

*Our Mission: To boldly live out our faith
in Jesus through worship, fellowship,
and service to God and our neighbor,
here and around the world.*

September 2025

DETAILS
ON PAGE 8



God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS	BLAST 2024-2025	MISSIONS APPLE PIE BAKE SALE
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God's Work. Our Hands!



1 Corinthians 15:58 says, "Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

Mark your calendars for a morning of worship, service, and fellowship on Sunday September 7th.

We will be worshipping at 9:30AM with a special blessing for all BLAST teachers, Confirmation Adult Small Group Leaders, and backpack blessing. (Kids, please bring along your backpack to worship.) At 10:30, we will gather for a variety of projects for all ages. We will also have a live petting zoo from 10:45am to 11:45am in the back parking lot. A picnic lunch will be served at noon with pork chops on a stick, beans, coleslaw, bars, coffee, water, and lemonade. Come for a meaningful day of sharing God's love with our fellow neighbors in the body of Christ and help us kick off the school year in a big way. If you don't have a yellow T-shirt, please feel free to pick one up from the gathering area.

Project list!

- Assemble health kits for Lutheran World Relief that will be sent around the world to those in need.
- ELCA Good Gifts and giving an offering towards an animal that helps with a specific world need like helping families to grow crops, daily nutrition, and ongoing supply of protein-rich meals.
- Assemble Care Bags
- Assemble Women's Care Kits
- Kids will be able to decorate cards with watercolor paints
- Cleaning pew cushions in the sanctuary

We hope to see you and your family on Sunday, September 7th

Pastor Cole

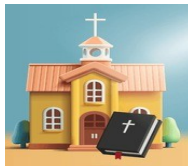
WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays: 9:30AM Worship
8:30 Traditional Worship
(Begins Sept 14)
10:45 Contemporary Worship
(Begins Sept 14)

Tuesdays: 2:00PM Fairmont Cable TV
Channel 12 (pre-recorded)

Wednesdays: 6:30PM Praise in Sylvania Park
6:30 WOW - Worship on Wednesday at Grace (Begins Sept 17)

***Sunday services will be streamed on Facebook, YouTube, and our webpage.**



Senior Living Worship Services: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10AM on the Memory Care side with Communion at Goldfinch, and every 2nd Monday of the month, 10AM, at Lakeview Methodist home in the 3rd-floor activity space, with communion. Please come and worship with our friends and members of Grace!

Blessing of the Animals! Bring your furry family member to Sylvania Park on Wednesday, September 3, at 6:30PM for an animal-themed worship service. Our praise band will lead us in silly animal songs and all of our scriptures and prayers will focus on God's gift of animals. The service also includes a time of bringing your animal forward to receive a blessing, even if it is from a cell phone picture or in an enclosure. Well mannered creatures only, please. Small farm critters are welcome too!



Fall Programming Returns:

The kick-off to fall programming begins with God's Work. Our Hands Sunday on September 7 followed by BLAST and Confirmation orientation for parents, students, teachers, and small group leaders on Wednesday, September 10. On Sunday, September 14, we return to 8:30AM Traditional Worship, 9:35AM Adult Education and Fellowship Hour, and 10:45AM Contemporary Worship. Open Door Meal, BLAST, WOW Worship on Wednesday, and Confirmation resume on Wednesday, September 17. We look forward to seeing everyone again and new faces too as we follow Jesus together.

BUSINESS OF GRACE

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting, August 2025

CORE VALUES: Faith, Christ-Centered Community/Connections, Service

Our Mission: **To boldly live out our faith in** **Jesus through worship, fellowship, and** **service to God and our neighbor, here** **and around the world.**

Members Present: Pastor Allison, Jane Reiman, Troy Nemmers, Chery Brumbaugh, Jaime Core, Joyce Eisenmenger, Ardel Prescott, Andy Kryzer, Corey Klanderud, Nancy Backer

Members Absent: Pastor Cole, Kirstin Bressler, Kris Boerner, Mark Morris

Devotional: Chery
Gathering Prayer: All

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 6/15/2025: approved via email.

