

SCANDIAN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



County Road #52 • Saint Peter • MN • 56082 • 507.246.5195 October 2023

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

Calling All Backpack Carriers

We carry a lot in our backpacks, paper, pens, glue, and all our hopes and dreams for this new school year. So on Sunday, October 1, 2023, we invite all people who carry a backpack, young or old to bring their backpacks to church to receive a blessing.

We look forward to seeing you and your backpacks on Sunday, October 1, 2023!



Quilting will begin again in October at 9:00am on Thursday's. Bring a bag lunch if you like. ***Anyone is welcome at anytime!***
Talk to Donna Pankratz for more information.

The Church Women will hold their

OCTOBER MEETING

at "A-Town Tavern" in Arlington on **Saturday, October 7 at 10:00am**

Brunch will be available for those who choose. **RSVP** to Joni Anderson at 507-380-6691 to arrange for car pooling.

On Monday, October 30, 2023

please join Scandian Grove in serving a meal at

"The Kitchen"

in the **Trinity Lutheran Church kitchen,**
of Saint Peter



We are looking for monetary gifts to cover the cost of the food. In addition, we need volunteer workers to prepare the meal, serve it, and clean up the church.

Please write your check out to SGLC and on the memo line, reference *"The Kitchen."*

Contact Joni Anderson for questions or donations.
Thanks in advance for your support in this mission.

October is **Pastor Appreciation** Month



Pastor Matthew will attend the Theological Conference in northern Minnesota from Sunday, October 8 through Tuesday, October 10, 2023, for encouragement and training from the Synod and his peers. Let us also be an encouragement to him as well as grateful stewards of his spiritual leadership!

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.

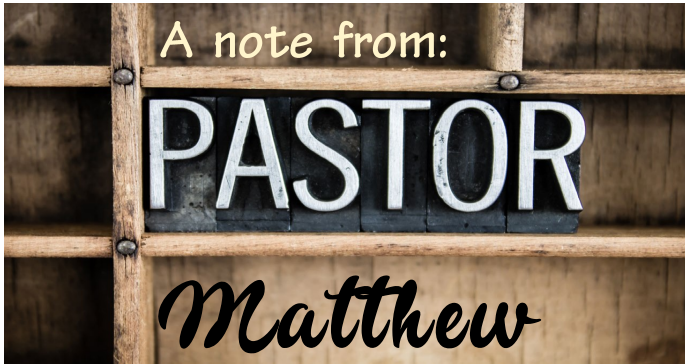
Cost: \$22 per meal
\$12 for ages 10 and under

Help will be needed!

Sign-up sheets for decorating, workers and food donations are in the narthex.

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

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



Leaves Change, God Doesn't: Finding Stability in a World of Transition

Dear church family,

As we step into the beautiful month of October, we are greeted by the breathtaking transformation of nature. The vibrant hues of red, orange, and gold adorn the trees, and the gentle rustling of falling leaves fills the air. The changing leaves serve as a timely reminder of the constant transitions we experience in life.

In this season of transformation, let us find solace in the unchanging nature of God's love and promises.

Throughout the year, we encounter numerous changes – some anticipated, while others catch us by surprise. Life often presents us with transitions, be it in our careers, relationships, health, or circumstances. While the changing seasons of life can be unsettling and sometimes overwhelming, we can take comfort in knowing that amidst it all, God remains steadfast and unchanging.

In the book of Hebrews, we are reminded that *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever"* (Hebrews 13:8). God's love, mercy, and faithfulness do not waver, even in the midst of our ever-changing circumstances. As we witness the leaves falling to the ground, we are reminded of *God's promise to never leave nor forsake us* (Deuteronomy 31:6).

During October, let us take the time to reflect on the ways God's constancy has guided us through our individual journeys. Think about those moments when we felt overwhelmed by the changes around us, and yet, we found strength in God's unchanging nature. As we look back, we can see how His grace has brought us through the challenges and uncertainties.

The changing leaves also symbolize the process of letting go. Just as the trees release their old leaves to make way for new growth in the spring, we too must learn to let go of the things that weigh us down – whether it's past mistakes, regrets, or anxieties about the future. As we surrender these burdens to God, we create space for new possibilities and spiritual growth.

