

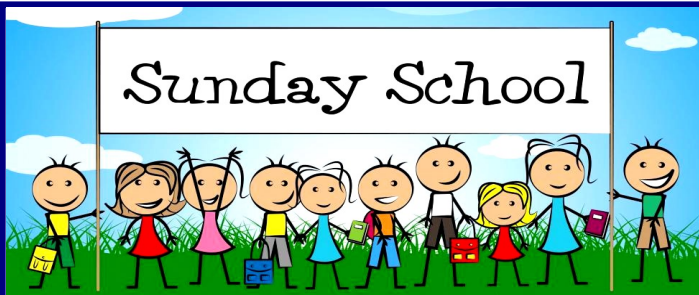
SCANDIAN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



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

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



Sunday School

Rally Sunday September 17, 2023 at 8:30pm

This is the traditional kick-off to our Faith Formation Educational year.

This academic year, both Sunday School and Adult Forum will be held on the first and third Sundays of the month. Parents of Sunday School children are invited to hang out in Adult Forum while the kids and Sunday School teachers do their thing!

Both groups have fun and find meaning in the 45 minutes prior to worship.

Sunday School is for all children 4 years old to High School.

Adult Forum is structured so that each meeting time is an independent time of insight and discussion instead of a cumulative class study.



WELCA - 2023 Triennial Convention for Women of the ELCA will be held on **September 18-20, 2023, in Phoenix, AZ.** More details at <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/twelfth-triennial-convention>

AFTER WORSHIP COFFEE SIGN-UP



A new sign-up is in the Narthex for the **fall months.** Now is a good time to reserve the Sunday that works for you!

Annual

Tractor Roll-In Worship

at

Trinity Sibley
(rural Gaylord) on

September 10

With lunch to follow
the blessings.



9:00am - Coffee Fellowship

10:00am - Outdoor worship (*weather allowing*)

Following the service, the field equipment and farm families will receive an individual blessing and then we will join together in a meal.

Scandian Grove members in attendance are asked to bring a salad or a side dish to share.

There will NOT be worship at SGLC that day!

Bring a chair and dress for the weather!

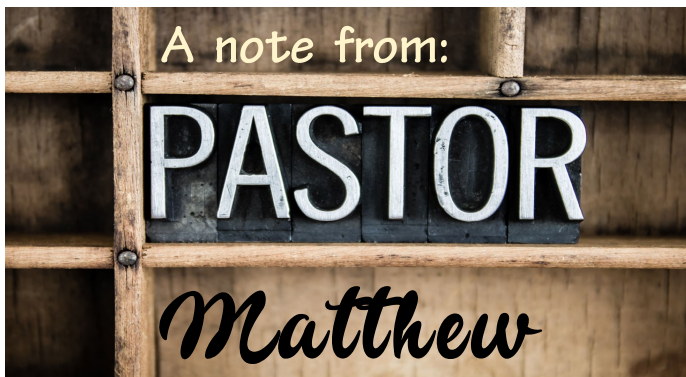
Singers Wanted

There will be a *joint choir singing at the Tractor Roll In.* If interested, talk to Pastor or watch for communication from Scott Hermanson.



The Choir will resume practices at **7:00pm** beginning on **Wednesday, September 6.**

New voices are always welcome!



Answering The Call To Serve

Greetings, beloved members of Scandian Grove Lutheran Church!

As we take a moment once again to celebrate our faith and reflect on the teachings of Jesus, we turn our attention to a powerful and transformative passage found in the Gospel of John: John 21:1-19. This narrative captures a momentous encounter between Jesus and His disciples by the Sea of Galilee, an encounter that holds deep significance for us as followers of Christ.

In this passage, we find the disciples, who had witnessed the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, returning to their former occupation as fishermen. As they toiled throughout the night, their efforts seemed in vain as they caught nothing. However, as morning dawned, a familiar figure stood on the shore, calling out to them, *"Children, do you have any fish?"*

Little did they know that this encounter would be a turning point in their lives. Jesus, the risen Lord, revealed Himself to them and urged them to cast their nets on the right side of the boat. The result was miraculous. Their nets were soon overflowing with an abundance of fish they could hardly contain.

This extraordinary catch of fish, symbolic of the great harvest of souls that awaited them, caused the disciples whom Jesus loved to recognize their Lord. Peter, ever impulsive and full of passion, couldn't contain his excitement. He jumped into the water and swam ashore to be with Jesus.

What followed was a profound exchange between Jesus and Peter. As they shared a meal together, Jesus asked Peter three times, *"Do you love me?"* Each time Peter affirmed his love for Jesus, and each time Jesus responded with a commission: *"Feed my lambs," "Tend my sheep,"* and *"Feed my sheep."*

In this interaction, Jesus restored Peter, who had denied Him three times before His crucifixion. Jesus not only forgave Peter but also entrusted him with the responsibility of shepherding His flock, caring for His people, and sharing the good news of salvation. Peter's love for Jesus was to be manifested through his service to others.

Dear friends, this passage holds a powerful message for us today. Just as Jesus called Peter to serve, He also calls each one of us to serve in His name. We are called to be fishers of men, casting wide our nets to bring others into the fold of God's love and grace.

