

SCANDIAN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



County Road #52 • Saint Peter • MN • 56082 • 507.246.5195

June 2023

Striving to Live, Love, Serve, all for the Glory of God.



Memorial Day Service

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church of Norseland

Memorial Day Service & Pie



Monday, May 29, 2023

Outdoor service at 12:00 noon

Saint Peter Legion Honor Guard

Come and enjoy pie & coffee after the service

FREE WILL OFFERING

All proceeds go to Scandian Grove Cemetery

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

42869 County Road 52, Rural Saint Peter 56082

PASTOR'S SUMMER Hours & Day Off

Office Hours by appointment only through Labor Day.

Pastor is happy to meet with you at your convenience by calling him at 651-283-0434 or by emailing him at: pastorsglc@gmail.com

Friday: Pastor's Sabbath Day (day-off)

fyi

Pastor Matthew will be taking some **vacation** time from **Monday, June 19 through Sunday, June 25**. Should the need for pastoral care arise during that time, please reach out to Gary Miller or Anna Lokensgard.

Meeting For WELCA Ladies

The churchwomen are meeting on

Saturday, June 3

at **9:00am** at the

Curiosi-Tea House

in North Mankato.

Please reply to Theresa

Bjorklund at 507 304 0417 if you plan to attend AND car pooling rides can be arranged at this time.



Calling all kids
Pre-K to 6th grade!
It's almost time for
Vacation Bible School!



Like last year we will be partnering with Trinity and St. Paul's in Gaylord, but this year we invited **Green Lake Bible Camp** to come and lead Vacation Bible School. VBS will be held on

Monday, July 10

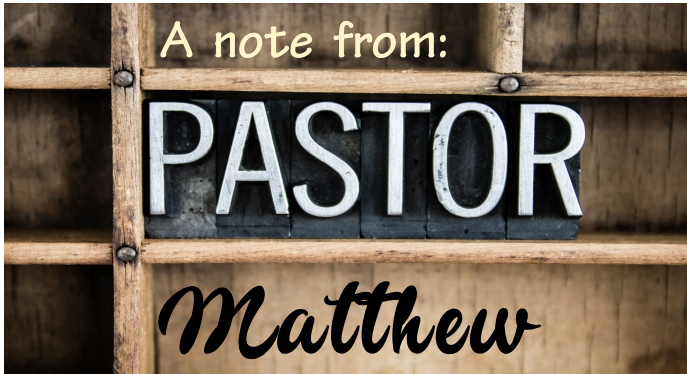
through

Thursday, July 13

in Gaylord at the City Park and St. Paul's from 3:00 to 6:00pm.

On Thursday at 6:00pm there will be a family meal followed by the VBS program at 7:00pm. If interested please fill out a registration form found in the narthex and make checks payable to Green Lake Lutheran Bible Camp, then please return these items to Emily Kleppe by Sunday, May 28. The cost of camp is \$40 per child but if cost is a barrier, scholarships are available so that every kid can go to camp. You can talk to Pastor Matthew confidentially about scholarships.

All are welcome!



A Father Who Can Be Trusted

By Pastor Matthew Garavalia

One of the most common human experiences has got to be the experience of feeling ashamed. All of us have done something wrong to the extent that we feel so bad that we beat ourselves up and tell ourselves we are worthless. And yet despite this being one of the most common experiences, our shame works overtime and tries to convince us that we are the only screw up. We are the only one to make that mistake and no one else is as bad as me. This of course is not

true, but our shame takes on a mind of its own and carries us down the river of self depreciation, self loathing, and self hate. I have been there, you have been there, we all have been there. But if I may, let me reason with you for a moment.

The fact that you have felt shame is a good sign. You have a conscience, you recognize the harm you have done, and can even picture a better way of handling things next time. But the problem most of us have is that we are too ashamed, we hang on to things for too long, and years down the road we are still beating ourselves up for things that others have long since forgotten, long since forgiven.

So let me say that you are not the only one to ever make a mistake. We are all human, we all make mistakes, and no one can judge you, only God can. John Newton was an English slave trader. You may not know the name but you have sung his song Amazing Grace. After recognizing the mistakes that he made he became a minister and he told his people, "If God can love a wretch like me, surely can love a wretch like you."

So it is true brothers and sisters, all of us find ourselves lost, yet God searches for his lost sheep until he finds us. No sin can separate us from his love, and we are never so lost that we cannot be found.