Approval of Financial Report:
Motion by: Joyce. Second by: Andy.
Motion Carried.

Team Reports: Sent via email for review prior to meeting.

Discussion:

- Hearing assistance provided at today's service with positive results. Will continue trial before proceeding with purchasing them. There will be a trial of 75 inch flat screen TV with a congregational survey the next three Sundays to see the congregation's response before ordering a

second to replace the screens.

Old Business:

- Constitution status update: We are awaiting Synod constitution updates from the Churchwide Assembly held the last week of July. Once received, we will review/incorporate these updates into our draft. SE MN Synod anticipates a November review/approval of Grace's constitution. This will then be voted on at our annual meeting.

Discussion took place on how to share the new constitution (which hasn't been updated in 12 years) with the congregation. We will get a letter out to alert the congregation that this is coming and provide a time for discussion at our budget preview meeting the week before the annual meeting.

New Business:

Review of updated employee handbook (recommendation from Personnel Team). Council approved updates which include moving staff to a fully paid Christmas Eve holiday instead of half a day and giving staff their birthday as a flex vacation day. Motion to approve: Del. Second: Nancy. Motion carried.

Discussed results of membership database updating. Next step, determine which "children" in our database are confirmed as they have voting rights.

Discussed what defines a member at Grace. The current constitution states that a member communes and gives financial support at least once a year. As we update our constitution, should we amend this to include as members those whose

stewardship is of their time and talents instead of treasures? Pastor Allison will speak with Pastor Emily Carson at the Synod for clarity on this issue of membership and stewardship.

Consider future Council members for fall recruitment (October deadline). Chery has connected with several frequent summer service attendees about this and will do follow-up.

Pastor Report Highlights:

- Pastor Allison

Grace's Financial Picture: The 2025 Stewardship Drive will begin on Sunday, September 14 between the services. Council Co-President Troy Nemmers and Treasurer Mark Morris will present a financial snapshot of the congregation, celebrating what God is doing through your financial offerings, with an overview of current building and grounds projects, and taking questions.

Rivers of Living Water: This is our theme for the 2025 campaign where we will tie in our calling to follow Jesus from our baptism. The font on September 21 and 28 will be “overflowing” into six blue buckets, each representing a major budget area: Administration, Worship, Youth & Families, Fellowship & Outreach, Facilities & Maintenance. Our key verses: Jesus said, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” (John 7:37-38)

Database Cleanup Completed:

✦ Total Current Membership: 1,425 members

- Adults: 902
- Children: 484
- Homebound: 37
- Pastors: 2

Policies Now Updated: The wedding guide, funeral guide, building use policy, and memorial gifts policy are updated and found on the GLC website. The employee handbook has been updated by the Personnel Team for Council approval. Following this approval, all active policies are now up to date.

- Pastor Cole
 - **Coordinating and scheduling a youth lock in** for this upcoming school year. The lock-in will be led by staff from Lutheran Lakeside Camp in Spirit Lake and will be hosted here at Grace.
 - **Coordinating and starting a senior high weekly offering** on Wednesday nights at 7pm that will start in September for 10th, 11th, and 12th graders. Will begin on September 17th.
 - **Updating our evacuation plan** for Wednesday night activities. This information will be posted in all the classrooms and looking at having a practice drill sometime this fall.
- **Pizza with the Pastors** on Sunday, September 28th for any family new to Grace or interested in possible membership in the future.

Other Business:

- Jaime reported, on behalf of the CYF Team, that they are down to only five or six volunteers, need more help as it is a very busy team, with much to be done.
 - The CYF Team is requesting a paid position of 10 hours per week and has provided a very detailed description of

tasks broken down by month. Much discussion ensued with more to come during budget discussions for 2026.

