

SCANDIAN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



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

November 2023

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

Lutefisk & Meatball Fall Supper

served buffet style or pickup



Saturday, November 4, 2023

Serving from 11:00am to 3:00pm

Menu: lutefisk, melted butter, white sauce, meatballs, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas & carrots, buns, lefse, cranberry sauce, apple & pumpkin desserts, milk & coffee.

Cost: \$22 per meal
\$12 for ages 10 and under

White Sauce made on Wednesday, November 1 at 9:00am at church.

Fish Cleaning on Thursday, November 2 at 9:00am at church.

The Council has voted that 100% of the net profits will be going to a charity.

Join us for

THANKSGIVING EVE Service

Wednesday, November 22
7:00pm Communion Worship

We will welcome Elise Wilking to the table for her very first communion.

Join us in this special evening service with a spirit of gratitude for All the Lord has done!

PLEASE NOTE! The Council voted to give all loose and designated offerings from the **Thanksgiving Eve Service** to the **ELCA Good Gifts Program**. The Sunday School is also partnering in the Good Gifts Program. Donations can be given throughout the Advent Season. *Please see the display in the narthex for more information!*

Special Congregational VOTE NOTIFICATION

The current version of the Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Constitution dated February 14, 2010 has been updated by the Constitution Update Committee consisting of Theresa Bjorklund, Bill & Beth Kastens, Beth Kinkeade, and Gordon Rodning. The Committee worked with Pastor Adam Roberts, a Synod Constitution Update Team member and the Scandian Grove Church Council during the update process.

The updated *draft constitution* has been reviewed and approved by the Southwest Minnesota Synod. The Scandian Grove Church Council conducted a special council meeting on Sunday, October 1, 2023 to discuss and vote to accept the updates made to the Constitution. The Council voted to approve the *draft constitution* as written. The Council also voted to approve the Committee's recommendation to call a special congregation meeting to present and vote on the Constitution update on Sunday, December 3, 2023, following the church service.

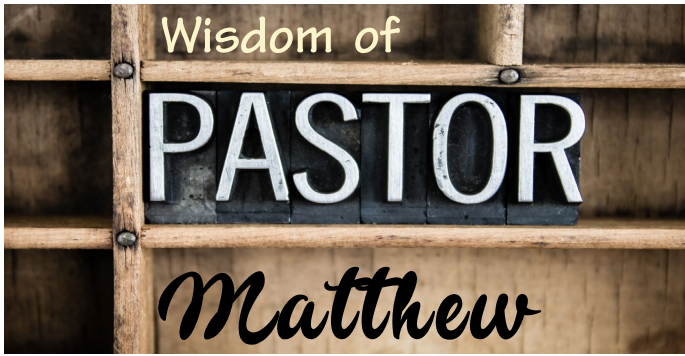
Pending the approval of the *draft constitution* on **Sunday, December 3, 2023**, a second congregational vote needs to be secured at the **February 11, 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting**.

Paper copies of the updated *draft constitution* have been made available in the church narthex since Sunday, October 8, 2023, along with an announcement made prior to that service. Please record your name on the list if you pick up a copy.

Committee members can be contacted to request an **electronic or hard copy version** of the redlined and/or fully updated *draft constitution*.

The Committee welcomes your feedback and questions as Scandian Grove moves to ratify our Congregational Constitution.

Gary Miller
Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council President
Theresa Bjorklund
Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council Secretary



May The Joy Of The Lord Be Your Strength

Dear Beloved Church Family,

As the vibrant hues of autumn paint the landscape and the air turns crisp, our hearts naturally turn towards a posture of gratitude and thanksgiving. In this season of thanksgiving, we are reminded of the immeasurable blessings we have received from our Heavenly Father throughout the year. Despite life's challenges and uncertainties, God's faithfulness remains steadfast, and for that, we are truly grateful.

