lock in** - April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am at CTK campus
- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org,

Confirmation Class meets Wednesday nights starting at 5:45 at the COL campus
Students can head upstairs to Room 208 for Large Group. Mrs. Aprahamian is the Lead Teacher, so reach out to her with any questions or conflicts, michelle@unitybrookfield.org.
At 6:15, class will move to the fellowship hall for dinner and worship. Families, please join us for dinner and worship on these nights as well! Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

Mitten Tree at CTK, Mitten Bin at COL Warm Hearts

A big thank you for all of the hats, mittens and scarves that were placed in the bin and on the tree this winter. And how many were there? A whopping 153 hats and 154 pairs of gloves and mittens of every imaginable color and size. They have been packed up and shipped off to Hephatha and the bin and tree are tucked away for this season. We are grateful for the hats and mittens; and for your caring hearts!

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following forums:

- **Sunday, March 15 at 9:30 at COL in Sanctuary: Alzheimer's Treatment with Wendy Betley - Senior Program Director at Alzheimer's Association**
Join us for a special presentation by Wendy Betley. She is from the Alzheimer's Association, and she is going to be sharing information with us about the newest advances in Alzheimer's treatment. This will be great information for anyone who is caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's.
- **Sunday, March 22nd at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at COL: Donut Social!**
Gather for some purely social time as we mingle with other members and enjoy coffee and donuts! You won't really learn anything... other than how many donuts your fellow members can eat! Join us this Sunday at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at our COL campus to enjoy a sweet treat in a judgement-free zone!

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

Our next opportunities are **Monday afternoon March 9th and Thursday evening March 19th.** See UNITY Happenings for additional details.

Lunch Bunch meets on Wednesday, March 11th

Join in the second Wednesday of each month. We are usually at Maxim's. (18025 W. Capitol Drive in Brookfield) at 11:30. **For March 11**, Lunch Bunch will join the luncheons held at the CTK campus every Wednesday during lent at 12:00, with worship starting at about 12:20. Beginning **April 8th**, it's back to Maxim's for lunch. Everyone is welcome, no matter your age or stage: younger, older, singles, couples, regular or occasional. Just show up because the nice thing about Maxim's is that seating is endlessly expandable. And, if you have any questions, Esther McKee is your point person: (262) 246-6443.

Men's Thursday Book Club meets at CTK this week Thursday at 7:00pm at CTK!

Meet up with UNITY men for fellowship and light book discussions the second Thursday of each month. This month's books are *Turf Wars: The Fight for the Soul of America's Game* by DeMaurice Smith, and *Mayday* by Nelson DeMille. Come for the fellowship, whether or not you've read the books. For more information reach out to Mark Nelson at MilwNelson@aol.com or (262) 391-0052.

Men's Third Saturday Breakfast meets Saturday, March 21, 7:30-9:00 am at COL.

We get together, survive our own cooking and talk about the readings used in worship that weekend. Never tried it out? Been part of it for years? Either way, join us next time!

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets on Wednesdays, March 11th and 25th from 7:00-8:00pm (after Lenten worship) at COL in room 202

Home Communion ministers needed

If you enjoy visiting with people, we are in need of more people to help us visit and bring communion to our members who are not able to get to worship in person. We will give you a simple training and your very own communion kit to use and you can sign up to visit one person a month or more as your time allows. Visits can range anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. If you are interested in learning more, talk to one of the pastors or Nancy Oberhauser.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday, March 15, The Great Brookfield Bake Off, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Are you ready for the next kitchen challenge? Join us as we divide into teams for a baking contest! You and your team will have a stocked pantry, ready to create your divine tasty treat. We can't wait to see what delicious desserts you come up with! Will your team come away with the winning prize?

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

February 7-8

Ron (upcoming surgery), dear friend of David Kapitan
Sissy Cruz (cancer), friend of Davida Kroepfl and Lisa Welch
Logan Stanford (bone infection), son of friend of Davida Kroepfl
Don Fronc (cancer), uncle of Michelle Wilkins
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

February 28-March 1

Lynn Roemaat (hospital stay and recovery), mom and nana of the Roemaats
Nirupa Cuttler (cancer treatments), friend of Jessica Schrieber
Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

February 21-22

Nancy Herrell family (died after struggle with spinal cord lesion), cousin of Sally Thomas
Grant Kempf & parents (depression), cousin, son & husband of Michelle Wilkins
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

February 14-15

Peyton (health concerns), granddaughter of Barb & Neal Borkenhagen
Ruth Ungeran (late stage Parkinson's), sister-in-law of Judie Born, aunt/godmother of Lisa Reed
Jim Buege (prayers for a successful cancer surgery & recovery), husband of Laura Buege
Family of Ellie Bottoni (18 yo BEHS recent grad that passed), friend of Deborah Nustad
Tyler Sutton's Family (Tyler's death), friend of Sia Grabowski
Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans	Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers	Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John	Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy	Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank	Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family

*The altar flowers at COL are given by Annie Peterson
In memory of Helen Peterson*

Thank you to Barb Hemmingsen for arranging the altar flowers this weekend

Thank you to Jency Engle for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider
sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Grace Leverenz, Caroline DeBauche,
Nelson Brownell, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez,
Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik,
Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Marlene & Dave Hess, Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Sharon Prohl,
Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer,
Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann,
Marilyn Koplín, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones
as they mourn the death of a loved one:

Christ the King Campus

Kaye Hassing, mother of Amber & Jeff Botsch,
grandmother of Aaron, Johnathan, Ben & Josh

Lydia Sipper, aunt of Laurie Furness

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

COL 5:00 p.m. Ministers for Saturday, March 7, 2026

Worship Coordinator:	Jeff Key
Greeters:	Kim Urchell
Acolyte:	Jameson Krueger, Wyatt Krueger
Ushers:	Cheryl Caraulia, Tim Culhane
Worship Assistant:	Kim Klug
Reader:	Sue Fisher
Communion Assistants:	Missy Fogltanz, Dennis Horne
ABC:	Kim Urchell
Musician:	Lynn Key
Sound:	
Visual Projection:	Kay Koepsel-Benning
Song Leader:	Becki Culhane
Sunday School Teacher:	Adrienne Krueger
Sunday School Support:	
Nursery:	Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m. Ministers for Sunday, March 8, 2026

Worship Coordinator: Kathy Bruhnke
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Charlotte Quinnell, Connor Hahn, Logan Lunak
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: David Kapitan
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Colleen King
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Jeff Key
Livestream: Rudy Schneider
Visual Projection:
Song Leader: Laura Bengs
Sunday School Teachers: Erin & Corey Quinnell
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Maddy Paradis
Coffee: Bernd Bruhnke