- o The numbers of youth continue to increase which is wonderful!
- + 101 kids ages preschool-6th grade signed up for the Wednesday night BLAST program for the 2025-2026 school year!
- + 61 confirmation kids grades 7-10 registered for the upcoming school year 2025-2026!
- + 102 youth participated in our summer Vacation Bible School program the week of June 16-19, 2025. We need 18 adult volunteers in BLAST and 7 adult volunteers in confirmation EVERY Wednesday night to effectively run the children's programming here at Grace.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2015 at 11:45am.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Andy.
Second: Chery. Motion Carried.

Council prayed the Lord's Prayer together.

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die. John 11:25



In profound grief and hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we announce the death of Vickie Berhow. Rest eternal grant Vickie, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Gracious God,
Surround the family of Vickie with your love, and grant them your peace, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come. Thanks be to you, O God, for you give us the victory through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

MEMORIALS:

Donna Waterbury Memorial

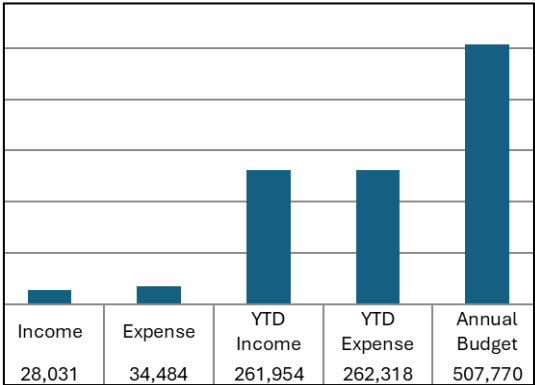
Harry & Chery Brumbaugh People Helping People

Taffy Hastings Memorial

Harry & Chery Brumbaugh People Helping People

Thank you for your memorial gifts!

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT FOR JULY



CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

September 10: 5:00PM - 7:00PM Back to Fall Orientation Night for BLAST and Confirmation Families in the Sanctuary!

September 18: BLAST & Confirmation begin!

BLAST, PreK - 6th Grade: 5:30PM - 6:25PM - This includes Cherub & Alleluia Choir, learning lessons, and fun!

Wednesday Worship: 6:30PM - 7:00PM

Confirmation, 7th-9th Grade: 6:30PM - 7:45PM

Open Door Meal: 4:45PM - 6:15PM - Beginning Sept. 17, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a meal.

Baby Bible Class: A newborn through age 2 Bible class that meets the first Sunday of each month. The next class will be Sunday, September 14th 9:40am in the primary two classroom downstairs due to God's Work Our Hands on Sunday, September 7th. We will be looking at the Widow's offering story, continuing to learn the song/actions for "Jesus Loves Me", doing a small craft project and having snacks. Older siblings, parents, grandparents, etc. are all welcome. We hope you can come and join us.



Senior High Bible Study: A new offering for 10th, 11th, and 12th graders will be starting on September 17th and will meet weekly on Wednesday nights from 7pm to 7:45pm throughout the school year. Connecting with one another, Bible Study, occasional fellowship outings, and more. For more information contact Pastor Cole.



B.L.A.S.T. and Confirmation Registration forms are still available to fill out!
Visit www.gracelutheranchurch.org, and click on
BLAST/Confirmation Registration & Teacher Sign-Up 2025-2026.

Youth Save the dates

- September 7th @ 9:30AM Worship - God's Work Our Hands + Blessing of the Backpacks
- September 10th @ 5:30PM - Back to Fall Night for BLAST & Confirmation Families
- September 17th - BLAST & Confirmation begin
- September 28th @ 10:45AM Worship - 2nd Grade Bible Presentation
- October 26th - Reformation Confirmation Sunday

Watch for more detailed information to come!

The Children, Youth and Family Ministry team would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of those who helped make our VBS - Day Camp an amazing week this summer! We are grateful to each and every one of you,

THANK YOU!

We need your help!

*The Children, Youth & Family team is prayerfully looking for BLAST teachers for the 2025-2026 year. Teaching sessions are divided by seasons. Please contact a CYF team member if you feel called to help.