Let October be a season of deepening our faith and trust in God's unchanging love. Spend time in prayer and meditation, seeking His guidance and wisdom for the paths that lie ahead. Engage in acts of kindness and compassion towards others, for God's love should reflect through our actions as well.

As we witness the leaves changing around us, let it serve as a reminder that God's love remains constant, bringing us comfort, hope, and a renewed sense of purpose. Together, as a church family, let us embrace this season of change with open hearts, knowing that God's presence will guide us through every step of the way.

May God bless each one of you abundantly during this beautiful month of October.

With love and blessings,
Pastor Matthew Garavalia



As many of you know Jill Norell is a Seminary student who is now entering year two of her Seminary Education. We are very proud to call her one of our own here at Scandian Grove.

On **Sunday, October 8, 2023**, Jill will be in church to give a talk about how Seminary is going, what she is learning, and what she is excited about going forward. As a token of our support **all loose and designated offering** that day will be given to Jill as a **Seminary Scholarship** to help take care of expenses.

Thank you for all your support of Jill and may God bless Jill in her studies.



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council Minutes Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Members Present

Rhonda Hermanson, Joni Anderson, Gary Miller, Theresa Bjorklund, Collin Johnson, David Hermanson, Dick Kinkeade, Pam Rogich, Jeff Al- lerson, and Pastor Matthew Garavalia

Excused Heidi Scheurer

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:42pm and lead by President Gary Miller

Devotions by Pastor Matthew - What Makes Us Lutheran?

Secretary's Report

Dave motioned to approve the August minutes seconded by Dick and carried.

Financial Secretary's Report for July

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

Savings Account Balance as of 8/31/23

Family Medical Fund Balance:	\$5,376.72
Improvement Fund Balance:	3,529.56
Memorial Fund Balance:	4,795.23
Scholarship Fund Balance:	6,554.57

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance: (8/1/23)	\$5,772.14
Total Deposits:	12,445.09
Total Expenses:	<u>-\$16,445.09</u>
Checking Balance:	\$2,095.44
+Sunday School Fund:	597.50
Ending Balance: (8/31/23)	\$2,692.94

Treasurer's Report

Dave reviewed the report for the group. Pam motioned to approve this report, seconded by Jay, mo- tion carried.

Renewed two CD's at the present improved rate of interest.

Committee Reports

CONSTITUTION UPDATE COMMITTEE

The Committee is soon ready for final presentation/approval from the Council who will set a Congre- gational Meeting. Tabled until Saturday's Council Retreat.

PROPERTY

Plants on the South side and West seem to be settling in. They are being watered intermittently. Humidity within church being watched to protect the investment of the organ and piano.

EDUCATION

Sunday School Round-Up was held on Sunday, August 20 to introduce the year ahead.

Rally Sunday September 17 - Bibles being presented. Students, teachers, and volunteers will be recognized.

Blessing of the Backpacks to take place first Sunday in October. Members of all ages are encour- aged to bring their school/work bags to be blessed.

First Communion Education to be given to 5th grader Elise W. Thanksgiving Night Ceremony.

MISSIONS

Serving at "The Kitchen" - October 30, 2023. Chili, Texas Toast, Salad, Dessert. Donations will 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.

Old Business

Council Retreat - Saturday, September 16, 8:00am - 1:00pm. Possible topics to be included: Goal Setting, Donation Wish Lists, Constitution Review, Grow as Spiritual Leaders. Then again, after An- nual Meeting in 2024 with new Council Members.

Beer & Hymns - SGLC was asked by Trinity and St Paul's to co-sponsor Beer & Hymns on August

15. Went well - successful.

GIFT Sunday Update - For the future, the Visioning Committee made the decision that in the upcoming year, there will be three GIFT Sundays when SGLC, Trinity and St Paul's will join together to worship, each church is to create a "Signature Sunday" to plan for. Discussion/Planning at the retreat

Church at the Fair - SGLC lead church services at the Nicollet County Fair on Sunday, August 13, 2023. Pastor preached. \$400 was collected for the Fresh Start Program that supports families beginning anew. Next year, begin discussing a County Fair Service at the April Council Meeting.