CTK 9:30 a.m. Ministers for Sunday, March 8, 2026

Greeters: Confirmation Student
Acolyte: Eliza Van Hoorn
Ushers: Harlan Mueller, Confirmation Student
Worship Assistant: Barb Borkenhagen
Reader: Confirmation Student
Communion Assistants: Jolene Epding, Patricia Petran
ABC: Diana VanSlyke
Musician: Will Kiefer
Visual Projection: Parker Godfrey
Song Leader: Corynn Nordstrom
Sunday School Teachers: Korrin Gumieny, Megan Van Hoorn
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery: Ali Allar
Coffee: Kathy Grunwald

COL 10:45 a.m. Ministers for Sunday, March 8, 2026

Worship Coordinator: Nancy Oberhauser
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Austin Alft
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Fred Varin
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Heidi Blatnik
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Confirmation Students
Visual Projection: Confirmation Students
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers:
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Maddy Paradis



UNITY
Lutheran Church

The Fourth Weekend in Lent

March 14-15, 2026

Saturday, March 14, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, March 15, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

The Fourth Weekend in Lent

March 14-15, 2026

Prelude

“Amazing Grace”

arr. Lorie Line

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“Amazing Grace”

Setting by John Ness Beck

(9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Time for Confession and Forgiveness

Each weekend during Lent, we use a different form of confession out of our Lutheran tradition as our Call to Worship. This week we will use the Brief Order for Individual Confession and Forgiveness from our hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

One: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures forever.

Many: Amen.

One: You have come to make confession before God. You are free to confess the sins of which you are aware and which trouble you.

Many: Merciful God, I confess that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone.

(time for silent confession)

One: In the presence of all gathered...

Many: I repent of all my sins, known and unknown. I am truly sorry, and I pray for forgiveness. I firmly intend to amend my life, and to seek help in mending what is broken. I ask for strength to face those I have hurt and to serve you in newness of life.

One: People of God, cling to this promise: the word of forgiveness I speak comes to you from God. By the water and the Holy Spirit, God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. Almighty God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

Many: Amen.

Opening Hymn “Gather Us In”

ELW 532 vs. 1-4

(All Services)

Anthem

“Ask, Seek, Knock”

Beci Wakerley, David Wakerley

(8:30)

Celebration Music Makers, Janet Day - Director, Lynn Key - Accompanist

Children’s Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. Jesus Christ our Lord,

Many: You are the light of the world. Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your love. Too often we are like the witnesses to the miracle in today's Gospel story - blind to see and to experience the love and healing you offer to us all. Help us celebrate your blessings that come in unexpected packages or are delivered by unexpected messengers. Teach us that your love bring forgiveness and healing beyond our rules and beyond our imagination. Lord, help us see the light. Amen.

Lenten Gospel Response

“Jesus, Remember Me”

ELW 616

Reading of the Good News: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man who had been born blind. Instead of rejoicing in the power of God's love to heal us and transform our lives, some of the witnesses to the healing wanted to debate the reason for the man's blindness in the first place. Others were literally blind to the miracle taking place in front of them and were upset that Jesus would do such a thing on the Sabbath! Neither group could see God at work in their midst and so Jesus explained to them, "I am the light of the world."

One: The Gospel according to John, the ninth chapter.

Many: Glory to you O, Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it

is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.”²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.”²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes.³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.”⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon “This Little Light of Mine!”

Eric Silberschmidt

Hymn of the Day “*Amazing Grace*” ELW 779 vs. 1-4

(All Services)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*(Congregation response to “Lord, in your mercy” is “**Hear our prayer.**”)*

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

“*Lamb of God*”

Twila Paris



venmo

Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. God, our Creator,

Many: you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

arr. Lorie Line (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

"Change My Heart, O God"

arr. Mark Hayes (9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

ELW 545 vs. 1-3

(All Services)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

arr. Line

(5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

"Psalm of Glory"

Dorothy Wells

(9:30)

This Weekend at UNITY!

During the Season of Lent, we begin our worship with a time of Confession and Forgiveness. Over the years, we have moved to starting our worship most often by sharing a “Call to Worship”. It’s meant to be an opportunity to engage everyone and connect what is going on in our lives and in our world with the Scripture for that day. May a return to this time of Confession and Forgiveness be a blessing to you. Don’t fear Confession and don’t just go through the motions during this part of our worship. Instead, may Confession be an opportunity for all of us to hear the words spoken for us of Forgiveness and of second chances.

The Gospel for today also speaks of new life and new opportunities. Jesus offers healing for all who have eyes open to see Love change lives.

Forum

Sunday, March 15 at 9:30 at COL in Sanctuary: Alzheimer’s Treatment with Wendy Betley - Senior Program Director at Alzheimer’s Association

Join us for a special presentation by Wendy Betley. She is from the Alzheimer’s Association, and she is going to be sharing information with us about the newest advances in Alzheimer’s treatment. This will be great information for anyone who is caring for a loved one with Alzheimer’s.

Confirmation

Confirmation Dancers are Needed to help teach our Sunday School kids a simple movement flow to process in during the opening hymn on Palm Weekend and future dates, like on Pentecost weekend. We will gather this Sundays, March 15, and on March 22 from 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. at the COL campus, and 10:30 -11:00 a.m. at the CTK campus. Meet Pastor Sherrie in the Fellowship Hall.

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30am

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, March 15, The Great Brookfield Bake Off, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Are you ready for the next kitchen challenge? Join us as we divide into teams for a baking contest! You and your team will have a stocked pantry, ready to create your divine tasty treat. We can’t wait to see what delicious desserts you come up with! Will your team come away with the winning prize?

UNITY Highlights

NEW! See UNITY HAPPENINGS in the Narthex at each campus for a full listing of UNITY's ongoing programs and long-term announcements. Listed in each bulletin going forward are new, more current and upcoming events announcements.

Worship Dance group is forming, and we're looking for dancers!

Palm Sunday weekend (March 28/29) is one of the most festive weekends of the church year! Part of that festivity is a procession of the congregation from the Fellowship Hall/ Narthex into the Sanctuary at the start of worship, and it has become our tradition to have dancers leading that procession. *Anyone Grade 1 - Grade 6* is invited to be part of this group. Do you have to be a trained dancer? **No!** This group is for everyone. All you need is a willingness to move, have fun and learn. They will be led by our Confirmation students who are in dance, and we will run through this ahead of time on the following dates: March 15, March 22 from 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. at the COL campus, and 10:30 -11:00 a.m. at the CTK campus. **Please Note: Palm Sunday weekend is over Spring Break.** If you are not able to make it for Palm Sunday, come and learn regardless as we'll practice for future dates in worship, such as Pentecost weekend, May 23-24th.