The practice of giving thanks is deeply rooted in the Christian faith. The Bible encourages us to give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for us in Christ Jesus (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Regardless of our circumstances, a heart filled with gratitude shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have been abundantly given.

Thanksgiving is more than a day on the calendar—it's a way of life. It's an attitude that we carry in our hearts daily, acknowledging God's goodness, mercy, and provision. Psalm 107:1 beautifully states, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Our thanksgiving is a response to God's everlasting love and faithfulness towards us.

This season, let us intentionally cultivate a spirit of thanksgiving in our homes, workplaces, and within our church community. As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us remember to offer heartfelt thanks to our Heavenly Father for His love, grace, and presence in our lives.

At Scandian Grove, we are planning a special Thanksgiving Eve service where we will come together to worship, express our gratitude, and reflect on the blessings God has bestowed upon us. We invite you to join us for a time of joyful praise and thanksgiving as we give glory to God for His goodness & faithfulness. Furthermore, let us extend our gratitude to others around us—our families, friends, colleagues, and even strangers. A simple act of kindness, a word of encouragement, or lending a helping hand can make a significant difference in someone's life. Let us be a beacon of Christ's love and kindness, spreading joy and thanksgiving wherever we go.

As we celebrate this season of thanksgiving, let us remember that our ultimate gratitude is directed towards our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Through His sacrificial love on the cross, He has given us the greatest reason to be thankful—the gift of salvation and eternal life. May your hearts be filled with thanksgiving, and may the joy of the Lord be your strength throughout this season and beyond.

In Christ's love and thankfulness,
Pastor Matthew Garavalia

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council *Special Meeting* **Constitution Update - Sunday, October 1, 2023**

Members Present: Jeff Allerson, Joni Anderson, Jay Hanson, Dave Hermanson, Collin Johnson, Dick Kinkeade, and Pastor Matthew Garavalia

Constitution Committee Members: Beth Kinkeade, Beth Kastens, Bill Kastens

Members Absent: Theresa Bjorklund, Gary Miller, Pam Rogich, Rhonda Hermanson

Call to Order: Vice President Joni Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:48am

The meeting was called in order to go over the Church Constitution and gain the Council approval to move forward with the process to completion. The next steps in the process are:

1.) Send out Congregational Vote Notification 2.) Special Congregational Meeting (First Congregational vote taken) 3.) Second Vote Notification 4.) Annual Meeting (Final Approval of the Constitution)

The Committee had made a few final changes to the Constitution, since the last draft was presented:

a.) An update to the Financial Secretary information. b.) A cover was added as well as an index.

A motion to accept the Constitution as written and presented to us was made by Dick Kinkeade. Motion was seconded by Dave. Motion carried.

A motion to hold a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 3, 2023, to present the Constitution; was made by Dave. Motion was seconded by Collin. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dick, and seconded by Jeff.

Respectfully Submitted, Heidi Scheurer, Council Member



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Members Present

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

Excused Gary Miller, Jeff Allerson

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm and lead by Vice President Joni Anderson

Devotions by Pastor Matthew - Toy Story - Let Our Lights Shine!

Secretary's Report

Rhonda made a motion to amend the September meeting minutes to include that "we discussed and voted to give loose and designated offerings to Jill Norell on the Sunday that she would give her presentation; Seconded by Dick and motion passed." Offerings of support for her seminary costs will be sent directly to the seminary finance department.

Minutes from the Sunday, October 1, 2023 Special Council Meeting were reviewed. At this meeting the final draft of the Constitution was accepted as presented. Rhonda moved that the minutes are approved, Dick seconded. Motion Passed.

Financial Secretary's Report for September

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

Savings Account Balance as of 9/30/23

Family Medical Fund Balance:	\$5,378.08
Improvement Fund Balance:	3,530.78
Memorial Fund Balance:	4,796.44
Scholarship Fund Balance:	6,556.32

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance: (9/1/23)	\$2,095.44
Total Deposits:	9,799.32
Total Expenses:	-\$11,868.20
Checking Balance:	\$26.56
+Sunday School Fund:	597.50
Ending Balance: (9/30/23)	\$624.06

Treasurer's Report

Vicki reviewed the Treasurer's report for the group. After some clarifications, Rhonda motioned to approve this report, seconded by Pam and carried.