*Our BLAST classrooms are in need of glue sticks. Donations can be placed in the basket in the gathering area.

TIME TOGETHER

God's Work. Our Hands! Barnyard Style!



God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

We will be worshipping at 9:30AM with a special blessing for all BLAST teachers, Confirmation Adult Small Group Leaders, and backpack blessing. (Kids, please bring along your backpack to worship.) At 10:30, we will gather for a variety of projects for all ages. We will also have a live petting zoo from 10:45am to 11:45am in the back parking lot. A picnic lunch will be served at noon with pork chops on a stick,

beans, coleslaw, bars, coffee, water, and lemonade. Come for a meaningful day of sharing God's love with our fellow neighbors in the body of Christ and help us kick off the school year in a big way. If you don't have a yellow T-shirt, please feel free to pick one up from the gathering area.

Lutheran World Relief Health Kit Donations Needed!

For God's Work. Our Hands Sunday, we will be assembling kits and need the following items.

Please drop off new items, still in original packaging, in the Gathering Space. Our goal is to assemble 100 kits to be shipped to people in need around the world. If you have a Thrivent Action Team card that you would like to donate for this project, please see Pastor Cole.

- ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ONE adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- ONE sturdy wide-tooth comb
- ONE metal nail clippers

We currently have:

35 Towels
86 bars of soap (200 needed)
46 Toothpaste
42 Combs
35 Nailclippers

NOTE: Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name OR any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.



PERSONAL CARE KITS

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:



x1

One light-weight bath-size towel
(between 20"×40" & 52"×27"),
dark color recommended



x2

Two bath-size bars
(4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any
brand, in original wrapping



x1

One adult-size toothbrush in
its original packaging*



x1

One sturdy comb,
remove packaging



x1

One metal nail clippers
(attached file optional),
remove packaging



Wrap all the items in the
towel and tie securely
with ribbons or yarn.



Projects for God's Work. Our Hands!

- Assemble health kits for Lutheran World Relief that will be sent around the world to those in need.
- ELCA Good Gifts and giving an offering towards an animal that helps with a specific world need like helping families to grow crops, daily nutrition, and ongoing supply of protein-rich meals.
- Assemble Care Bags
- Assemble Women's Care Kits
- Kids will be able to decorate cards with watercolor paints
- Cleaning pew cushions in the sanctuary

We hope to see you and your family on Sunday, September 7th!

The Annual Grace Lutheran Missions' Apple Pie Bake will be held on Saturday, September 20. This is a fun, multigenerational event held to raise funds for Mission projects. We will be making approximately 200 pies and need both workers and eaters (pie purchasers). With many workers, we have been able to complete this task in about half a day.



Workers are needed for peeling apples, rolling crust, pie assembly, as well as several other miscellaneous tasks. Most shifts are around four hours. If you are unable to work that long or need to be seated, we will find something that you can do. Just add a note to your sign up sheet noting when you can work and if you need to be seated. Sign-up sheets for workers will be available on the table by the Mission Bulletin Board in the Gathering Area. All workers will get a slice of pie at the end of their shift.

Sign-up Genius Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4DA9AA28A6F94-58049947-glcmissions>

Pie order forms will also be available on the table by Mission Bulletin Board. If you aren't able to fill out an order form at church, you may call or text and leave a message for Louise Hendricks at 507-235-3090. Please say and spell your name, provide your phone number, and list the quantity and crust preference of pies you wish to order. A return call will be made to confirm your order.

Apple pies may be picked up on Sat. Sept. 20th from 12:00-2:30 p.m. or on Sunday, Sept. 21st (8 am – Noon). Pies available for a donation of \$17.00 each or \$15.00 each if you buy 3 or more.