Can you help with worship during Holy Week and on Easter?

Holy Week services are not automatically scheduled. There are paper sign ups in both narthexes, or check out those services online and sign up where you can help. Thank you for all the ways you help our members come together to worship! If you have any questions, contact Lynn Key, lynn@unitybrookfield.org. or call/text 414-507-5888.

Easter Flowers!

Easter Sunday is April 5, and in keeping with UNITY tradition, flowers you purchase will once again be “planted” around our altars to help us celebrate this special occasion. You have a variety of beautiful flowers to choose from, which are listed on the order form, along with the cost for each. (The plants will be purchased from Shady Lane Greenhouses.)

You can pick up an order form to complete in the narthex at both campuses, and place it with your check made payable to “UNITY Lutheran Church” in the offering plate or pay via our Donation web page and indicate it is for Easter Flowers. You can also obtain an order form from the UNITY website under Sign Ups. All orders are due to church **by SUNDAY, MARCH 22**. All proceeds **benefit the senior high summer servant trip, Appalachia Service Project.**

Note: If you indicate that the flowers are in “memory of” or in “honor of” someone, their names will be printed in our Easter bulletin. Flowers may be picked up on Easter Sunday following any service you attend.

Thank you for helping to beautify our spaces for Easter services! Questions? Contact Nancy Oberhauser at NancyO@unitybrookfield.org or 262-527-8869. (Remember, this is different from the spring bedding flower sale which is still coming)

2026 Pledge Appeal

We ask that you please take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of

Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of faith and responsible planning. To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

- **March 20**, 6-8pm, 4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over) at CTK campus
- **April 24-25**, 7pm-7:30 am, Grades 2-3 lock in at CTK campus

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school>Yearly Events. Parents, please consider how you can help at the event or by bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Education team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

UNITY Sunday school summer AND Year One Confirmation Camp! We are traveling back to Imago Dei.

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half-week options for kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the the full week and July 15-17 for the half week option**. If you want more information check out crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **4K-Grade 1 Sleep Under (like a lock in without the sleep over)** - March 20, 6-8pm at the CTK campus
- **Grades 2-3 lock in** - April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am at CTK campus
- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org

Confirmation Class meets Wednesday nights starting at 5:45 at the COL campus
Students can head upstairs to Room 208 for Large Group. Mrs. Aprahamian is the Lead Teacher, so reach out to Michelle with any questions or conflicts, michelle@unitybrookfield.org. **At 6:15, class will move to the fellowship hall for dinner and worship.** Families, please join us for dinner and worship on these nights as well! Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the following forums:

- **Sunday, March 22nd at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at COL: Donut Social!**
Gather for some purely social time as we mingle with other members and enjoy coffee and donuts! You won't really learn anything... other than how many donuts your fellow members can eat! Join us this Sunday at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at our COL campus to enjoy a sweet treat in a judgement-free zone!

Join Ax Throwing at Falls Axe & Escape on March 26th

Come release some energy and have a lot of fun while you're doing it! Join us for Ax Throwing at Falls Axe & Escape on Thursday March 26, from 6:30-7:15 pm. Cost is \$27 per person. Falls Axe & Escape is located at N80 W14942 Appleton Ave. in Menomonee Falls. Visit the Signup page on the UNITY website to sign up.

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

Our next opportunities are **Monday afternoon March 23rd and Thursday evening March 19th**. We will also meet on Thursday evening March 26th since we won't be meeting on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd. See UNITY Happenings for additional details.

Men's Third Saturday Breakfast meets Saturday, March 21, 7:30-9:00 am at COL.

We get together, survive our own cooking and talk about the readings used in worship that weekend. Never tried it out? Been part of it for years? Either way, how about joining us next time?

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group meets next on Wednesday, March 25th from 7:00-8:00pm (after Lenten worship) at COL in room 202

Home Communion ministers needed

If you enjoy visiting with people, we are in need of more people to help us visit and bring communion to our members who are not able to get to worship in person. We will give you a simple training and your very own communion kit to use and you can sign up to visit one person a month or more as your time allows. Visits can range anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. If you are interested in learning more, talk to one of the pastors or Nancy Oberhauser.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30am

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

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UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

March 14-15

Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

March 7-8

Ron (upcoming surgery), dear friend of David Kapitan
Sissy Cruz (cancer), friend of Davida Kroepfl and Lisa Welch
Logan Stanford (bone infection), son of friend of Davida Kroepfl
Don Fronc (cancer), uncle of Michelle Wilkins
Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key
Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

February 28-March 1

Lynn Roemaat (hospital stay and recovery), mom and nana of the Roemaats
Nirupa Cuttler (cancer treatments), friend of Jessica Schrieber
Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause
Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats
Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key
Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke
Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark
Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran
Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

February 21-22

Nancy Herrell family (died after struggle with spinal cord lesion), cousin of Sally Thomas
Grant Kempf & parents (depression), cousin, son & husband of Michelle Wilkins
Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John
James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness
Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers
Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers
David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans
Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers
David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John
Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy
Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank

Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz
Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty
Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY
Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally
Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family

Thank you to Cathy Buck for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Judy Ertel, Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Grace Leverenz,
Nelson Brownell, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad,
Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik,
Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Marlene & Dave Hess, Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Sharon Prohl,
Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer,
Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann,
Marilyn Koplín, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube

We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the renewed health of:

Caroline DeBauche

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory
Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

COL 5:00 p.m. Ministers for Saturday, March 14, 2026

Worship Coordinator:	Jeff Key
Greeters:	Lori Collins, Karen Beres
Acolyte:	Sebastian Dandridge
Ushers:	
Worship Assistant:	Greg Buck
Reader:	Deborah Nustad
Communion Assistants:	Cheryl Caraulia, Melissa Grabowski
ABC:	Jeff Key
Musician:	Lynn Key
Sound:	Dan Collins
Visual Projection:	
Song Leader:	Becki Culhane
Sunday School Teacher:	Adrienne Krueger
Sunday School Support:	
Nursery:	Nora Schneider