2024 PASTORS INSURANCE - Vicki reviewed the ELCA provided insurance options. Silver+ C (\$0-single, \$0-family) was recommended by the Finance Committee, which is the same type plan as provided last year. Pam motioned, Jay seconded to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to offer the Silver+ C as a part of Pastor Matthew's compensation package.

Committee Reports

CONSTITUTION UPDATE COMMITTEE

The Synod has the draft of the Constitution for final approval. The Committee has put together a timeline that includes: Putting notice of the Special Congregational Meeting into bulletins/newsletter beginning October 22, 2023; Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 3, 2023 to review final draft of the Constitution with the Congregation. Final vote on the Constitution at the SGLC Annual Meeting on February 11, 2024.

PROPERTY

Coffee Machine is limping along. Options for possible replacement will be looked into later in the year.

EDUCATION

Sunday School Round-Up was Sunday, September 17 and Bibles were presented. Students, Teachers, and Volunteers were recognized. Blessing of the Backpacks took place the first Sunday in October. Well received.

Discussion regarding date for the **Christmas Pageant**; Rhonda proposed accepting the recommendation, seconded by Dick, motion passed. Pam will put together "Goodie Bags" for after the service. Choir Director will present the option of **Choir Concert** as a part of the same service.

First Communion Education was given to 5th grader Elise W. Thanksgiving Night Ceremony on Wednesday, November 22, 2023.

MISSIONS

Serving at “The Kitchen” - October 30, 2023. Chili, Texas Toast, Salad, Dessert. Monetary donations for supplies will continue to be accepted. Joni and Rhonda to lead - Volunteers needed.

PASTOR’S REPORT

Pastor Matthew reviewed the many activities and tasks he has been involved in throughout the month.

As a result of a local hate incident, the Council discussed how to respond if there is a disruption to our church service. **1)** if someone is singled out, get that person out of the area to safety. **2)** Call the authorities. **3)** Photograph the offender(s). A Safety Committee to be formed to further discuss best practices.

Old Business

Council Retreat - Was held Saturday, September 16, 8:00am - 1:00pm. Topics included: Review of the Wedding and Funeral Books, Constitution Review, GIFT Sunday. Learning our personal strengths and opportunities to better understand our leadership styles. Retreat to be held again after Annual Meeting in 2024 with new Council Members.

GIFT Sunday Update - To be hosted by SGLC on Oct 15. All seems to be in order. Sign up sheets filled, committee leads defined. Worship indoors, intinction. Pumpkins provided by Pam. Hayrides after service. Meal following service.

Fall Supper - Saturday, November 4. Refrigerated cooler use being donated to use for fish and other supplies needing refrigeration. Sign-up sheets still have some spots to fill in.

New Business

Thanksgiving/Christmas - Worship & Music Committee recommends beginning Advent celebration on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, and have Christmas service Sunday, December 24 at 4:30pm. Rhonda made motion to accept the recommendation of the Worship & Music Committee.

Wedding Handbook - reviewed by Council members. Dick motioned to accept the revised wedding handbook, Collin seconded. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Dick motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm, seconded by Jay, motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:30pm, hosted by Collin J.