If you are breathing today that means God is not done with you, you still have a purpose to which God loves and God has called you to. Just like John Newton, God has saved you to continue to be his servant. But it is time to let go. We cannot be the servant God has called us to be if we are still beating ourselves up over the sins of our past. Only once we let go of the past can we move forward. So that is the choice we have to make. Will we let the past dictate our future? Or will we lay it down for the one who came to be sin, who knew no sin, and gave his life a ransom for many?

You may think that the mistakes that you have made will be the barrier to minister to others, but soon you will find out that your past, the good, the bad, and the ugly, will be what makes your ministry to others possible. Oftentimes it is the ones who have made the biggest mistakes that God can use in the biggest ways. So never underestimate the power you have to help heal others.

So peace to you brothers and sisters in the warm and beautiful summer months. Wherever you find yourself, know that because the Son has set you free, you are free indeed. Amen.



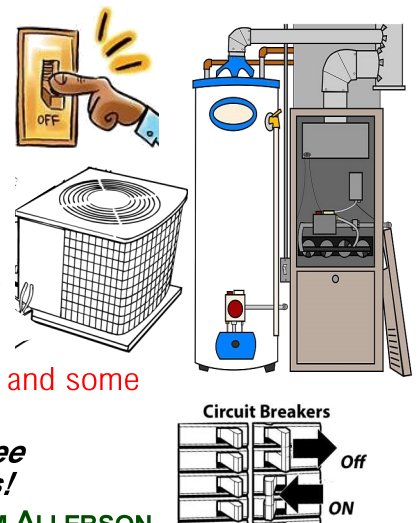
CHURCH PROPERTY GENTLE REMINDERS!

Please alert one or both of the co-chairs of the Property Committee if you adjust, shut-off, or unplug an appliance, utility, or equipment from its regular setting or schedule. Please ensure all lights are shut off before you leave, including the sanctuary, both entries and the outside lights.

In the past, the altar candles were left burning and some lights have been left on in the sanctuary!

Thank you for helping the Property Committee be good stewards of the church's resources!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: CHARLES JOHNSON AND JIM ALLERSON





Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council Minutes Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Members Present

Collin Johnson, Joni Anderson, Theresa Bjorklund, David Hermanson, Dick Kinkeade, Gary Miller, Heidi Scheurer, Rhonda Hermanson, Pam Rogich, Jeff Allerson, and Pastor Matthew Garavalia

Excused Jay Hanson

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm by President Gary Miller

Devotions by Pastor Matthew

Secretary's Report

Dick motioned to approve the April minutes, seconded by Pam and carried.

Financial Secretary's Report for April

Collin reviewed the report for the group. Joni motioned to approve this report, seconded by Rhonda and carried.

Savings Account Balance as of 4/31/23

Family Medical Fund Balance:	\$4,944.56
Improvement Fund Balance:	6,504.06
Memorial Fund Balance:	4,583.96
Scholarship Fund Balance:	7,272.76

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance: (4/1/23)	\$151.11
Total Deposits:	14,493.94
Total Expenses:	-\$13,062.71
Checking Balance:	\$1,582.34
+Sunday School Fund:	562.42
Ending Balance: (4/31/23)	\$2,144.76

Treasurer's Report

David reviewed the report for the group. Pam motioned to approve this report, seconded by Jeff and carried.

Committee Reports

PROPERTY

Spring Clean-up - Held on Saturday, 29, 2023 due to weather

Handrail for Altar Step - Tabled

Trees - Some trees planted in Cemetery, other to come.

Fan Issues and Toilet Issues - In the kitchen to be managed.

Light - In the front of the sanctuary was questioned; Pastor said he has no problem seeing.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Music Copyright - One License acquisition continues to be worked on by Marie E and Vicki H.

EDUCATION

Green Lake VBS - St Paul's Gaylord turn to take the lead – July 10-13. Registration Information is available in the narthex. Visioning Committee of St Paul's, Trinity and SGLC will be discussing VBS specifics. Watch for additional information. Children going into kindergarten thru 6th grade are eligible. The full cost for Green Lake to lead a child is \$100 for the four days. SGLC will pay \$60, registrant to pay \$40. Scholarships are available through Scandian Grove by speaking with Pastor Matthew.