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 15, 2026**

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Charlie Rentmeester, Coby Perrizo, Max Herington
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Mike Aprahamian
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Sandi John
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Denny Thompson
Livestream: Ananya Ebenezer
Visual Projection: Joe Herington
Song Leader: Kathy Kindler
Sunday School Teachers: Jordan Lunak, Becky & Nick Van Deraa, Joanne Rentmeester
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Ali Allar
Coffee: Eric Thomas

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 15, 2026**

Greeters: Confirmation Student
Acolyte: Miles McFadden, Ben Jansson, Owen Jansson, Emma Jansson
Ushers: Chad McFadden, Confirmation Student
Worship Assistant: Mary huss
Reader: Confirmation Student
Communion Assistants: Barb Patterson, Jane Boorse
ABC: Jane Boorse
Musician: Janet Day
Visual Projection: Parker Godfrey
Song Leader: Greg Peterson
Sunday School Teachers: Korrin Gumieny, Kyle Jansson
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery:
Coffee: Emily McFadden

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 15, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Patricia Pelzel
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Clara Miesfeld, Liam Komassa
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Melanie Varin
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Jeff Pelzel
Musician: Lynn Key
Sound: Confirmation Students
Visual Projection: Confirmation Students
Song Leader: Jeff Stark
Sunday School Teachers: Jennifer Loverine, Kelly Shoff
Sunday School Support: Tiffany Reay
Nursery: Ali Allar



UNITY
Lutheran Church

The Fifth Weekend in Lent

March 21-22, 2026

Saturday, March 21, 2026

5:00 pm COL

Sunday, March 22, 2026

8:30 am COL

9:30 am CTK

10:45 am COL

**Live Streamed at 8:30 am Sundays and available
Online anytime afterwards**

unitybrookfield.org

Cross of Life Campus
20700 W. North Avenue
Brookfield, WI 53045

Christ the King Campus
4600 Pilgrim Road
Brookfield, WI 53005

(262) 781-7600

WELCOME TO UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

We're glad you're here today!

UNITY is a two campus congregation having formed from two ELCA congregations, Cross of Life (COL) and Christ the King (CTK), which is how we now identify each location.

WELCOME VISITORS! Please pick up a Welcome to UNITY bag at either campus. We're glad to have you with us! If you'd like us to connect with you, please fill out a Welcome Card found in the bag, and also in the pews, and place it in the offering plate. You can also check out our website at: unitybrookfield.org for more information about our ministries and servant opportunities! You are welcome to participate in anything that UNITY has happening! (For the outdoor service, welcome cards are on the table just outside the pavilion.)

- **Children.** Kids are always welcome in worship! They are the best observers of ritual and listeners to the words of faith we speak week in and week out. Worship is about an hour. Kid's worship bags are available in the back to keep hands busy if you need.
- **Nursery.** Staffed childcare is also available at all services. Ask someone to show you where it is located. There are lots of toys to play with, a changing table, and a rocking chair if you ever need one.
- **Sunday School.** All children are welcome to learn more about the Bible story in a way that is geared for their age and includes activities, games, crafts, music and creative opportunities on the Smart Board. Anyone who is 3yrs. old - Gr. 6 is welcome to join in on the fun after the Children's Message. (During the summer, we have Summer Sunday School for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade during the Sunday services)
- **At UNITY, the Communion Table is:**
 - Open to all. Visitors, please join us. It is an honor to have you at Christ's table.
 - Non-communing children will receive a blessing.
 - Red liquid is wine, lighter-colored liquid is white grape juice.
 - We serve wheat bread. Gluten-free wafers are available on the small tables at each serving location.
 - Follow usher instructions to the closest serving location.
 - If you wish to receive communion and walking is difficult, please tell an usher that you would like to be served where you are seated.
- **Pastors.** UNITY is currently served by Pastor Sherrie Lorbeck, Pastor Justin Kierzek, and Pastor Eric Silberschmidt who is our Interim pastor as we search for one additional pastor. Most Saturdays, the weekend preacher is the pastor at that service. On Sundays, the preacher for the weekend travels to both campuses to share the message. Feel free to reach out if you need anything or would like to talk more.

GIVING. If you would like to leave an offering to support God's work through this place and our partners, you are welcome to do so via the offering plate passed during worship or Online via our website, or there is also a small card reader located in the narthex. Follow the 3 easy steps listed on the sign to give. This allows for a secure, on-site debit or credit transaction. Apple Pay and Venmo are also accepted. Thank you!



venmo

The Fifth Weekend in Lent March 21-22, 2026

Prelude

“Nicea”

arr. Bob Moore

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

“God of Wonders”

Praise Band

(9:30)

Words of Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Many: And also with you.

Time for Confession and Forgiveness

Each weekend during Lent, we use a different form of confession out of our Lutheran tradition as our Call to Worship. This week we will use the Confession and Forgiveness from the Lutheran Book of Worship. The words may be familiar and come back to you as this was once spoken each week in many congregations. Do not be afraid to come before God honestly with your confessions and then trust in the promise of forgiveness and love that follows through Christ! Let that be what sends us back out this week with life!

One: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

Many: Amen.

One: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

One: Most merciful God,

Many: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

One: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Many: Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”
“Arise”

ELW 712 vs. 1-4 (5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
Praise Band (9:30)

Children’s Message

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. God of light,

Many: ...overwhelm the darkness and help us to see the path you want us to follow.

One: God of life,

Many: ...remind us that not even death has the power to separate us from you.

One: God of reason and understanding,

Many: ...thank you for allowing us to question matters of faith and for the ways you keep leading us to see more from your perspective so that we may believe.

One: God of love,

Many: ...thank you for the way you respond to our deepest pain through your loving presence and in tears when you see ours.

One: God, living Spirit,

Many: ...soar within your people. Lead us always.

One: God who loves the world,

Many: ...use me, use us all to be your grace toward this world. We pray, trusting you to make us worthy of the name of Jesus Christ, Savior of the world. Amen.

The Washing of Holy Baptism

Presentation of the Child

This morning we welcome Bennett Richard Fohr at the 9:30 service. Bennett Richard is presented by his parents, Jason and Meghan, and his sponsors, Rory Fitzgerald and Josie Tetzlaff.

Pastor: Who presents Bennett Richard to receive the blessings of Holy Baptism?

Parents & Sponsors: We do.

Role of the Parents and Sponsors

One: In Christian love you have presented Bennett Richard for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully care for him and help him in every way God gives you opportunity, that Bennett Richard may bear witness to the faith we hold, and that, living in the covenant of his Baptism and in Communion with the people of God, he may lead a life of goodness and service until the day of Jesus Christ. Parents and sponsors, do you promise to fulfill these obligations? If so, please answer, "I do."