Communion Assistants for November are Jeff A. and Theresa B.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Bjorklund, Church Council Secretary



	<u>November 2023</u>	<u>December 2023</u>
ALTAR GUILD	Jim Allerson	Joanne Wolf
READERS	David Kleppe	Vicki Hermanson
USHERS	Neal & Joni Anderson	Doug & Judy Schultz Bill & Beth Kastens
COUNCIL COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Jeff Allerson Theresa Bjorklund	Rhonda Hermanson Pam Rogich
COUNCIL HOST	Collin Johnson	Joni Anderson

All Saints Sunday

We will honor all those who have gone before us on **Sunday, November 5, 2023**

This year we remember:

- ♥ Linda Swenson,
- ♥ Kelly Pankratz,
- ♥ Tammy Mosel, and
- ♥ Leland Jonason (non-member)



MEN'S BREAKFAST

The **Churchmen** will meet on **Saturday, November 11 at 8:30am**. All men of the congregation are welcome to join for vittles, visiting, and vital discussions about church mission. Their meetings will be the second Saturday of each month through April.

Advent
Peace

We will be decorating the church for the season of Advent. All who are able are invited to stay after our service on **Sunday, November 26** and contribute to this effort. It doesn't take long and there is no thinking involved! **Come and help prepare for the arrival of Jesus!**

Season of Advent Schedule

- ADVENT** will begin on Sunday, November 26
- Joint Children's & Choir Program** on Sunday, December 17 at 9:30am
- Christmas Eve Day: NO** Sunday morning worship
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship** at 4:30pm
- Christmas Day: NO** worship service
Mark your calendars!

Count Your Blessings

I was humbled and deeply touched by the Council's decision to dedicate the loose offering Sunday for my ministry journey. To stand in front of the faces of my community and sense the support was very moving.

Having an opportunity to share a bit of my current experiences was special. Even more special was how that message changed. I had more written about seminary experiences, but felt God's prompting to share less of that, and instead spend time reminding you how much He loves you! It is that love that drives my passion and I felt it returning through you. Your support of me is something I treasure as I press on. Thank you!

Blessings to all of you, Jill Norell

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS			
1	Matina Rodning	13	Elizabeth Kendall
2	Amy Grundmeyer	16	Dick Kinkeade
5	Wren Eustis	18	Paul Engel
	Kris Kelly		Nicholas Allerson
6	Benjamin Rieger	19	Heather Jonason
11	Susan Johnson	20	Tim Lokensgard
	Lynnette Wiest	23	Harold Bjorklund
	Jennifer Beckius		Carrigan Miller
	Amanda Schultz	24	Marie Renneke
12	Dennis Bjorklund	26	Symon Schott
	Amanda Braun		

New Member

Spotlight

**Dale
Jonason**



Welcome! 

We're so glad you're here!

Please take time to welcome these
new Scandian Grove members!

Dale Jonason, has lived in Gaylord over 20 years. He keeps busy in his retirement and worked for Michael Foods. He and his wife Terri, have a son, Jordon. They enjoy camping, cycling, taking drives throughout the area and spending time with their granddaughters Skylar and ZoeyAnn. Pink Lemonade is Dale's drink of choice, and he is a fan of Fish Frys, Meat Loaf, and Hot Dishes. Dale was baptized and confirmed as a child at Scandian Grove.

Welcome back Dale!

Kris & Patti Kelly, and their three children moved into the Norseland community 19 years ago. Patti works for Thrivent as a Financial Advisor and Kris works for Amcor where he is involved with the manufacture of packaging for health care devices. An avid 4-H family, they were active with sheep, dairy, and rabbit projects; now adults, they are scattered around MN. Kris & Patti have enjoyed making the "Pearson home" their own. Patti is a "horse" person and owns three which she takes on trail rides in the area. Kris is an avid golfer and both like to go camping. The best part of living in the Norseland area is "the people."

"We are a part of a great community!"