TECHNOLOGY

Fellowship Hall Microphone - The "box" that used to hold the audio equipment was checked; it was found that it was empty. The wireless mic was tested and it does work in the Fellowship Hall.

MISSIONS

"The Kitchen" - Scandian Grove prepared and served 79 meals on Monday, April 3 at "The Kitchen." Thirty two people volunteered and contributed toward the meal – Thanks to ALL. Joni A. has taken the Food Safety Course as a leader for Scandian Grove. Dick made a motion to reimburse Joni \$190 and Pam seconded. Money to come from the Scholarship Fund. Motion Passed.

Food Safety - Heidi and Joni gave a presentation on Sunday that highlighted Food Safety Guidelines to guide members when serving food to other members and guests. Making an effort to help members to be informed of these State Guidelines for the benefit of all is important.

EVANGELISM & SOCIAL MINISTRY

Care Team - Seminary Student, Jill Norell has had a second meeting with eight members of SGLC

and presented details of Care Team Duties that could include visiting, praying, communion and offering support. There were 16-19 Members who were brought forward as possible persons to be visited. This Care Team is meant to supplement those visits made by Pastor Matthew. If there are additional members wanting a visit, contact Pastor Matthew or Jill.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Matthew reviewed the many activities and tasks he has been involved in throughout the month. Pastor and Jeff will graduate from Connecting Nicollet Co on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Old Business

Constitution - The Constitution Committee continues to meet and is now seeking input from the Synod Representative. Recommendations for updates were presented to the Church Council for input; all recommendations made to the Council were approved. Proposed full Constitution will be submitted at the June meeting for Council approval. The updated proposed copies of the SGLC Constitution will be made available to the SGLC Members for review and will be voted upon at the 2024 Annual Meeting.

New Members - A brief "Information Sheet" has been created and handed out to the New Members. A New Member Bulletin Board will be created and include photos and this additional information.

All Committee Meetings - Discussion regarding the importance of All Committee Sunday(s) to help Committee Members discuss Committee duties and set goals to move forward. Dates: Sunday's, June 11 and 19, 2023. Gary has divided up the Committee's and will get this information to the Newsletter Coordinator.

Training on Defibrillator Use - to be done by Jeff in July. He will provide the training to Church Members at Sunday morning coffee time.

Council Retreat - A Council Retreat was discussed and it was decided it would be a beneficial opportunity. Possible topics to be included: Goal Setting, Donation Wish Lists, Constitution Review, Grow as Spiritual Leaders. Dates: Morning of Saturday, September 9, 2023, then after Annual Meeting in 2024 with new Council Members.

Pictures From Library - Are being worked on and will be put into an album. Tabled.

New Business

GIFT Sunday Update - will be hosted by St Paul's on Sunday, May 28; there will be no service at SGLC. Council asked to think about how the GIFT Sundays went and give feedback at the June meeting.

Graduate Recognition - First Sunday, June 4. Council to provide cake/ice Cream. Gary will order cake, Pam to purchase ice cream.

Church At The Fair - SGLC lead church services at the Nicollet County Fair that has been successful in past years was discussed. Motion made by Heidi and seconded by Pam to sponsor a Church Service on the Sunday morning of the Fair. Pastor will preach, volunteers will be sought. Thrivent Action Team sponsorship will be sought to help with an after service treat for those in attendance.

Prayer Chain - Motion made and passed to accept persons who are not SGLC Members to be a part of the Prayer Chain. Pastor routinely requests permission to include information on the prayer chain when appropriate.

Connecting Nicollet County Leadership Training - will be held again Fall 2023. The Council has approved sponsoring an interested SGLC Member.

Summer Church Services - will be held on the 2nd Sunday of the month weather permitting. Will be held the months of June, July and August. Joni made the motion, Collin seconded, motion carried.

Adjournment

Dick motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm, seconded by Heidi and carried.

Next Meeting

On Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 6:30pm hosted by Heidi Scheurer.

Communion Assistants for June are Pam, Gary, and Heidi.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Bjorklund

Church Council Secretary

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Linda Swenson** who passed away on Saturday, November 18, 2022.



NOTE: *They will be a private committal service on Sunday, June 11, 2023 at the Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Cemetery.*

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.” Matthew 5:4

Remember in prayer...

We pray for those who are having difficulties in their relationships, the lonely, neglected, hungry, and those financially strained, those fighting anxiety and depression, recuperation from illness and surgeries, those grieving the loss of a loved one, and those serving in the military along with their families still at home. Lord, hear our prayers. Amen.