New Business

Council Members 2024 - Three Members going off. Bruce and Solveig on Nominating Committee. Discussion about who would be good to be involved and helpful. Council Members felt that being a Council Member is a privilege and a good way to be a part of moving Scandian Grove forward.

Fall Supper - Saturday, November 4. Coffee Maker issue to be worked on. Theresa to purchase a different brand of filters to see if they might work better. The Committee gave the recommendation to give 100% of profits from the Fall Supper to benefit a cause. Motion made, seconded and passed.

Thanksgiving/Christmas - Worship & Music Committee will meet in the near future to discuss.

Adjournment

Dick motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm, seconded by Jay, motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:30pm, hosted by Heidi.

Communion Assistants for October are Dick and Collin.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Bjorklund

Church Council Secretary



Faith Formation - Academic Year 2023

It was a special Sunday as we kicked off our academic year of Faith Formation. During the worship service on Sunday, September 17, 2023, we installed our Educational Staff, present Bibles, and prayed for our Sunday School participants.



The young people met at 8:30am and will continue meeting on the first and third Sundays of the month for instruction.

At the same time, our grown-ups are invited to come to Adult Forum, on the first and third Sundays of the month for 45 minutes of fellowship and faith stimulation in the library.

2023 Faith Formation Participants:

3 & 4 Year Olds-received Stark Family Story Bibles: Eden Brockman, Kit Allerson, Cora Jaeger

Kindergarten: Larkin Allerson

1st Grade-received Early Reader Bibles: Madelyn Schott, Chloe Schott

3rd Grade-received Early Reader Bible: Henrey Schott

4th Grade-received Early Reader Bible: Aubrey Scheurer

5th Grade-receiving 1st Communion instruction: Elise Wilker

6th Grade-Braxton Kurth

11th Grade-Angie Engel

12th Grade-Luke Engel Jake Engel



Please keep the Sunday School and Adult Forum participants in your prayers as they teach and are taught the Word of God. We pray for the "good seeds to fall on fertile ground" and they take deep root into God's Word all the days of their lives.

Women of MN Valley Conference

"Fall Gathering"

Come join MN Valley Conference Women for an inspirational message, fellowship, and lunch.

We will be meeting on

Saturday October 14, 2023

at

Augustana Lutheran Church, Gibbon

Registration begins at 11:30am with lunch served at noon. **Registration cost: \$12.00**

*Please call Donna Pankratz **by October 1, 2023**, if you plan to attend.*

Our featured speaker comes from Terebinth Refuge, a shelter for hope and healing. Terebinth Refuge is a Christ centered shelter and safe home that brings hope, healing services and freedom for women 18 years and older who have been sexually exploited and trafficked.

Our offering has been designated as follows: 50% to Terebinth Refuge and 50% to SW MN Synod Women.

The Hope and Healing Store offers personal care products which are crafted by the survivors. All proceeds benefit the residents of the safe homes. The care products will be available for display and to purchase at the Fall Gathering. More information is available at: www.Terebinth.Refuge.org.

G.I.F.T. Sunday

There are only 3 G.I.F.T. Sundays planned this year.

Scandian Grove is hosting ours on

Sunday, October 15

9:30am Outdoor Worship
(weather permitting)

Hayrides at 10:45am &

BBQ Lunch at 11:45am

MENU: BBQ Sandwiches and Pickles
Bags of Chips
Baked Beans
Cookies and Bars
Milk, Lemonade, & Coffee

Please sign-up in the narthex to help with preparing food, donating hamburger, bringing cookies or bars, decorating, and a clean-up crew.



Your support of this event, where we invite Trinity Sibley and St. Paul's Gaylord to join us, is very appreciated.

**Generations
In Faith
Together**

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of **Leland Gene Jonason, "Buzz,"** age 79, who passed away on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at J.A. Wedum Residential Hospice in Brooklyn Park, MN. The Funeral Service will be at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at 11:00am with visitation starting at 10:00am. Committal will be in the Scandian Grove Cemetery with a luncheon to follow in the Fellowship Hall.