Prayer

Pastor: Holy God, we give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the baptism of his own death and resurrection, your beloved Son, Jesus the Christ, has set us free from the final power of sin and death, and has opened the way to everlasting life. He made water a sign of cleansing and of birth into the family of God. As Jesus' followers, we do as he taught us, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit so that Bennett Richard may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as your own sons and daughters, inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

All: Amen.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Baptism

Baptismal Prayer

Pastor: Lord God, we give you thanks for freeing your children from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy washing. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Bennett Richard: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and respect for the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

All: Amen.

The Mark of Christ

Bennett Richard, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Presentation of the Baptismal Candle

One: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (*Matthew 5:16*)

Pastor: Through Baptism, God has made this brother of ours a member of the ministry of reconciliation we all share in Christ Jesus. May we proclaim the greatness and love of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

Greeting of the Child by the Congregation

People: Bennett Richard, we welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly father, and a worker with us in the Kingdom of God. Amen.

Pastor: Peace be with you.

Parents & Sponsors: Peace be with you.

Lenten Gospel Response

“Jesus, Remember Me”

ELW 616

Reading of the Good News: John 11:1-6, 17-44

Our fourth and final week of chapter-long stories from John's gospel is the climax toward which the others have built: Jesus is the Messiah and it is to Martha's great credit that she believes while standing in the shadow of death. Grief and criticism swirl about him as Jesus demonstrates the power of God. The struggle between life and death will be waged again from Good Friday to Easter. Then too, Light prevails over darkness.

One: The Gospel according to John, the eleventh chapter.

Many: Glory to you O, Lord.

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him.

³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus began to weep.

³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

One: The Gospel of the Lord.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon “From Death to Life!”

Sherrie Lorbeck

Hymn of the Day/Baptismal Hymn

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”
“You Are Mine”

ELW 538
ELW 581 vs. 1-4

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)
(9:30)

The Prayers of the People

One: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*(Congregation response to “Lord, in your mercy” is “**Hear our prayer.**”)*

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Announcements and Offering

Offertory Response *(as gifts are brought forward)*

“Lamb of God”

Twila Paris



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Prayer of Thanks

One: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

Many: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us... ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Meditation

"Eye Has Not Seen"

"Your Name"

Haugen

Praise Band

(5:00, 8:30, 10:45)

(9:30)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace and peace.

Many: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Many: Amen.

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

"10,000 Reasons"

ELW 886 vs. 1, 3, 4, 6 (5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

Praise Band (9:30)

Dismissal

One: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

Many: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"Two-Part Invention #13"

"10,000 Reasons" reprise

J. S. Bach

Praise Band

(5:00, 8:30; 10:45)

(9:30)

This Weekend at UNITY!

One of the worst things we have to face in life is the reality that someone close to us has died. On the one hand, it can raise all kinds of questions in our minds as we long for some way to try and make sense of why bad things happen in this world. We wrestle with the reality that despite all that we do, there is so much that lies outside of our control. While it threatens to also take away our faith and connection with God, in our Gospel for today, we see how Jesus meets us always where we are, whether in the place of trying to make sense of it and cling to our belief or whether in the place of our grief and emotions. Though there remains so much that we don't fully see or understand about what happens in this life, through Jesus, we see God's compassion and power to surprise by bringing forth that which is Life. May we cling to that hope ourselves in the face of every darkness and may we be people who seek to be life-giving in all we do!

Sunday, March 22nd at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at COL: Donut Social!

Gather for some purely social time as we mingle with other members and enjoy coffee and donuts! You won't really learn anything... other than how many donuts your fellow members can eat! Join us this Sunday at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall at our COL campus to enjoy a sweet treat in a judgement-free zone!

Confirmation

A special thanks to all of our Confirmation students AND Carole Syse who have been helping lead worship the past few weeks! **After the 8:30 service, Confirmation students can head upstairs to Room 208 for SALT.** This weekend, we'll have a unique time to journey with Jesus through the last week of his life. **Come and taste what he did and hear the story!**

Senior High

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30am

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served most Sundays. We will not have Senior High Cafe on Palm Sunday (March 29) or Easter Sunday (April 5).

Sunday, March 22nd, 6:00 - 7:30 pm, WhirlyBall, meet at COL

We'll head to WhirlyBall and test our skills as we compete in 5 v 5 for 10 minute games. WhirlyBall combines basketball, lacrosse, hockey, and bumper cars in a game of skill coupled with a touch of chance. We'll drive from COL to WhirlyBall and spend an hour playing before we return to COL. **Cost is \$18 per participant.** You may bring cash, or pay using Venmo @unitylutheranchurch, adding WhirlyBall in the notes. **Parents, please sign waivers in advance.** You will find waiver link in the Friday Sr. High email, or contact NancyO@unitybrookfield.org. **One parent driver needed.**

All Things Lent!

Our Lent theme this year is ‘Feed My Flock - A Simple Meal, A Sacred Time’

A weekly gathering centered on community nourishment and reflection. We share a simple meal with worship and pause together to be fed by the One who feeds us!

Last week for you to experience this new style of worship!

Noon - At Christ the King: We’ll begin with a meal of soup and salad at noon, then transition into a short time of worship and be sent on our way by 1 pm.

6:00 p.m. - At Cross of Life: Dinner and worship will start at approximately 6:00 pm with the evening typically closing by 7:05 pm.

Can you help?

For Lenten Lunches at CTK: We need people to provide soups, sides, and desserts. There are paper signups at both campuses.

For Lenten Dinners at COL: We need help with the following:

- Provide desserts (*homemade or purchased*)
- Set out food and beverages
- Last-minute prep before serving
- Clean up (at the end of service)

To help at COL, Contact Lynn Key at lynn@unitybrookfield.org or 262-781-7600.

Meal Making Group at COL:

Join us Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. Do you like to cook but not do it alone? Each Wednesday we make the meal in the COL kitchen at 3:00 pm. Jump in for a fun time of cooking together led by Diana & David Koenen and Sandi John. There’s no need to sign up; just show up! Questions about cooking? Contact Diana Koenen at dlstobbs@sbcglobal.net or 262-853-7081.