Name _____

Phone _____

(Unbaked pick-up on Saturday only)

	Quantity	Quantity
Baked pies	Regular crust _____	crumb crust _____
Unbaked pies	Regular crust _____	crumb crust _____



Lunch at the Lake on Tuesday, September 16: Come join your pastors for Lunch at the Lake! Let's take advantage of the wonderful warm weather and our beautiful lakes. On the third Tuesday of the month, from April to October, bring your lunch and a lawn chair to the beach at Gomsrud Park. If there is rain, we will meet in the shelter house at the picnic table. We will meet at noon for fellowship with a brief devotion and prayer at 12:15pm. Come on your lunch hour and stay for as little or long as you can. This is a fun, casual, and informal way to stay connected as the body of Christ at Grace! For more information, please see one of the pastors.

Monthly Men's Breakfast: Men of all ages are invited to a monthly breakfast at The Ranch restaurant on the first Monday of the month. Come for a devotion, fellowship, and good breakfast food.

When: Monday September 8 at 7:00AM

Where: The Ranch Restaurant

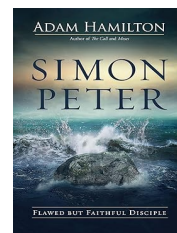
Why: Because Jesus says that when a few are gathered in his name, he's there too!



Open Door Meal Returns: Beginning on Wednesday, September 17, Wednesday night programming returns. A wonderful part of our mid-week faith night is our Open Door Community Meal! We thank Amber Hanson and our volunteer teams for serving each meal.

Dinner runs from 4:45pm to 6:15pm. Our goal is to have enough food to feed all guests while not having too many leftovers as some cannot be frozen. We do our best to estimate but numbers can fluctuate. If you would like to be part of a serving team that serves three times a year, please contact Nicole at office@gracelutheranchurch.org. We look forward to seeing you in the Fellowship Hall soon!

Adult Education Returns This Month! Grab your coffee and donut holes and head to the Lounge for casual conversation and faith formation. On September 14, we will begin this program year with a financial update from Co-President Troy Nemmers and Stewardship Chair Mark Morris. Then on September 21, we will start a series entitled *Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple*. Hope you will come and invite a friend!



Cup of Hope Welcomes You! Anyone experiencing grief, whether new or old, is welcome to Grace's monthly *Cup of Hope* grief coffee. This gathering will include a brief devotion on grief and time for coffee and conversation. As the Apostle Paul tells the early church, through Jesus, we have hope in the promise of new life to come where we will be reunited with those we love. Beginning in September, we will meet in the Lounge on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at

Noon. Feel free to bring a lunch as we share in this walk together and hear encouraging words of God's love and comfort along the way. For more information, please see Pastor Allison. Jesus said, "Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy." – John 16:20



Interested in Serving At Grace? Whether you are new to Grace or have been a part of this worshipping community for years, it can be difficult to join a new ministry and start serving as a volunteer. The pastors and staff at Grace want to make this process simple by encouraging you to sign-up on the bulletin board above the Care Table in the Gathering

Space. Nicole will contact you and connect you to the ministry team leader for more information. Additionally, the yellow Grace Welcome brochures have each ministry's contact information, and you may email that team member directly. We hope to bring awareness of all the wonderful ways to share our gifts of time and talents for God's ministry here at Grace. If you have any questions, please visit with one of the pastors.

Pizza with the Pastors: For everyone who is new to Grace, who have recently joined the church and those who may want to join in the future, come for a fun lunch with the pastors! Join us for a time of getting to know one another, learning about the ways to plug into Grace, and answering any questions you might have. We will meet at Noon in the Lounge on Sunday, September 28th. Please let the office know if you plan to attend so we can order the right amount of pizza. Hope to see you there!



Faith Night at the Mankato Moon Dogs!



Thank you to the 28 people who purchased tickets for this year's fellowship night at the ballpark! It was beautiful weather, the kids had fun, many hot dogs and goodies were consumed, and good conversation was had. We hope you can join in the fun next year!