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

Matthew 5:4

	October 2023	November 2023
ALTAR GUILD	Karri Anderson	Jim Allerson
READERS	Solveig Olsen	David Kleppe
USHERS	Jay Brockman, Zach Germscheid	Neal & Joni Anderson
COUNCIL COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Dick Kinkeade Collin Johnson	Jeff Allerson Theresa Bjorklund
COUNCIL HOST	Heidi Scheurer	Collin Johnson

PLEASE *join us*

The Family of Elaine Hermanson
invites you to join them as they

*Celebrate & Honor
Elaine on her 95th birthday!*

*Join us for a time of fellowship following the
worship service on Sunday, October 22.*



Need to freshen up your prayer life? There are some copies of October Prayer Calendars in the Narthex. Each day lists a prompt for something for you to pray about as you go about your day. Pick one up if this is something that interests you. Alternatively, you can search your app store for numerous electronic reminders that you can load on your smart phone.



Walk Spirit, Talk Spirit

Please join pianist, composer, writer, and Professor of Music Carolyn Wilkins (Berklee College of Music) and Professor Philip Bryant (Gustavus Adolphus College) in Christ Chapel

on **Wednesday, October 18 at 7:00pm**

for an evening presentation on the many & various ways spirituality is expressed in African American music.

Genres include: *Spirituals, Black Gospel music, Blues, R&B, Rock n' Roll, Soul, Jazz, Classical, Country, and Hip-Hop.*

In this conversational style presentation, Ms. Wilkins and Professor Bryant will tackle the daunting question of *“what is the basic nature of spirituality in African American music and how does this spirit make its presence felt in all the multiple genres of Black American music?”*

This conversation is made possible by the Johnson Fund at Gustavus and is free and open to the public.

Visitor parking is available in the lot near the C. Charles Jackson Campus Center.

In celebration of their
40th Anniversary, Kinship Radio

welcomes **“The Skit Guys”** on

Friday, November 17 at 7:00pm

This is a family friendly comedy act with a spiritual backdrop. It is free and open to the public at Hosanna Lutheran in Mankato.

A free will offering will be taken.

Get ready for an evening of laughter!

UPCOMING EVENT

Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Peter has been selected to host Thabani, Coordinator of the SE Diocese of South Africa.

He will preach at both the 8:00am and 10:00am services on **Sunday, October 1** and be present to share stories and answer questions at the Adult Forum between services.

He will explain why the Lutheran Church continues to grow among Black South Africans, despite economic hardships.

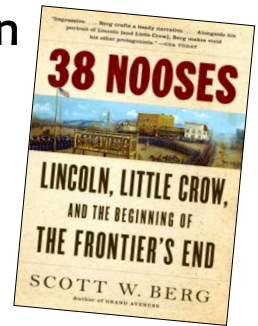
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS			
1	Hannah Beckius	12	Cameron Johnson
2	Brian Rodning	14	Neal Anderson
4	Richard Rogich		Waylon Eustis
5	Xandria Grundmeyer	16	Linda Leafblad
	Kiera Grundmeyer		Angela Engel
7	Amber Schott	18	Jay Hanson
9	Thomas Eckberg	20	Elaine Hermanson
	Kevin Johnson	22	Rowan Webster
10	Spencer Schott	30	David Kleppe
11	Rochelle Renneke	31	Deborah Herrera
	Lisa Thompson		

SGLC Book Club invites you to read & discuss on
Saturday, October 28, 2023

**Change of
Date!!**

38 Nooses

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



Dakota Sacred Sites Tour starting at 1:00pm to 5:00pm
Starts and ends at Trinity Lutheran Church (rural Gaylord)

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*



The U.S. - Dakota War of 1862
Dakota Sacred Sites Tour
on Saturday, October 28, 2023 ~ 1:00 to 5:00pm

Trinity Lutheran Church (rural Gaylord)
32234 341st Avenue, Gaylord, MN 55334

*For more information contact Pastor Scott Richards at 320-247-0618
or find Trinity Lutheran Church, Gaylord's page on Facebook.*

In an effort to create more understanding and healing between Native American and non-Native people, the public is invited to join us for a powerful afternoon of storytelling and learning about local and state history from a Native American perspective. Led by Native teacher Kelly Sherman Conroy, we will visit local sites connected to the major events of the U.S.-Dakota conflict. The tour will start and end at Trinity Lutheran Church, rural Gaylord, with a light meal and refreshments upon return.