**Kris &
Patti Kelly**



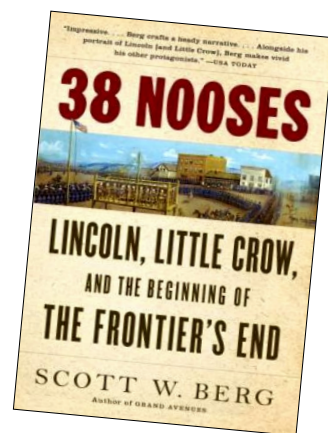
SGLC Book Club invites you to a follow up discuss on
Sunday, November 5, 2023 at
4:00pm at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

38 Nooses

LINCOLN, LITTLE CROW, AND THE BEGINNING
OF THE FRONTIER'S END *By Scott W. Berg*

In August 1862, after suffering decades of hardship, broken treaties, and relentless encroachment on their land, the Dakota leader Little Crow reluctantly agreed that his people must go to war. After six weeks of fighting, the uprising was smashed, thousands of Indians were taken prisoner by the U.S. Army, and 303 Dakotas were sentenced to death. President Lincoln, embroiled in the most devastating period of the Civil War, personally intervened to save the lives of 265 of the condemned men, but in the end, 38 Dakota men would be hanged in the largest government-sanctioned execution in United States history.

Writing with uncommon immediacy and insight, Scott W. Berg details these events within the larger context of the Civil War, the history of the Dakota people and the subsequent United States-Indian wars, and brings to life this overlooked but seminal moment in American history. *A Kirkus review on the book cover.*



In November we will be discussing...
Demon Copperhead *By Barbara Kingsolver*



It's time to consider Poinsettia Orders. The altar will be adorned with these beautiful flowers for our Christmas Eve worship service. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please complete this order form and return it to the church office. Each plant costs \$11.75 and will be delivered to the church. Following the Christmas Eve worship service, you are invited to take it home with you to continue sharing the joy of the season.

HOWEVER, your order form(s) *must* be received in the church office on or **by December 3rd**. **This is a FIRM DEADLINE.** Also, a few order forms can be found in the narthex for your convenience.

The cost is \$11.75 per plant.

Poinsettia Orders

Due on or by December 3, 2023

(Circle correct option below)