Worship by the Water



ANNOUNCEMENTS



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

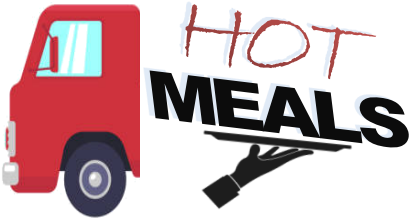
Thrivent Action Team Grants Needed!

Are you a Thrivent member? If so, you likely are eligible for two \$250 action team grants a year. These grants can be used to fund many

ministry projects here at Grace. This summer, we could use grants for the following ministries: The food pantry, God's Work. Our Hands health kits, new toilets, lawn supplies, care bags, tech for worship, confirmation supplies, and so much more. Please speak to one of the pastors and they can help you in requesting a grant. Thank you!

Needed Food Pantry Items:

As you shop for your groceries, please consider adding the following for the Grace Food Pantry: Cereal, microwavable meals, ramen, canned meat or chili, mac & cheese.



Hot Meals on Wheels: Do you have time to deliver a hot meal to people in our community? We are looking for volunteers for the first 2 weeks of September. Meals are picked up at door #1 at Lakeview Health Cafe Center on Summit Ave at 11:30. Watch your email for the Sign-Up Genius, coming soon!

Grace's Financial Picture: On Sunday, September 14 between the services, Council Co-President Troy Nemmers and Treasurer Mark Morris will present a financial snapshot of the congregation. Grab your coffee and donuts and head to the Lounge for this update at 9:40AM, celebrating what God is doing through your financial offerings, with an overview of current building and grounds projects, and taking your questions.



Member List Ready for Pick-up on Sunday, September 7! Everyone is invited to pick up a print-out of our entire member list with contact info. This includes members who did not have a picture in the directory. If you need this mailed to you, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone that has helped to donate school supplies that was part of worship by the water last month. We had a tremendous response. These supplies will be divided between Fairmont, Granda/Huntley/East Chain, Martin County West, and Truman.



Want to Fund a Buildings & Grounds Project???

(Project estimates are subject to change)

Lower-level entry paint project	\$100
Baby changing station for Men's main floor restroom	\$300
Hearing Assist Devices for Worship	\$3500
Unisex handicap accessible Fellowship Hall restroom	\$10,000
Sanctuary projector	\$20,000



For more project information, please contact the office or see our maintenance worker, Brad. Please specify in the memo line where you would like your donation designated. Thank you!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

✝ **Prayer Shawls & Squares:**

Shawls and Squares knitted and prayed over as items of comfort. These are available for you to gift to someone in their time of need.

✝ **Prayer Group:**

Meets every Tuesday to lift up in prayer, friends, families, & loved ones on our Prayer List.

✝ **Care Ministers:**

Visit homebound members monthly, who would like communion and some conversation.

✝ **Open Door Meals:**

Volunteers help cook and serve meals every Wednesday evening during the school year.

✝ **Meal Ministry Team:**

Deliver meals to those who are struggling, injured, recovering from surgery or treatment, or added a new family member!

✝ **Funeral Meal Servers:**

Help to provide hospitality while serving meals during Funerals at Grace.

✝ **Care Bags:**

This team assembles bags with essential items provided for visitors in need.

✝ **People Helping People:**

A team who responds to requests submitted from people in need of financial assistance or resources, food assistance, and resources.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity! You are invited to the kick-off presentation for our 2025 Stewardship campaign on Sunday, September 14, between the services. Troy Nemmers and Mark Morris will provide an overview of our financial picture at Grace as well as the Stewardship Campaign for the Fall. Grab your coffee and donut holes and join the Stewardship Team in the chapel for this presentation and discussion.

Rivers of Living Water: Overflowing Generosity in Faith

One of Jesus' great teaching parables involves a sower who cast seed along the ground. The sower hoped the seeds would sprout, grow, and bear good fruit. Some seeds did just that, producing a great harvest. But others, Jesus said, fell among thorns and, though they began to grow, these good plants were quickly choked out. Jesus said the thorns were "the cares of the world and the lure of wealth" (Matthew 13:22).