There is no cost, but the generosity of a free will offering is appreciated.

Participants are encouraged to carpool together. Dress for the weather and bring comfortable footwear. All locations are handicapped accessible. Bring a lawn chair if you want to sit during the storytelling. This tour is appropriate for adults and older youth.

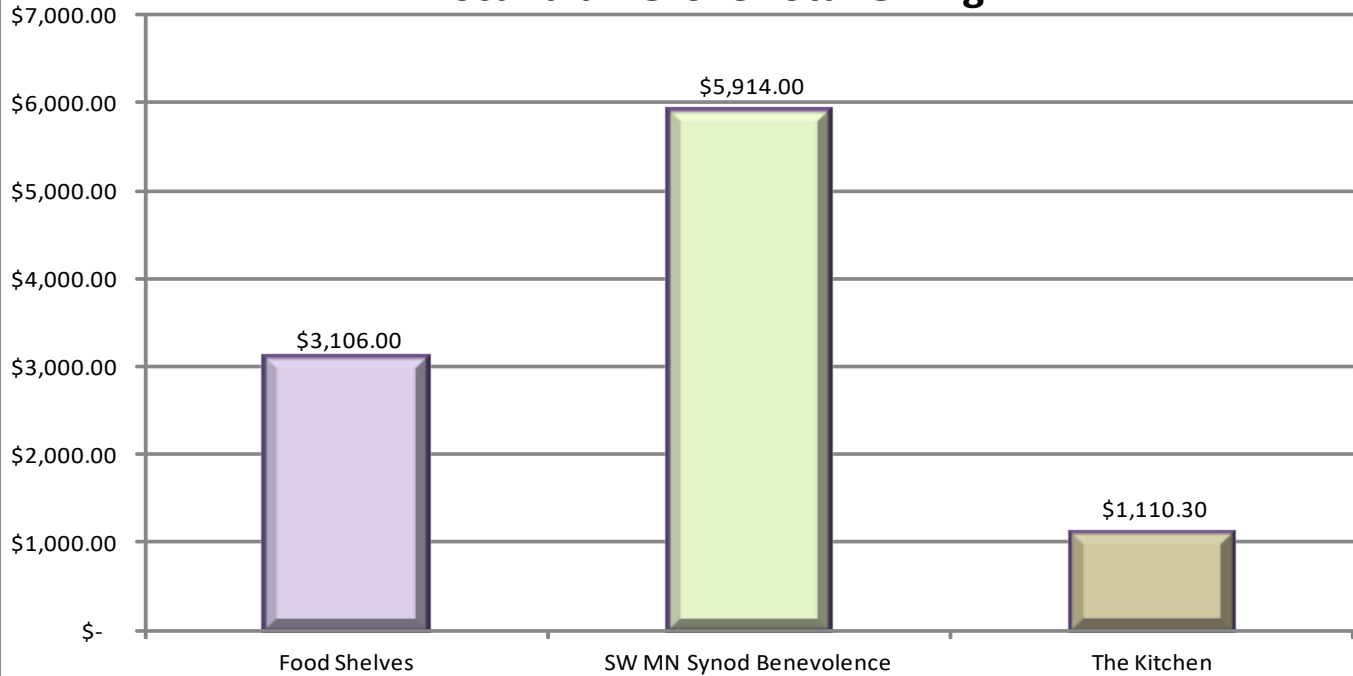
Kelly Sherman Conroy is a proud member of the Oglala Lakota Tribe and dedicates her time to social justice, racial reconciliation, trauma and healing, Indigenous leadership, and family ministry. Kelly has a Ph.D. from Luther Seminary and teaches at Augsburg College.