Given In memory of / In honor of

Quantity Ordered _____
 X \$11.75 each
 Total Cost = \$ _____

Paid by
 Check / Cash

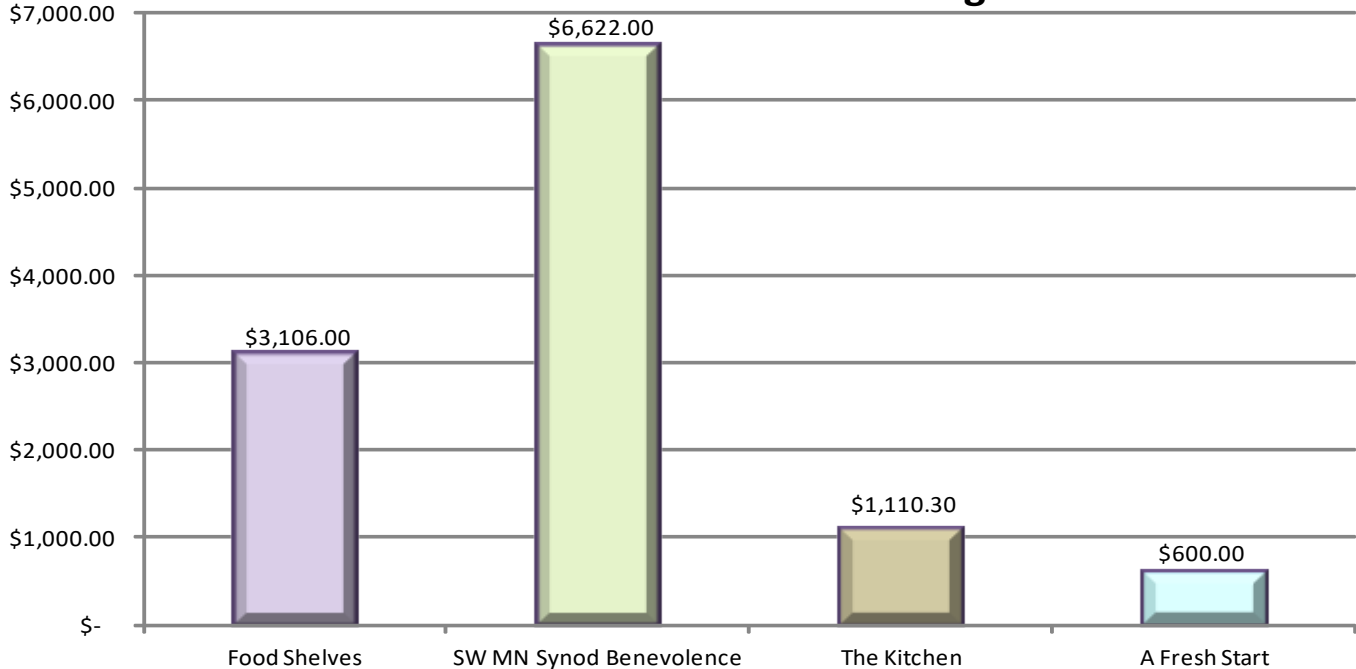
Given by: _____

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Calendar

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00am Make White Sauce 7:00pm Choir practice	2 9:00am Fish Cleaning 9:00am NO Quilting 6:00pm Mission Partnership Mtg at Sibley Trinity Rural Gaylord	3 Pastor's Day Off	4 11:00am to 3:00pm Serving Fall Supper 
5 All Saints Sunday 2:00am Daylight Savings Ends 8:30am Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 4:00pm Book Club follow up discussion at church	6 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg	7	8 7:00pm Choir practice	9 9:00am Quilting	10 Pastor's Day Off	11 Veterans Day 8:30am Men's Breakfast 
12 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 3:00pm Norseland 4-H Mtg	13	14 6:30pm Church Council Mtg	15 7:00pm Choir practice Newsletter Deadline <i>Don't Miss the</i> 	16 9:00am Quilting	17 Pastor's Day Off	18
19 Food Shelf Sunday 8:30am Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30am Worship Service /Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	20 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg	21	22 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship w/First Communion Choir practice after worship	23 Thanksgiving Day 9:00am NO Quilting 	24 Pastor's Day Off	25
26 1st Sunday in Advent 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Decorating for Advent 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	27	28	29 7:00pm Choir practice	30 9:00am Quilting		

Scandian Grove Total Giving



Total benevolence giving thru September 30, 2023--\$11,438.30

Financial Report-September 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-2,095.44	1,067.75	9,799.32	11,868.20	(1,001.13)
Checking/Pastor's Stole	100.00	-	-	100.00
Checking/Keyboard	158.57	-	-	158.57
Checking/Sunday School Funds	597.50	-	-	597.50
Checking/Historical Bldg. Upkeep	769.12	-	-	769.12
TOTAL CHECKING/SUNDAY SCHOOL	2,692.94	9,799.32	13,479.15	624.06
Credit Line	-	300.00	-	300.00
Family Medical Savings Account	5,376.72	1.36	-	5,378.08
Improvement Savings Account	3,529.56	1.22	-	3,530.78
Memorial Savings Account	4,795.23	1.21	-	4,796.44
Scholarship Savings Account	6,554.57	1.75	-	6,556.32
Mission Investment Fund	80,611.00	-	-	80,611.00
LPL Fund-Chgd. to Quarterly Reporting	38,900.15	-	-	38,900.15

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, October 1	78
Sunday, October 8	68
Sunday, October 15	122
Sunday, October 22	87
Sunday, October 29	??



UPCOMING
EVENT

 Find us on **Facebook**
 Like

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

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

Mission Partnership Meeting

The Minnesota Valley Conference Mission Partnership group will meet from **6-8pm on Thursday, November 2 at Trinity Lutheran in rural Gaylord**. The main reason is to follow up and see how the partnership Sunday event went on October 1 and hope to generate more interest. All are welcome to learn more about the ministry. Event starts with a simple meal involving a free will offering.

For more information contact Dave Pedersen, Partnership Secretary at 763-807-0993.



**Newsletter
Deadline**

November 15