In a culture where having "enough" seems to have become a never-ending pursuit, Jesus' parable remains incredibly relevant. Many of us are chasing the American dream in ways that lead to stress, anxiety, and fear—thorns that can rob us of the ability to enjoy the abundant lives of purpose that God intended for us. All of us have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore.

This is why, over the next several weeks, we will be having a stewardship emphasis called *Rivers of Living Water: Overflowing Generosity in Faith*. During this time we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management through a series of bulletin inserts, newsletter articles, and resources on our Stewardship Table in the Gathering Space. In John's gospel, Jesus proclaims, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" (John 7:37-38)

In our baptisms, we were freed from our sin, and raised to new life, through the death and resurrection of Jesus. We were given a life-long call to follow Jesus and let our life overflow with love for God and one another. As those baptismal waters were placed on our heads, we were given this commandment to bless others as we have been blessed. Giving generously of our gifts, skills, time, attendance, hospitality, and financial support ensures that the life-giving ministries of the church continue.

This month, we will be remembering our baptism in worship and our call to give generously. We invite you to come and hear the promises of God for you and for your neighbor. In November, we will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments in worship and celebrate the blessings God provides at our Thanksgiving Worship. We hope you will join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

For more information, please speak with one of our Stewardship Team members: Mark Morris (Chair), Kirsten Bressler, Becky Johnson, Pat Jones, Jane Reiman, and Becky Whitmore, Cindy Wohlhuter.

Schedule of Events

September 14, 2025- Financial Update: 9:40AM Church Lounge

September 21, 2025- Stewardship Campaign Overview and Thanksgiving for Baptism in Worship

November 23, 2025- Thanksgiving Worship and Dedication Sunday: Thanking God for Our Blessings

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

Ministry Assistants for February- 8:30AM Traditional Service

	Sunday, Sept. 7	Sunday, Sept. 14	Sunday, Sept. 21	Sunday, Sept. 28
Communion Preparer	N/A	Sharon Elliot Jennifer Moore	Kirsten Bressler Nancy Backer	Joyce Eisenmenger Peggy Jones
Communion Server	N/A	Karen & Allen Struck	Mary Kotewa Marian Holland	Joyce Eisenmenger Peggy Jones
Greeters				
Lector	Joice Forster	Amber DeClercq	Ben Jordan	Allen Struck
Sound Tech	Jolene Rosol	Justin Schmidt	Darlon Widener	Mark Vogelsang
Ushers	Dan Kehrberg, Roger Voss, Wayne Olson, Rod Palmquist, Darrel Krahler, Jane Reiman, Paul Seibert, Josh Ensrud	Dan Kehrberg, Roger Voss, Wayne Olson, Rod Palmquist	Dan Kehrberg, Roger Voss, Wayne Olson, Rod Palmquist	Dan Kehrberg, Roger Voss, Wayne Olson, Rod Palmquist

If you are unable to serve on your day, please find a replacement and ask them to let the head usher, Brian Huebert, know when they arrive. If you can't find a replacement email Brian at bhuebert_ford@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Ministry Assistants for February- 10:45AM Contemporary Service

	Sunday, Sept. 14	Sunday, Sept. 21	Sunday, Sept. 28
Communion Preparer	Brenda & Randy Lubenow	Connie & Bruce Donnelly	Abby Ehlert Colleen Ehlert
Communion Server	Elayne Baumgart Abby Ehlert	Deb & Brian Roggow	Connie & Bruce Donnelly
Greeters			
Lector	Debbie Morris	Abby Ehlert	Joice Forster
Sound Tech	Amber Hansen	Louise Hendricks	Enos Brietbarth
Slide Tech	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ushers	Darrel Krahler, Jane Reiman, Paul Seibert, Josh Ensrud	Darrel Krahler, Jane Reiman, Paul Seibert, Josh Ensrud	Darrel Krahler, Jane Reiman, Paul Seibert, Josh Ensrud

If you are unable to serve on your day, please find a replacement and ask them to let the head usher, Bruce Ehlert, know when they arrive. If you can't find a replacement email Bruce at blehlert@midco.net. Thank you!

