



6626 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago, IL 60631 + www.edisonparkchurch.com + 773-631-9131
Mission: To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.

Dear Friends, March is here and it's filled with so much. Please remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour on March 10th. It's better to turn your clocks ahead on March 9th just before going to sleep. This way, when you get up, you are at the correct time.

We are halfway through Lent. Lent is where we are to look into our hearts and see what gets in the way of our relationship with God. There are some things we can do to help with our relationship with God.

1 Prayer- This isn't big words or lengthy prayers. It's just about having a conversation. Talk to God as you would someone close to you.

2 Serving- When we serve and help someone, we take the focus off of ourselves. Jesus tells us that whatever we do to the least of these, we do to him. Helping someone in need is what we are called to do.

3 Read the bible- The bible not only tells us of how much God loves us, but also all that God has done for us. Join a bible study/small group. This is a great way to grow in your faith and community.

4 Worship- Come to worship regularly. It helps with understanding with what God is trying to tell us and you will feel a stronger connection to our community of faith. Worship has many facets to it. It's about thanking God for all we have been given. Experiencing singing songs of praise with other Christians is an amazing feeling; and receiving forgiveness through the Lord's Supper, that gives us new life.

5 Forgiveness- To forgive because we've been forgiven. Forgiveness lifts the pain of the hurt off of you and offers a new life. It truly has to be one of the most difficult of human acts, not only to give but also to receive. It is also one of the greatest gifts we can give or receive. Forgiveness says the past will not define us.

Holy Week and Easter are coming soon. It starts with Palm Sunday on March 24th with services at 9 am and 11:00 am. March 28th is Maundy Thursday with services at 12 pm and 7 pm. March 29th is Good Friday with services at 12 pm and 7 pm. Easter is March 31st with services at 6:30, 9, and 11:00.

There will be a special Easter service on Saturday, March 30th at 5 pm. Also, this service is for 1st responders, medical staff, and anyone who can't make Easter Sunday services because of work.

I love Easter, and some days make that happen, starting with Palm Sunday; with Jesus' triumphant ride into Jerusalem. The people are shouting for joy that Jesus is there.

(continued to the next page)

To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.

Then we have Maundy Thursday where we receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, and then Good Friday is a time to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for our sins. I want to invite you all to come in person and experience Holy Week in the fullest way.

These days are powerful and meaningful. They are filled with passion, betrayal, pain, and suffering, but there also is victory and grace (unconditional love and forgiveness). Easter morning is when God's promise of salvation comes to fruition. Because of Jesus, we have hope of a new life.

To all of the people who watch us online, we truly hope that one day, if you are able, you will come to church and experience our amazing congregation that is here at EPLC. Your worship experience will have a greater impact when you experience the passion and love that comes from Jesus in community.

Peace, Pastor Joe

Memorials Edison Park Lutheran Church is grateful for the following donations for the Window Funds:

In Memory of Barbara Smith

Given by
Glenda J Sayre
John & Susan Klas
Marge Doud

In Memory of Jerry Gaede

Diane Wilk

Gifts to the Foundation

Glenda Sayre
Gary Duszak
Karen Svendsen

[Meet our Church Council](#)



Dear Friends,

On Ash Wednesday we began a pilgrimage, a journey in which each step we took matched one in a story. We began with ashes on our forehead, ashes that were made from the palm branches of Palm Sunday. As we continue on our Lenten journey, this month we walk with Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the city where crowds welcomed him on the Sabbath by spreading palm branches under his feet, and where he was executed by the week's end.

And by the end of this month we'll gather for Holy Week, Good Friday, and the Easter celebration. For Christians, this is the highlight of the church year. Without the resurrection, it would just be another change of seasons. But as believers in Christ, we know that Jesus defeated death on that first Easter morning, and because he lives, we shall live also! This would be a great opportunity to invite friends, neighbors, or co-workers to come and hear this Good News!

The season of Lent gives us a chance to pause from our often hectic and over-scheduled days and reflect on how God is leading us and guiding our path. Remember that we have a God who loves us, forgives us, and accepts us – just as we are. There's nothing we can do to make God love us more, and there's nothing we can do to make God love us less. God loves us unconditionally and we are never outside of his care.