Summer Worship Hours will remain the same. **Worship at 9:30am** with a time for fellowship following. Outdoor Worship Services will be held on the **second Sunday of the month** beginning with June 11. Please dress appropriately and throw in a lawn chair. As always, if the weather is not cooperative, we have the option for a “game day call” to move it indoors.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS			
3	Blake Webster	22	Emily Kleppe
	Paul Norell		Robert Hanson
6	Philip Carl Kleppe	23	Garfield Eckberg
9	Katelynn Beaupre		Jodee Hanson
10	Lisa Klockmann	24	Patricia Foss
13	Jonnica Mayer		Daniel Gunderson
16	Justin Anderson	26	Laura Speiss
17	Joni Anderson	28	Charles Johnson
19	Cortney Norell		Richard Gaalswyk
20	Emmett John Jaeger	29	Tera Malyszko
21	August Allerson		



A new **Lay Ministry Care Team** has been developed. They have organized and begun making home visits to assist with the needs of our church community. The early responses to this ministry have been very positive.

I have developed this ministry as part of an assignment to develop a leadership project for my Seminary education. I chose to begin a ministry to assist Pastor Matthew and Pastor Scott Richards with the visitation needs of the churches. Although this is an “assignment”, my intention is that this will be an ongoing ministry within the community for years to come.

For those wondering how this may affect Pastor Matthew’s work, this does not replace his visiting schedule. It will allow people to be seen more frequently, between Pastor Matthew’s home visits. It has been found to expand and strengthen the care within communities that incorporate this type of ministry.

Confidentiality is of utmost importance in this process. It is vital that this be a safe place to share what is on your heart, without judgment, and receive support, prayer, and God’s love. Communion will also be available, for those who have been unable to attend church in person.

This will be a time of transition and learning for the whole team. More ministry efforts may develop as needs are recognized. I welcome any suggestions that you may have. Please contact Pastor or myself if you want a visit, or know of someone who wishes to be seen. We are also open to adding members to our team.

I want to take this time, also, to THANK the Church Council and Congregation for your support of my Seminary experience. \$500.00 were donated toward my education, which I am so grateful for. It is this kind of caring for our neighbors, that I wish to return to you, and continue in new ways in time to come.

Blessings to all of you, as we live & serve together.
Jill Norell

Next Meetings: Monday, June 5, at 6:30pm & Monday, June 19, at 6:30pm

You did it! *Congratulations*



Kelyse Engel

Daughter of Paul & Marie Engel
Graduated from Nicollet High School
Future Plans: Bemidji State University for Criminal Psychology

Reegan Kelly

Daughter of Kris & Patti Kelly
Graduated from University of WI, Stevens Point
Degree: Bachelor of Science in Clinical Lab Sciences
Future Plans: Clinical Technologist at ThedaCare Medical in Wild Rose, WI

Graduate Recognition Sunday

on
Sunday, June 18, 2023
After worship, cake and coffee will be served
in honor of the graduates of SGLC!

Andrew Kendall

Graduated from University of Iowa
Degree: Doctorate of Vocal Music
Future Plans: Choral Director at Gustavus Adolphus College Fall 2023

Seth Lokensgard

Son of Tim & Anna Lokensgard
Graduated from University of Wisconsin, River Falls
Degree: Bachelor of Science in Crop and Soil Science
Future Plans: Sales Associate United Farmer's Coop-Winthrop

Symon Schott

Son of Spencer Schott and Amber Colegrove-Schott
Graduating from Saint Peter High School
Future Plans: South Central College for Automotive & Body Repair

Tia Schott

Daughter of Marty Schott and Rachel Gintner-Schott
Graduated from the University of Wisconsin, River Falls
Degree: Bachelor of Science in Animal Science with a minor in Agricultural Business
Future Plans: She plans to remain in her area of study for employment, but has not formally accepted an offer for employment at this time.

Magnus Soderlund

Son of Bill & Beth Soderlund
Graduated from Saint Peter High School
Future Plans: South Central College

Chase Wilking

Son of Jason & Jessica Wilking
Graduated from Nicollet High School
Future Plans: Central Lakes of Spicer for Heavy Equipment Operator



I • M • P • O • R • T • A • N • T



All Committee Meetings Scheduled

Church Council voted to have **All Committee Sundays on Sunday, June 4 and Sunday, June 11.** All Committee Members listed in the Schedule Book should try to attend. Anyone with any interest or concern in a topic is welcome to join to explore or add input.