COL Weekly Meal Menus:

March 25: Baked Potato bar

Nursery will be available for every service at COL

This year’s Lenten Offering: *Power in Connection*

Our Lenten offering will support computers and technology for Hebron House and the Bread of Healing Clinic, helping ensure that vital connections for care, learning, and communication remain strong. BOH has been doing paper charting since it’s beginning, and are now converting to computerized charting, using the EPIC system, with the help of their partner, Aurora Health Care. With this switch, they are in need of computers for every exam room, for each doctor, for the check-in person, and the pharmacist at each of their three (3) locations, in addition to other tech needs to assist in patient communication, etc. For Hebron Housing Services’, you might ask ‘why do women living in a homeless shelter need a computer???’ For the same reasons that we all do. To check “help wanted” ads. To write a resume. To apply for a job. To apply for housing assistance. To check on apartments for rent. If they have children, to keep in contact with schools and teachers. For the case managers, they carry them with them to visit clients, and they need updated ones. They are an indispensable tool as they try to help their clients on a path to success. We, at UNITY, can be one of the steps on that path.

UNITY Highlights

NEW! See UNITY HAPPENINGS in the Narthex at each campus for a full listing of UNITY's ongoing programs and long-term announcements. Listed in each bulletin going forward are new, more current and upcoming events announcements.

Easter Flowers - Final Weekend to Order!

Easter Sunday is April 5, and in keeping with UNITY tradition, flowers you purchase will once again be “planted” around our altars to help us celebrate this special occasion. You have a variety of beautiful flowers to choose from, which are listed on the order form, along with the cost for each. (The plants will be purchased from Shady Lane Greenhouses.)

You can pick up an order form to complete in the narthex at both campuses, and place it with your check made payable to “UNITY Lutheran Church” in the offering plate or pay via our Donation web page and indicate it is for Easter Flowers. You can also obtain an order form from the UNITY website under Sign Ups. All orders are due to church **by SUNDAY, MARCH 22**. All proceeds **benefit the senior high summer servant trip, Appalachia Service Project.**

Note: If you indicate that the flowers are in “memory of” or in “honor of” someone, their names will be printed in our Easter bulletin. Flowers may be picked up on Easter Sunday following any service you attend.

Thank you for helping to beautify our spaces for Easter services! Questions? Contact Nancy Oberhauser at NancyO@unitybrookfield.org or 262-527-8869. (Remember, this is different from the spring bedding flower sale which is still coming)

Calling all kids to help lead the procession into the sanctuary on Palm Sunday weekend (March 28/29) This is one of the most festive weekends of the church year! Part of that festivity is a procession of the congregation from the Fellowship Hall/Narthex into the Sanctuary at the start of worship, and it has become our tradition to have dancers leading that procession. *Anyone Grade 1 - Grade 6* is invited to be part of this group. This group is for everyone. All you need is a willingness to move, have fun and learn.

Can you help with worship during Holy Week and on Easter?

Holy Week services are not automatically scheduled. There are paper sign ups in both narthexes, or check out those services online and sign up where you can help. Thank you for all the ways you help our members come together to worship! If you have any questions, contact Lynn Key, lynn@unitybrookfield.org. or call/text 414-507-5888.

2026 Pledge Appeal

We ask that you please take a few minutes to think about what you are able to give and share with your UNITY family in order to help us continue our ministry and mission of Jesus. We give thanks for all that the ways we were able to worship and learn together, and serve with our partners. We pray for God's Spirit to lead us as we look ahead to this year and seek to discern how we can keep growing in the ways we hear people are looking for

along with taking care of the spaces we have to use and searching for the staffing with the right set of gifts/skills needed to help us in the work.

It would be helpful to our Finance team and Council if you filled out a Pledge card as a way to reflect on what you are able to share as we try to find that balance of faith and responsible planning. To do so:

- 1 - Pick up an Pledge letter and card in the narthex.
- 2 - Reflect on how you have been blessed and how you are able to share.
- 3 - Fill out the Pledge sheet.
- 4 - Then ACT on that by dropping the Pledge card in the offering or in the church office.

Thank you for all that you do to help UNITY magnify all that Christ has done and continues to do for each of us!

Are we in your spam?? Please check!

For some time we have had issues with communications from UNITY email addresses going into spam/junk email boxes, even when the sender is in the receivers contacts, or even when we are *responding* to your email. Our Communications & Technology Team are investigating some changes that we hope will be able to eliminate this problem. BUT FIRST... when you find our emails in spam, please mark the sender as safe to receive from, and that should eliminate the problem going forward. If it doesn't, be sure to let us know! If you are not receiving emails from us at all, please reach out to Lynn in the office to confirm we have the correct email address(es). We don't want to miss you, and don't want you to miss hearing from us!

Christian Education

Contact Michelle Aprahamian, c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org
or Davida Kroepfl, c: 262-894-9264, email: dakroepfl@gmail.com

Lock In and Sleep Under dates are set!

- **April 24-25**, 7pm-7:30 am, Grades 2-3 lock in at CTK campus

Watch your email for sign ups or you can check the UNITY website under Sunday school>Yearly Events. Parents, please consider how you can help at the event or by bringing drinks and snacks.

Many thanks to members of the Christian Education team for planning these events for our UNITY kids. This is a great night of food, game, crafts and fellowship. A time for our kids to really connect. *Remember, if the sleep over part is not your child's thing, no worries. Come for the fun and your child can leave when the kids are ready to settle in for sleep (around 9:30pm).*

UNITY Sunday school summer AND Year One Confirmation Camp! We are traveling back to Imago Dei.

Swimming and canoeing on the lake, playing active games, exploring nature, creating crafts, making new friends and growing your faith...this and so much more will happen at

Crossways camp. We have full week options for kids in 4th through 6th grade and half-week options for kids in 2nd through 6th grade at Imago Dei Village (the same camp our 7th grade confirmation students attend). Camp is scheduled for **July 12-17 for the full week and July 15-17 for the half week option**. If you want more information check out crosswayscamps.org/youth. When registering, use code 26UNITYBK_FULL for a \$250 discount on the full week and 26UNITYBK_HALF for a \$125 discount on the half-week. Michelle and Sherrie will also be there at various times throughout the week! Contact one of us if you have any questions.

Mark your Calendars for these important dates:

- **Grades 2-3 lock in** - April 24-25, 7pm-7:30 am at CTK campus
- **First Communion Classes and Weekend** - Classes are Thursdays May 7 and 14. (6:30-7:45) at the COL campus. First Communion services are May 16-17, 2026
- **VBS** - June 22-25, 2026 (It is never too soon to plan for this event 😊)
- **East Coast Road Trip** - July 7-10, 2026 for Year 2 Confirmation Students
- **Summer camp for Sunday school (completed grades 2-6) and year 1 confirmation students** - We are traveling back to Imago Dei this summer! Sunday school students have both full and half-week options, **July 12 -17** for full week or **July 15 - 17** for the half-week. More to come about sign up for camps.