Lent is a journey towards the cross. And towards a tomb, and the mysterious, unending joy of those who found that tomb empty. This journey is a chance to rewrite our own stories, to take the chaotic and traumatic events of our lives and rewrite them into a new story, a new life. Only God in Christ cannot merely forgive sins, but make the sinner whole. Only he has the grace, which can change a sinner into a saint.

Easter is a living expression of the hope that God has brought into the world through the death and resurrection of Jesus. This hope of renewal and new life, both present and future is at the heart of the Good News. We are commissioned to share this hope with others. Who will you tell, and who will you invite, to come and hear the Good News that Christ is risen?

A much-loved tradition here at EPLC is the cross that is covered with Easter lilies on Easter morning. If you're new to our congregation, you might not know that it is the same cross that stood bare all during Lent inside the altar rail, and it was made from the last real Christmas tree that we had in the sanctuary. It holds a lot of history and tradition, and it's something that is very meaningful to many people. It's a labor of love to create the Easter cross and I'm thankful to the volunteers who have agreed to take on the project again this year. With so much change in our world, it's nice to still carry on a tradition that is so meaningful. After the Easter services, we put the cross outside for the community to see. If you'd like to donate toward the cost of this beautiful tradition, please just indicate "Easter Cross" on your envelope. You can also designate your donation as a memorial to honor a friend or loved one. Memorials are a great way to honor those dear to us, while at the same time providing a financial blessing for this ministry.

As we complete our Lenten journey and walk the path to Calvary, we remember that we have a Savior who loved us enough to die for us. And as we celebrate the Resurrection, we have the assurance that we will be united with him in a resurrection like his. Accept the grace and forgiveness that marks you as a redeemed child of God. Rejoice in that Good News!

Easter Blessings to you,
Deacon Carole Edwards



Children, Youth and Family Newsletter



edisonparkchurch.com

@eplc_cyf // @edisonparkchurch

CYF NEWS

February was a busy month for Children, youth and families! High schoolers attended an escape room, and confirmation students had a great time at Lutherdale for a retreat.

In March, we have many more fun events coming up! On March 9th, high school students are invited to laser tag! The cost will be \$10; we will meet around 3:15 and return around 5:30.

On March 17th, high school youth group will meet in the youth room from 6:45-8pm.

On Palm Sunday, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt in the Sunday Room from 10-11am between the two services.

The next church-wide bowling will be on March 2nd at 6pm! Don't forget about our weekly occurring events: Blast and confirmation on Wednesday evenings, Toddler Playgroup on Thursday mornings, and Sunday school on Sunday mornings.

If there is any event you would like to see for youth and families in the upcoming months, do not hesitate to reach out! I am always open to suggestions.

-Kaya Hougen

WEEKLY EVENTS

- ✓ Blast: Wednesdays
5:30-6:30pm
- ✓ Confirmation:
Wednesdays 6:45-
7:45pm
- ✓ Toddler Playgroup:
Thursdays 10am-12pm
- ✓ Sunday School:
Sundays 10-11am

MARCH EVENTS

March 2nd

Church-wide
bowling 6pm

March 9th

9th-12th: Laser Tag
3:15-5:30pm

March 17th

9th-12th: Youth Group
6:45-8pm

March 24th

Easter Egg Hunt: Sunday
School Hour 10-11am





MARCH 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 
3	4	5	6 	7	8	9 
10	11	12	13 	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20 	21	22	23
24 	25	26	27 	28	29	30
31 						



Blast and Pathfinders will happen every Wednesday at 5:30.



Confirmation is for grades 7-8, and meets every Wednesday at 6:45 in the Youth Room.



EPLC church-wide bowling night will be on March 2nd.



Our high schoolers are invited to laser tag on March 9th.



Agape will be meeting on Sunday, March 17th from 6:45-8pm in the Youth Room.



There will be an Easter egg hunt on March 24th during the Sunday school hour.



NO BLAST OR CONFIRMATION 3/27: Spring Break




Follow @eplc_cyf on Instagram for updates!



JOIN OUR ANNUAL

EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH
SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR:
10AM-11AM



EDISON PARK
LUTHERAN CHURCH
6626 N OLIPHANT AVE
CHICAGO, IL 60631



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EDISONPARKLUTHERAN
EDISONPARKCHURCH.COM

Online Church Directory

We're sending out the link to create your own username and password again, the link will **expire in a month**.