The meetings will be after church during coffee hour in the back of the Fellowship Hall.

The suggestion is to have some Committees meet the **FIRST WEEK** (Sunday, June 4)

- ✦ Education
- ✦ Evangelism and Social Ministry
- ✦ Historical Committee
- ✦ Mutual Ministry
- ✦ Stewardship

And the **SECOND WEEK** (Sunday, June 11)

- ✦ Missions
- ✦ Personnel
- ✦ Property
- ✦ Technology
- ✦ Worship and Music

THANK YOU TO ALL FOR SHARING THEIR TIME AND TALENTS!!



Congratulations to
ANDY LARSON & RICK PETERSON
who were married at Scandian Grove
on May 1, 2023.



Quilting continues on
Mondays at 9:00am for the
Quilters, and on Saturday,
June 17, at 9:00am. Bring
a bag lunch if you like.

*Anyone is welcome
anytime!*

Contact Donna Pankratz with questions.

	<u>June 2023</u>	<u>July 2023</u>
ALTAR GUILD	Judy Schultz	Kelly Norell
READERS	Maria Lokensgard	Jay Hanson
USHERS	Norm & Joanne Wolf	Lee Schott, Paul Engel
COUNCIL COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Jay Hanson Heidi Scheurer	Joni Anderson Collin Johnson
COUNCIL HOST	Jay Hanson	Jeff Allerson

New Member

Spotlight

**Mackenzie
& Spencer
Dickenson**



Welcome!

We're so glad you're here!

Spencer & Mackenzie Dickenson hail from New Ulm and Mankato. They moved into one of the homes across the road from Scandian Grove and are really enjoying country life and country music! The couple has a golden retriever named Ruby. Spencer enjoys hunting and fishing and Mackenzie "anything creative." Yellow lemonade is a favorite for Spencer and pink for Mackenzie. Steak/Seafood or Other? Steak all the Way!!

Saint Peter is the hometown of **Tanner Jaeger**. After living in a Twin Cities suburb, he and his family (Maddi, Cora and Emmett) have recently moved into the Norell home and will be enjoying lots of Grampa & Gramma time. Tanner's interests include fishing, golf, basketball, and games in general. He is not a lemonade fan though is a fan of food in general!

**Tanner
Jaeger**



Please take time to welcome these new Scandian Grove members!

March Food Shelf Donations Report

A total of \$3,106.00 was split and sent to the Nicollet County, Le Sueur County, and Sibley County Food Shelves. A minimum of 186# was given to these three Food Shelves.

All of the above donations were matched due to being donated in March.



Thank you so much for providing money and food/paper donations to help our communities!

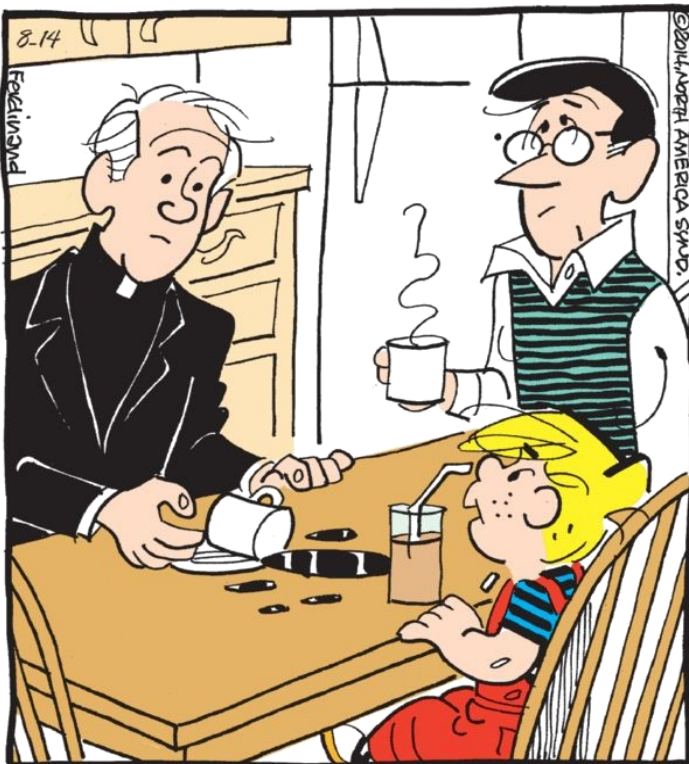
Thank you to the drivers that took all of the food/paper products to the various Food Shelves!