Confirmation

Sherrie Lorbeck - Current Lead Teacher c:414-477-7762 email: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org,
Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email: justin@unitybrookfield.org,
Michelle Aprahamian - c: 414-732-8615, email: michelle@unitybrookfield.org

Confirmation Class meets Wednesday nights starting at 5:45 at the COL campus
Students can head upstairs to Room 208 for Large Group. Mrs. Aprahamian is the Lead Teacher, so reach out to Michelle with any questions or conflicts, Michelle@unitybrookfield.org. **At 6:15, class will move to the fellowship hall for dinner and worship.** Families, please join us for dinner and worship on these nights as well! Students: please plan to bring your Bibles, binders, and a pen/pencil.

Confirmation Camp at Imago Dei Bible Camp for our Year One students! Please register on Crossways Bible Camp website. The waiting list should be removed. Contact Michelle, Justin or Sherrie if you have any trouble.

East Coast Road Trip Registration for our Year Two students! Fill out a permission slip today and return to Michelle, Justin or Sherrie or reach out if you have any questions. This is the only time you can take this trip that we create and that celebrates your 2 years in Confirmation! Trust us! You won't want to miss this!

All information about this year's confirmation program can be found on the confirmation page of the UNITY website. Any questions, please contact any confirmation program leaders.

Servant Ministries

Contact Ellen Vermillion, c: 262-565-8512, e: evermill61@gmail.com
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947 email justin@unitybrookfield.org

El Salvador Summer Trip. Come and join us for a week of getting to meet friends and explore the culture and sites of El Salvador! NO Spanish needed, but a willingness to laugh, try to communicate through hand gestures, Google translate, the basics you know, OR through the translators we'll have with us too! It's a week filled with so many opportunities to go deeper in your faith as we make connections! Anyone 16 -18 (with a parent), and older is welcome to join us for the week! Trip is July 30 - August 5th. Registration deadline is May 17. Applications are on the website or outside of PSherr's office. Talk to Sherrie Lorbeck for more information.

Adult Programs

Contact: Todd Blatnik, email: todd.blatnik@wi.rr.com or
Matt Griepentrog, c: 262-787-8820, e: matt@unitybrookfield.org

Missed our Alzheimer's forum last week? Check out the Adult Programs page on the UNITY website to watch the video and also view the slideshow from Wendy Betley's presentation. She shared lots of interesting information on new insights and treatments to combat this disease. We are thankful for her visit and presentation!

Join Ax Throwing at Falls Axe & Escape on March 26th

Come release some energy and have a lot of fun while you're doing it! Join us for Axe Throwing at Falls Axe & Escape on Thursday March 26, from 6:30-7:15 pm. Cost is \$27 per person. Falls Axe & Escape is located at N80 W14942 Appleton Ave. in Menomonee Falls. Visit the Signup page on the UNITY website to sign up.

Sheepshead - 2 times to choose from: days or evenings (or both)!

Our next opportunities are **Monday afternoon March 23rd and Thursday evening March 26th (special date added because we won't play on Maundy Thursday 4/2)**. See UNITY Happenings for additional details.

UNITY Member Care

Contact: Sherrie Lorbeck, Eric Silberschmidt, Justin Kierzek, or Nancy Oberhauser

Grief Group will meet next on Wednesday, April 8th and April 22nd from 6:30-8:00pm (back to our regular times) at COL in room 202

Home Communion ministers needed

If you enjoy visiting with people, we are in need of more people to help us visit and bring communion to our members who are not able to get to worship in person. We will give you a simple training and your very own communion kit to use and you can sign up to visit one person a month or more as your time allows. Visits can range anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour. If you are interested in learning more, talk to one of the pastors or Nancy Oberhauser.

Sr. High

Contact Nancy Oberhauser, c: 262-527-8869, e: nancyo@unitybrookfield.org
or Sherrie Lorbeck, c: 414-477-7762 e: sherrie@unitybrookfield.org
or Justin Kierzek, c: 414-275-1947. e: justin@unitybrookfield.org

Sunday Morning, Senior High Cafe, 9:30 - 10:30am

Meet up with your peers on Sunday morning at COL campus, in the 2nd floor Senior High Room. Iced coffee, cream, seasonal syrups, and tasty treats are served every Sunday.

Sunday, March 22nd, 6:00 - 7:30 pm, WhirlyBall, meet at COL

We'll head to WhirlyBall and test our skills as we compete in 5 v 5 for 10 minute games. WhirlyBall combines basketball, lacrosse, hockey, and bumper cars in a game of skill coupled with a touch of chance. We'll drive from COL to WhirlyBall and spend an hour playing before we return to COL. **Cost is \$18 per participant.** You may bring cash, or pay using Venmo [@unitylutheranchurch](https://venmo.com/unitylutheranchurch), adding WhirlyBall in the notes. **Parents, please sign waivers in advance.** You will find waiver link in the Friday Sr. High email, or contact NancyO@unitybrookfield.org. **One parent driver needed.**

UNITY Prayer Place

Post a prayer card in the narthex or call the office. We will hold the person in prayer for the next four weeks. Re-post as often as needed.

March 21-22

Darla (cancer), sister of Diana Koenen

Kathy Napoli (upcoming surgeries & ongoing health issues), mother of Nicole McCumber

Fred Jin (non-smokers lung cancer returned-treatment options), cousin of Deborah Nustad

Pat (continued healing), friend of Bill & Melanie Rooney

Olivia (recovery from surgery), niece of Bill & Melanie Rooney

Jody Homulos (pancreatic cancer), best friend of Sandi John

James Heineman, Jr. (in St. Mary's Burn Center ICU), friend of John & Barb Ehlers