Instructions after you receive the invite:

- 1) Click on the link to create your username and password.
- 2) After entering the site, Click the "My Profile" tab and enter information as you'd like.
- 3) Upload a photo.
- 4) Click "Update" to save after changing any information.
- 5) Click on "Families" tab
- 6) Click on your Family and add information
- 7) Click "Update" to save
- 8) The Administrator must add Members to Families. Please send an email to an Admin (below) to make any additions.



Edison Park Lutheran Church

6626 North Oliphant
Chicago, IL 60631



HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday	9:00a & 11:00a
Maundy Thursday	12:00p & 7:00p
Good Friday	12:00p & 7:00p
Saturday, March 30	5:00p
Easter Sunday	Sunrise 6:35a, 9:00a & 11:00a

www.edisonparkchurch.com
773-631-9131

To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.

Edison Park Lutheran Church Easter Flower Order
Order must be received by March 17th



Remember your loved ones with a lily, peace lily, mum, Gerbera daisy or begonia.

Donor _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Easter Lily \$10 _____ x \$10 each = _____

Peace Lily \$10 _____ x \$10 each = _____

Gerbera Daisy \$10 _____ x \$10 each = _____

Begonia \$10 _____ x \$10 each = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

- ☐ Please deliver my plant to the homebound _____
- ☐ I will pick up my plant (after the 11:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday)
- ☐ I will deliver a plant to a home-bound _____

Please make check payable to Edison Park Lutheran Church and write "Easter flowers" in the memo section.

Easter Flowers:

Remember your loved ones with a lily, peace lily, gerbera daisy or begonia for Easter. Forms can be found at the Welcome Desk. Order must be received by March 17th.



We're seeking donations once more this year to fund the Easter

Cross flowers. Kindly note "Donation for Easter Cross" on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your support.



Lent 2024 'Stone Soup' Gatherings



We are gathering again on Wednesdays to journey the 2024 Lenten season together! Soup lunches

and suppers are back due to popularity! Be sure to invite your friends for some great soups and fellowship.

The beloved children's story *Stone Soup* tells the tale of how everyone brought something to add to the pot--and it made a most delicious soup! Perhaps you will be so inclined to make a food contribution towards making homemade soup each week.

Contributions must be to church before noon Tuesdays

Sundays, during coffee hour is the perfect time to drop off any labeled 'Stone Soup' contributions to the kitchen fridge or center countertop table.

Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m.

The magic of prepping our own 'stone soup' will take place in the church kitchen.

Time commitment is 1.5 -2 hours.

Whatever is on hand will be used in the soup as much as possible. Anyone is welcome to join the fun chopping vegetables and stirring the pot. Let's see what we can create together! Men welcome!

Tables set up will be done Tuesdays as well.

Suggested food items:

Carrots 1-2# bag
Celery bunch
Cabbage
Leeks
Potatoes (white preferred)
Onions (white/yellow)
Fresh tomatoes or canned ANY type
Fresh parsley
Squash (any type)
Frozen corn, spinach, any mixed veggies
Dried lentils
Dried split peas
Frozen tortellini or dumplings (any type)
Great Northern or light red kidney beans (canned)
Large boxes soup stock (chicken, beef or vegetable)
Noodles, (smaller size, please!)
Pearl barley or rice
Packaged or canned soup mixes are OK

Ash Wednesday--Feb 14

Both soup lunch and supper will be served
Soup Lunch follows 12 noon Lenten service

Soup supper will be served from
5:45 until 6:45 p.m. in South Hall

February 21

February 28

March 6

March 13

March 20

**Server sign up online or call church
office--773.631.9131**

Cindy can't do it alone...☺

Make/prep soup -OR- set up Tuesdays?

Come at 1:00 p.m.

Serve soup Wednesdays?

Servers should arrive 10:30 a.m. or 5:00 p.m.

RSVP Cindy Davies

cindydavies@sbcglobal.net

Text: 773.520.4372



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Service Opportunity
Saturday, April 6, 2023
2:30pm

31 reserved spots are available.
Please contact the church office no later than
Monday, April 1st.

740 Wiley Farm Court.
Schaumburg, IL 60173

To reserve a spot (s) for transportation with the church Van,
please contact Leslie
We will meet in the church parking lot
@ 1:15pm and take the Church van.