The need is great, and the donations are so very appreciated by these Food Shelves.



Jay Hanson has been moved to Laurels Peak Rehab Center to receive help while he recovers from his accident. The address for Laurels Peak is:

Laurels Peak Rehab Center
700 James Ave Mankato, MN 56001



"DID YOUR CUP RUNNETH OR SPILLET OVER, REVEREND LLOYD?"



Mark your calendar for a **Congregational Discussion**

on

Being Mortal

on Sunday, July 16, 2023 at 4:00pm
at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

Facilitated by

Pastor Matthew & Jackie Rodning



Mankato Moondogs will hold four **Faith Nights** this season. If anyone is interested in forming a group of ten or more, the ticket prices are reduced.

2023 Faith Nights

- ◆ Sunday, June 4th @ 5:05pm
- ◆ Sunday, July 9th @ 5:05pm
- ◆ Sunday, July 23rd @ 5:05pm
- ◆ Sunday, July 30th @ 5:05pm

Special Ticket Pricing:






\$6 Premium Grandstand Tickets for *Faith Based Groups* of ten or more.

Add-on Option: A \$4 meal deal can be added to each ticket. A meal deal includes a hot dog, bag of chips, and a pop.

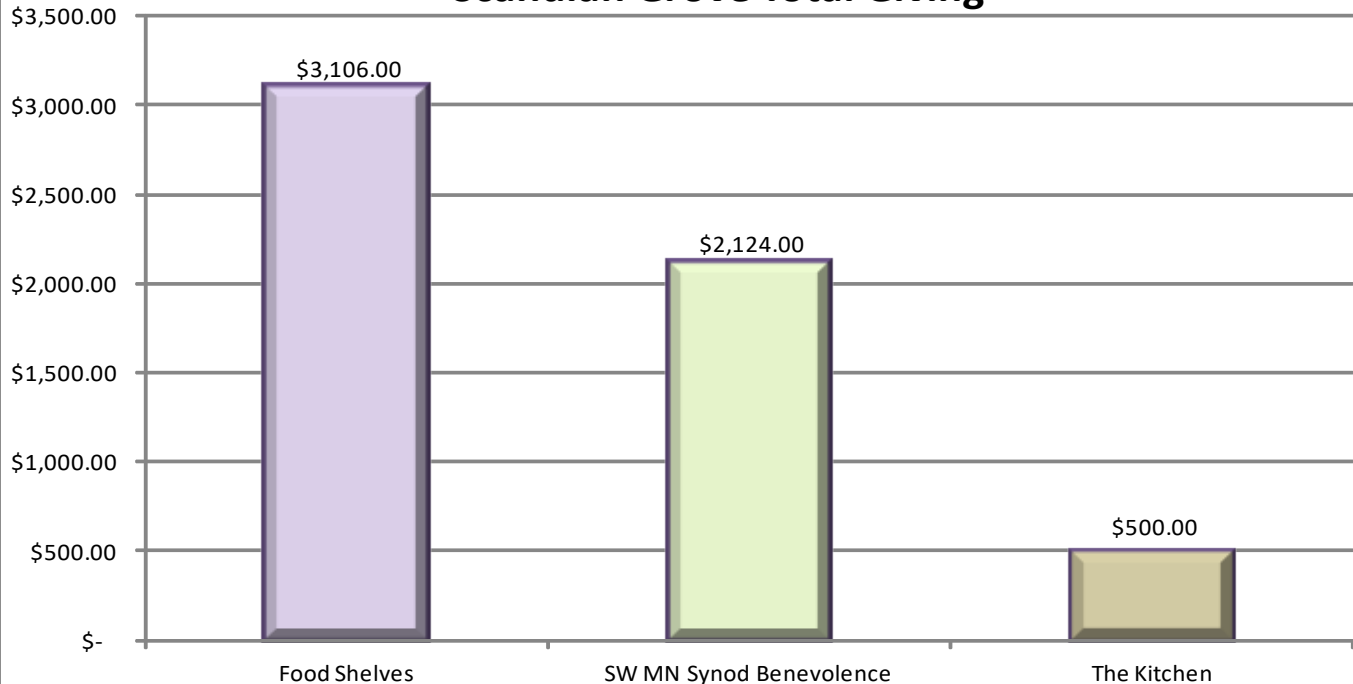
For more details visit their website at: <https://northwoodsleague.com/mankato-moondogs/moondogstickets/group-tickets-2/faith-night>, or call the MoonDogs Office at 507-625-7047.