WORDS FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, September 7 - Pentecost 13

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Second Reading: Philemon 1-21
Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Sunday, September 14 - Pentecost 14

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-14
Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Sunday, September 21 - Pentecost 15

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart

from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7
Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7
Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Sunday, September 28 - Pentecost 16

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19
Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Sunday, October - Pentecost 17

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14
Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:30am Summer Worship	1 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 9:00am Common Threads Sewing 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired	3 6:30pm Praise in the Park - Sylvania Park - Blessing of the Animals	4 8:00am - 3:00pm Women's CBS Training Day 9:00am Sarah's Circle (Location Varies) 9:00am Women of the Cloth Sewing	5 5:30pm Williams/Johnson Wedding Rehearsal	6 4:30pm Williams/Johnson Wedding
7 9:30am God's Work. Our Hands. - Blessing of the Backpacks 10:30am GWOH Service Projects 12:00pm Picnic Lunch	8 7:00am Men's Breakfast - The Ranch 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Lakeview Senior Worship 5:30pm CYF Team Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:30pm Shalom Circle	9 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 12:00pm Cup of Hope Grief Group 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired 5:30pm Outreach/Fellowship Team Meetings 5:30pm Service Team Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Stewardship Team Meeting	10 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 10:00am Goldfinch Memory Care Worship 5:30pm Back to Fall Night - Orientation for BLAST & Confirmation Families - Sanctuary	11 4:30pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre 4:30pm Missions Team Meeting 6:00pm - 8:00pm Boy Scouts	12	13
14 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am Adult Ed. 10:45am Contemporary Worship	15 Ways of Grace Submission Deadline 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS 6:00pm - 7:00pm Silverlake 4-H	16 12:00am Lunch at the Lake 9:00am Common Threads Sewing 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired	17 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 4:45pm - 6:15pm Open Door Community Meal 5:15pm Chancel Choir Practice 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm - 7:45am Confirmation 6:30pm - 7:00pm WOW - Worship on Wednesday	18 Missions Apple Pie Bake Sale Prep 9:00am Women of the Cloth Sewing	19 Missions Apple Pie Bake Sale Prep	20 12:00pm - 2:30pm Missions Apple Pie Bake Sale
21 8:00am - 12:00pm Missions Apple Pie Bake Sale 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am Adult Ed. 10:45am - 11:45am Church Council Meeting 10:45am Contemporary Worship	22 First Day of Autumn 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	23 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired	24 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 4:45pm - 6:15pm Open Door Community Meal 5:15pm Chancel Choir Practice 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm - 7:45am Confirmation 6:30pm - 7:00pm WOW - Worship on Wednesday	25 1:00pm Ways of Grace Assembly Team 4:30pm - 6:00pm Aktion Club Theatre	26	27 11:00am Baby Shower
28 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:35am Adult Ed. 10:45am Contemporary Worship	29 9:00am - 2:00pm American Red Cross Blood Drive 9:00am - 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Evening CBS	30 9:00am - 11:00am Sewing Circle 1:00pm Weekly Prayer Meeting 1:30pm Women's Bible Study 2:00pm Worship Service Aired	1 9:00am - 12:00pm Women's Community Bible Study 4:45pm - 6:15pm Open Door Community Meal 5:15pm Chancel Choir Practice 5:30pm - 6:25pm BLAST 6:30pm - 7:45am Confirmation 6:30pm - 7:00pm WOW - Worship on Wednesday	2 9:00am Sarah's Circle (Location Varies) 9:00am Women of the Cloth Sewing	3	4

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**MAY THE LORD
BLESS YOU
AND KEEP YOU
THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE
SHINE ON YOU
AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU
THE LORD TURN HIS
FACE TOWARD YOU
AND GIVE YOU
PEACE
NUMBERS 6:24-26**



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