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Calendar

October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion & Blessing of Back Packs 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	2 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg	3	4 7:00pm Choir practice	5 9:00am Quilting	6 Pastor's Day Off	7 10:00am Visitation for Leland "Buzz" Jonason 11:00am Funeral for Leland "Buzz" Jonason
8 9:30am Worship Service & Seminary Student Jill N. to talk briefly about her studies 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 3:00pm Norseland 4-H Mtg Pastor at Theological Conf.	9 Columbus Day Pastor at Theological Conf. 	10 6:30pm Church Council Mtg Pastor at Theological Conf.	11 7:00pm Choir practice	12 9:00am Quilting	13 Pastor's Day Off	14 11:30am Woman's MN Valley Conf. Fall Gathering, Augustana Lutheran, Gibbon
15 Food Shelf Sunday G.I.F.T. Sunday 8:30am Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30am Outdoor Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 10:45am Hayride 11:45am BBQ Lunch Newsletter Deadline <i>Don't Miss the</i> 	16 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg	17	18 7:00pm Choir practice 7:00pm Walk Spirit, Talk Spirit at Christ Chapel, St Peter	19 9:00am Quilting	20 Pastor's Day Off	21
22 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 10:30am Elaine Hermanson 95 th Birthday Celebration	23	24	25 7:00pm Choir practice	26 9:00am Quilting	27 Pastor's Day Off	28 1:00 to 5:00pm Book Club Meeting for Sacred Sites Tour at Trinity Sibley (rural Gaylord)
29 9:30am Worship Service w/Hymn Sing 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	30 5:00pm SGLC Serving at "The Kitchen" Trinity Church, Saint Peter	31 Halloween 	1 November 9:00am Make White Sauce 7:00pm Choir practice	2 November 9:00am Fish Cleaning	3 November Pastor's Day Off	4 November 11:00am to 3:00pm Serving Fall Supper 

Scandian Grove Total Giving



Total benevolence giving thru August 31, 2023--\$10,130.30

Financial Report-August 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-5,772.14	4,744.45	12,445.09	16,121.79	1,067.75
Checking/Pastor's Stole	100.00	-	-	100.00
Checking/Keyboard	158.57	-	-	158.57
Checking/Sunday School Funds	592.46	5.04	-	597.50
Checking/Historical Bldg. Upkeep	769.12	-	-	769.12
TOTAL CHECKING/SUNDAY SCHOOL	6,364.60	12,450.13	17,732.74	2,692.94
Credit Line	-	-	-	-
Family Medical Savings Account	5,376.72	-	-	5,376.72
Improvement Savings Account	3,009.56	520.00	-	3,529.56
Memorial Savings Account	4,795.23	-	-	4,795.23
Scholarship Savings Account	7,274.57	-	720.00	6,554.57
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>

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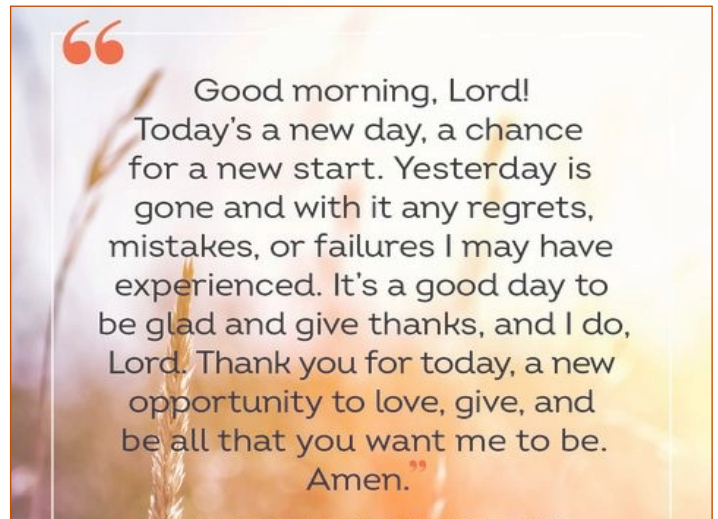
ATTENDANCE

Sunday, September 3	57
Sunday, September 10	Tractor Roll In
Sunday, September 17	86
Sunday, September 24	



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

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



**Newsletter
Deadline**

October 15