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Calendar

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Pastor's Day Off	3 9:00am WELCA Meeting at Curiosi-Tea House in Mankato, MN
4 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" All Committee Mtg (wk 1 group)	5 9:00am Quilting 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg	6	7	8	9 Pastor's Day Off	10
11 9:30am Outdoor Worship Service 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 3:00pm Norseland 4-H Mtg All Committee Mtg (wk 2 group) Private Committal Service for Linda Swenson	12 9:00am Quilting	13 6:30pm Church Council	14 Flag Day 	15 Newsletter Deadline Don't Miss the DEADLINE!	16 Pastor's Day Off	17 9:00am Quilting
18 Father's Day Food Shelf Sunday Graduate Recognition Day 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 4:00pm NO Book Club 	19 Juneteenth Pastor on Vacation 9:00am Quilting 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg 	20 Pastor on Vacation	21 First Day of Summer Pastor on Vacation 	22 Pastor on Vacation	23 Pastor on Vacation	24 Pastor on Vacation
25 Pastor on Vacation 9:30am Worship Service with Pastor Humphrey preaching 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	26 9:00am Quilting	27	28	29	30 Pastor's Day Off	<p>PASTOR'S SUMMER Hours Office Hours by appointment only through Labor Day. Pastor is happy to meet with you at your convenience by calling him at 651-283-0434 or by emailing him at: pastorsglc@gmail.com</p>

Scandian Grove Total Giving



Total benevolence giving thru April 30, 2023--\$5,730.00

Financial Report-April 2023

Fund	General Checking Fund Beginning Balance Less Historical/Choir Music/ Keyboard	Deposits/Transfers/ Increases	Expenditures/Transfers/ Decreases	General Checking Fund Ending Balance Less Historical/ Choir Music/Keyboard
General/Checking Fund-\$151.11	(837.94)	14,493.94	12,832.23	823.77
Checking/Pastor's Stole	100.00	-	-	100.00
Checking/Keyboard	389.05	-	230.48	158.57
Checking/Sunday School Funds	562.42	-	-	562.42
Checking/Historical Bldg. Upkeep	500.00	-	-	500.00
TOTAL CHECKING/SUNDAY SCHOOL	713.53	14,493.94	14,443.18	2,144.76
Credit Line	-	750.00	-	750.00
Family Medical Savings Account	4,944.56	-	-	4,944.56
Improvement Savings Account	6,504.06	-	-	6,504.06
Memorial Savings Account	6,131.94	-	1,547.98	4,583.96
Scholarship Savings Account	7,272.76	-	-	7,272.76
Mission Investment Fund	80,611.00	-	-	80,611.00
LPL Fund	35,450.57	957.68	-	36,408.25

THANK-YOU!! Your gifts are "**making a difference**" in the congregation, community, and throughout God's World.



SCANDIAN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 42869 COUNTY ROAD #52
 SAINT PETER MN 56082
<http://scandiangurovelutheranchurch.org>

STAMP

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 30	89
Sunday, May 7	85
Sunday, May 14	91
Sunday, May 21	76



DAILY PRAYER: FATHER GOD, HELP ME NOT TO FOCUS SO MUCH ON OBTAINING MATERIAL POSSESSIONS THAT I LOSE SIGHT OF THINGS THAT ARE MORE IMPORTANT. MAY THE FRUIT OF MY ACTIONS BE OF MUCH GREATER IMPORTANCE THAN THE PERISHABLE GOODS THAT CAPTURE MY ATTENTION. I LOOK TO YOU FOR PROPER BALANCE IN THE THINGS YOU HAVE BLESSED ME WITH AND THE ATTITUDE IN WHICH I RECEIVE THESE GOOD THINGS. IN JESUS' NAME I PRAY. AMEN



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

Website: <http://scandiangurovelutheranchurch.org/>



Newsletter Deadline

June 15