Ryson Furness (breathing issues), grandson of Laurie Furness

Terrie Metz (cancer), sister of John Ehlers

Jeff Waalkes (health issues), friend of John & Barb Ehlers

David Ehlers (cancer), brother of John & Barb Ehlers

March 14-15

Sara Weix (breast cancer), daughter of Ron & Barb Weix

March 7-8

Ron (upcoming surgery), dear friend of David Kapitan

Sissy Cruz (cancer), friend of Davida Kroepfl and Lisa Welch

Logan Stanford (bone infection), son of friend of Davida Kroepfl

Don Fronc (cancer), uncle of Michelle Wilkins

Frank (battling cancer), friend of Jeff Key

Terri Kwiatkowski (stage 4 terminal cancer), friend of Michelle Aprahamian

February 28-March 1

Lynn Roemaat (hospital stay and recovery), mom and nana of the Roemaats

Nirupa Cuttler (cancer treatments), friend of Jessica Schrieber

Meredith Sipe (battling cancer), friend of Nicole Krause

Rick, Becky & Thea (Rick fighting brain cancer), friends of the Roemaats

Dave Zimmerman (battling cancer), friend of Jeff & Lynn Key

Elly Rogers (memory issues), mother of Kathy Bruhnke

Tony Susa (spinal cord injury), brother-in-law of Vivian Clark

Ken Englund (health concerns), friend of Fred & Pat Petran

Peter Kish (kidney failure), son-in-law of Ron and Barb Weix

We pray for those serving (teaching, medical, etc.) overseas and our military personnel:

Benjamin George, friend of Kapitans

Andrew Holte, nephew of Sue Kammers

David Horner-Ibler, son of Barb & John

Natalie Karrels, daughter of Paul & Tracy

Jake Riederer, son of Debbie & Frank

Bryce Roland, grandson of Grace Leverenz

Caroline Schneider, daughter of Brian & Patty

Jeremy Swain, member of UNITY

Billy Thomas, son of Eric & Sally

Kyle Unger, cousin of the Wistrom family

Thank you to Lisa Nass for making this weekend's communion breads

Prayers for UNITY Lutheran Church Members

We ask you to pray for our members and consider sending a card to show your love and support.

Cross of Life Campus

Judy Ertel, Randy Breske, Marlene Witt, Grace Leverenz, Nelson Brownell, Greg O'Connell, Gabriel Gonzalez, Judy Kolstad, Luna Loverine, Shirley & Jim Wenzel, Garrett Czarnik, Nicholas Klug, Alyce Vollan, Barb Purnell, Molly Smith, Barb Weix

Christ the King Campus

Marlene & Dave Hess, Pearl Haack, Jeff Wickland, Sharon Prohl, Richard Cantu, Al Bengston, Jolene Epding, Joyce Koenitzer, Mary Johnsen, Ann Borowski, Dawn Suharski, Ralph Volkmann, Marilyn Koplín, Vina Tausend, Myrt Landsgaard, Carol Grube

We offer our prayers of sympathy for family and loved ones as they mourn the death of a loved one:

Christ the King Campus

Pat Stobbs, aunt of Ben & Brandan Stobbs

UNITY Lutheran Church - Staff Directory

Office: 262-781-7600

Program

Michelle Aprahamian	Director of Christian Ed	michelle@unitybrookfield.org	414-732-8615
Madison Arredondo	Director of Communication	madison@unitybrookfield.org	262-402-8231
Matt Griepentrog	Director of Adult Programs/ Bookkeeper	matt@unitybrookfield.org	262-787-8820
Lynn Key	Director of Music Ministry	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888
Nancy Oberhauser	Director of Program Support: Youth Programming, and Pastoral Care Visits	nancyo@unitybrookfield.org	262-527-8869
Denny Thompson	Director of Buildings & Properties	dennyt325@yahoo.com	262-844-0556

Music

Janet Day	Organist	janetday4@me.com	414-975-0286
Stacey Nordmeyer	Praise Band/Handbell Dir	staceynordmeyer72@icloud.com	414-617-7673
Molly Pufall-Brown	Adult Vocal Choir Director	mpufall@gmail.com	920-265-6881
Sydney Haines	Children's Choir Director	sydneyh.unity@gmail.com	847-903-1393

Administrative

Bill Hubert	Website	bill@unitybrookfield.org	414-235-0388
Lynn Key	Administration/Volunteers	lynn@unitybrookfield.org	414-507-5888

Pastors

Justin Kierzek	Pastor	justin@unitybrookfield.org	414-275-1947
Sherrie Lorbeck	Pastor	sherrie@unitybrookfield.org	414-477-7762
Eric Silberschmidt	Interim Pastor	eric@unitybrookfield.org	262-716-9854

COL 5:00 p.m.

Ministers for Saturday, March 21, 2026

Worship Coordinator:
 Greeters: Mary Jo & Jim Eggert
 Acolyte:
 Ushers: Kevin Grabowski
 Worship Assistant: Melanie Rooney
 Reader: Melissa Grabowski
 Communion Assistants: Cheryl Caraulia, Melissa Grabowski
 ABC: Cheryl Caraulia
 Musician: Will Kiefer
 Sound: Kay Koepsel-Benning
 Visual Projection: Duane Maas
 Song Leader:
 Sunday School Teacher: Phil Roemaat
 Sunday School Support:
 Nursery: Ali Allar

COL 8:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 22, 2026**

Worship Coordinator: Kathy Bruhnke
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Charlotte Quinnell, Logan Lunak, Noah Kiefer
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Jolene Epding
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC: Lisa Nass
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound: Mike Aprahamian
Livestream: Bennett Hahn
Visual Projection: Charlie Nass
Song Leader: Bill Hubert
Sunday School Teachers: Danielle Butula, Laura Bengs, Davida Kroepfl
Sunday School Support:
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell
Coffee: Bernd Bruhnke

CTK 9:30 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 22, 2026**

Greeters: Confirmation Student, Marge Kipp
Acolyte: Eliza Van Hoorn
Ushers: Confirmation Student, Jerry Kipp
Worship Assistant: Eric Godfrey
Reader: Confirmation Student
Communion Assistants: Barb Borkenhagen, Patty Zais
ABC: Patty Zais
Musician: Praise Band
Visual Projection: Mary Huss
Song Leader: Praise Band
Sunday School Teachers: Megan Van Hoorn
Sunday School Support: Robin Nordstrom
Nursery: Bree Godfrey
Coffee: Barb Borkenhagen

COL 10:45 a.m.**Ministers for Sunday, March 22, 2026**

Worship Coordinator:
Greeters: Confirmation Students
Acolyte: Clara Miesfeld, Josephine Toussaint
Ushers: Confirmation Students
Worship Assistant: Fred Varin
Reader: Confirmation Students
Communion Assistants: Confirmation Students
ABC:
Musician: Will Kiefer
Sound: Confirmation Students
Visual Projection: Confirmation Students
Song Leader:
Sunday School Teachers: Jennifer Loverine, Jamie Toussaint
Sunday School Support: Tiffany Reay
Nursery: Chloe O'Connell