To reserve a spot (s) for transportation with the church Van,
please contact Leslie. We will meet in the church parking lot
@

1:15pm and take the Church van.

9 spots available on the church van.

Pastoral
CARE

Please contact Pastor Joe at
224-204-7554 or Deacon Carole Edwards at 773-580-3617 when you are hos-
pitalized or whenever you would like a phone call or a visit. Even if you would
rather not have a visit, we would still appreciate the opportunity to pray for
your healing.

Window donations: \$60,002.00



The Veterans Task Force will be collecting food items
for the O'Hare Airport USO from now through March
24th. Donations of individually wrapped snack items
would be appreciated. For example: sm. bags of chips,
pretzels, cookies, granola bars, gum, candy bars,
etc. Unfortunately, no home baked goods are accept-
ed at this time. Donations can be dropped off at the
Welcome Center. (The USO is a rest and recuperation
area in the airport for our traveling military men and
women.) We thank you for your donations and
support towards our mission.

TODDLER PLAYGROUP



EXTENDED TIME BEGINING

FEB 2024: 10am-12pm

Thursday Mornings

Edison Park Lutheran Church

6626 North Oliphant Chicago, IL 60631



Altar Flowers: If you would like to order altar, pulpit or baptismal flowers, please call the office or email Leslie (lmartinez@edisonparkchurch.com). We ask for one week's notice. Altar flowers: \$40 (for a set of two) or Pulpit or baptismal flowers: \$25

EPLC Medical Lending closet: Items available for loan: **walkers, wheelchairs, bath chairs, wheelchairs, toilet seats and crutches.** Please call the church office **773-631-9131** or email lmartinez@edisonparkchurch.com ahead so we can make sure we have the item you need.

Do you receive our Friday weekly email? Look for "News and events at EPLC" email in your spam, if not please call the church office 773-631-9131 or email Leslie @ lmartinez@edisonparkchurch.com

The Men's Ministry meets on the second Saturday of the month for men's breakfast at Jimmy's on Rand Rd 1440 Rand Road, Des Plaines at 8:00am.

Tap into Theology at Edison Park Inn on first Tuesday of the month from 7:30pm. This will be a time of looking at all that is going on in our city, country and world and how we respond. through the eyes of faith and what Jesus calls us to do and be.

Edison Park Lutheran Church Book Club List

The Book Club meets the second Thursday of the month in the Atrium.

March 14th Lessons in Chemistry

April 11th Guilty Not Guilty

May 9th

June 13th

July 11th

August 8th

September 12th

October 10th

November 14th

December 12th



Scheduling a Baptism?

Contact the church office at 773-631-9131 to begin the process.

Scheduling a Wedding?

Contact the church office to get your date on the calendar, and we'll help you in the initial stages.



Easy Exercise Class 55+ Every Tuesday and Thursday @ Edison Park Lutheran Church 6626 N. Oliphant

Exercise Class 55+

Every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:25am.

Chicago Fitness Plus Community Exercise Classes are offered at 30 locations throughout the City.

Each class lasts approximately 45 minutes. The exercises start slowly and easily and gradually progress to more difficult levels so everyone can participate. Each class focuses on cardiovascular fitness, strength training, flexibility and balance and is both enjoyable and effective.

We kindly request \$2.00 donation

Questions, please feel free to contact
Gary Duszak at 8bocks45car9@sbcglobal.net
or the church office 773-631-9131



Edison Park Lutheran Church
www.edisonparkchurch.com
Church office: 773-631-9131
Email: lmartinez@edisonparkchurch.com



EPLC

LET'S GO BOWLING

(Once a month From November 2023 thru May 2024)

Saturday, November 18th
Saturday, December 16th
Saturday, January 6th
Saturday, February 3rd

Saturday, March 2nd
Saturday, April 6th
Saturday, May 4th

ADULTS AND H.S. YOUTH WELCOME

Edison Park Inn @ 6:00 pm
Cost: \$15 per person cash/check at
the door - \$70 per person in advance
for the season (7 weeks/\$10 per week)
Checks payable to Edison Park Lutheran Church
Includes 3 games and shoe rental.

Please contact the church office to
reserve your spot.
lmartinez@edisonparkchurch.com
773-631-9131 or sign up at the
welcome desk.

Edison Park Lutheran Church — MARCH 2024

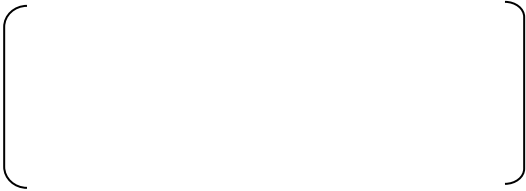
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <div>North Hall</div> <div>Conference Room</div> <div>Work Room</div> <div>Nordblad Atrium</div> <div>Sunday School Room</div> </div> <div> <div>South Hall</div> <div>Youth Room</div> <div>Outside location or remote</div> <div>Choir Room or Sanctuary</div> </div>					1	2
					9:00a - Mission Quilt Makers	5:00p - Worship
3 9:00a - Worship 10:00a - Coffee Hour 10:00a - Sunday School 11:00a - Contemporary Worship 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed	4 6:00p - Quartet Rehearsal 6:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - Families Anonymous 7:00p - AA 7:30p - Bible Study	5 8:25a—Easy Exercise Group 5:00p—Bell Rehearsal 6:15 Choir 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous 7:30p Tap into Theology	6 12:00p- Lenten Service Stone Soup Gathering after service 5:30 Blast 5:30 Pathfinders 5:45 Stone Soup Supper 6:45 Confirmation 7:00p- Lenten Service Stone Soup Gathering after service	7 8:25a—Easy Exercise Group 10:00a—Toddler Playgroup 7:30p - EPLC Book Club 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)	8	9 8:00a The Men's Ministry men's breakfast at Jimmy's 3:15p Agape Laser Tag 5:00p - Worship
10 9:00a - Worship 10:00a - Coffee Hour 10:00a - Sunday School 11:00a - Contemporary Worship 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed	11 6:00p - Quartet Rehearsal 6:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - Families Anonymous 7:00p - AA 7:30p - Bible Study	12 8:25a—Easy Exercise Group 5:00p—Bell Rehearsal 6:15 Choir 6:30p - Finance Committee 7:00p - Church Council 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous	13 12:00p- Lenten Service Stone Soup Gathering after service 5:30 Blast 5:30 Pathfinders 5:45 Stone Soup Supper 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Lenten Service 7:00 Boy Scouts Leadership Meeting	14 8:25a- Easy Exercise Group 10:00a—Toddler Playgroup 6:30p—Rising Stars Auditions 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)	St. Patrick's Day 9:00a - Mission Quilt Makers	16 12:00p—Rising Stars Auditions 5:00p - Worship
17 9:00a - Worship 10:00a - Coffee Hour 10:00a - Sunday School 11:00a - Contemporary Worship 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 6:45p—Agape	18 6:00p - Quartet Rehearsal 6:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - Families Anonymous 7:00p - AA 7:30p - Bible Study	19 8:25a—Easy Exercise Group 5:00p—Bell Rehearsal 6:15 Choir 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous	20 12:00p Lenten Service Stone Soup Gathering after service 5:30 Blast 5:30 Pathfinders 5:45 Stone Soup Supper 6:45 Confirmation 7:00p- Lenten Service	21 8:25a—Easy Exercise Group 10:00a—Toddler Playgroup 6:30p—Rising Stars Auditions 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)	22	23 12:00p—Rising Stars Auditions 5:00p - Worship
24 Palm Sunday 9:00a - Worship 10:00a - Coffee Hour 10:00a - Sunday School 11:00a - Contemporary Worship 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed <hr/> 31 Easter Sunday 6:35a Sunrise Service 9:00a - Worship 10:00a - Coffee Hour 10:00a - Sunday School 11:00a - Contemporary Worship 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed	25 6:00p - Quartet Rehearsal 6:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - Families Anonymous 7:00p - AA 7:30p - Bible Study	26 8:25a—Easy Exercise Group 5:00p—Bell Rehearsal 6:15 Choir 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous	27	28 Maundy Thursday 8:25 Easy Exercise Group 10:00 Toddler Playgroup 12:00 Service 7:00p Service 8:00p Al-Anon (men)	29 Good Friday 12:00 Good Friday Service 7:00p—Service	30 5:00p—Worship Service

To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.



Return Service Requested

TIME VALUE-DATED MATERIAL



www.edisonparkchurch.com
773-631-9131

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Chicago, IL 60631