Like the disciples, we may at times feel discouraged, facing empty nets in our efforts to serve and share the Gospel. But in those moments, we must remember that Jesus stands on the shore, ready to guide us and provide the abundant catch we seek. We need only to trust in His guidance, casting our nets with faith and perseverance.

Moreover, this passage reminds us of the importance of love and forgiveness. Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him, mirroring the three denials Peter had made. Jesus showed us that love and forgiveness are not only powerful acts of grace but also the foundation for meaningful service in His kingdom.

Let us take this message to heart and respond to the call to serve. Let us be diligent in our efforts to share the love of Christ, to care for those in need, and to extend forgiveness and reconciliation to one another. May our love for Jesus be revealed through our actions as we serve as His ambassadors in the world.

As we reflect on John 21:1-19, let us pray for the strength, wisdom, and courage to answer the call to serve. May we, like Peter, respond wholeheartedly to Jesus' question, *"Do you love me?"* and may our resounding answer be, *"Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."* May our love for Him be evident in the way we live our lives and serve those around us.

May God bless you abundantly as you continue to follow in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In His service,
Pastor Matthew Garavalia



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council Minutes Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Members Present

Collin Johnson, Rhonda Hermanson, David Hermanson, Dick Kinkeade, Gary Miller, Pam Rogich, Jeff Allerson, and Pastor Matthew Garavalia

Excused Joni Anderson, Theresa Bjorklund, Heidi Scheurer

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm and lead by President Gary Miller

Devotions by Pastor Matthew - Matthew 14 Taking time to be alone with God knowing They are near

Secretary's Report

Collin motioned to approve the July minutes, seconded by Pam, and carried.

Financial Secretary's Report for July

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

Savings Account Balance as of 7/31/23

Family Medical Fund Balance:	\$5,376.72
Improvement Fund Balance:	3,009.56
Memorial Fund Balance:	4,795.23
Scholarship Fund Balance:	7,274.57

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance: (7/1/23)	\$1,578.10
Total Deposits:	19,657.37
Total Expenses:	<u>-\$15,463.33</u>
Checking Balance:	\$5,772.14
+Sunday School Fund:	592.46
Ending Balance: (7/31/23)	\$6,364.60

Treasurer's Report

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

Vacation Bible School with GLBC - Three churches for a total of 31 students. We pay for ten students and 1/3 of the mileage for a total of \$1,085.80 (students paid part of this amount in registration).

Dick motioned to renew the two CDs due at 5.09% for nine months, with interest going to the general account, seconded by Pam, motion carried.

Committee Reports

CONSTITUTION UPDATE COMMITTEE

The Committee is soon ready for final presentation/approval from the Council and will set a Congregational Meeting sometime after the Council Retreat.

PROPERTY

A new air conditioner was installed in the parsonage.

The Property Committee will create a recommendation about who can adjust the church thermostat to save on electricity monthly billing.

The recommendation for big coffeemaker: Make sure you clean out the machine (grounds and coffee in it) after each use and always wet the coffee filter before new grounds are added.

EDUCATION

We will host a Sunday School Round-Up on Sunday, August 20, 2023, to introduce the year ahead.

MISSIONS

Serving at "The Kitchen" - Rhonda Hermanson has joined Joni Anderson representing SGLC on the board for *The Kitchen*. They meet every three weeks, on Wednesday evenings. SGLC will next serve a Monday in October.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

The 165th Anniversary of SGLC, on July 23, 2023, was a success, with 91 in worship and 90 people for brunch. The Pioneer Building was cleaned and open to all. Pastor Bob Stover and Karen Humphrey represented former pastors attending. The free-will offering covered the cost of the catered brunch from Gustavus, and the remaining funds of \$269.12 will be used for upkeep by the Historical Committee. Joni Anderson interviewed Garfield Eckberg and Byron Norell to share the history of the SGLC cemeteries.

Confirmants and Pastors of SGLC pictures from the library are being put into 12 x 12 scrapbooks. A new "In Remembrance" Memorial Book has been purchased. This Committee will record Memorial Gift items donated to the church.

Looking for an electronic version of the SGLC 1858 - 2008 Statistical Record Book created by Ryan Wendelschafer. Contact Beth Kinkeade if you know where one is located so we can update it.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Matthew reviewed the many activities and tasks he has accomplished throughout the month. Congratulations to Pastor Matthew Garavalia who is now the Conference Dean for pastors. He is planning to host the Minnesota Valley Pastor's Conference meeting at SGLC on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at noon. He will ask volunteers to serve a lunch (15 - 20) and play music.

County Fair Worship - Pam motioned that we designate the offering at the Nicollet County Fair to go to Fresh Start, seconded by Jay, carried. A basket will be available. Coffee/rolls to follow.

Tractor Roll-In at Trinity - Schedule is set for Sunday, September 10 and we are asked to bring salads and side dishes to share for lunch following.

Pastor Matthew will be on vacation August 28 - September 3, 2023. Pastor Charles Humphrey will provide pulpit supply on Sunday, September 3, and Pastor Bob Stover will cover pastoral care.

Old Business

Training on Defibrillator Use - Thank you to Jeff Allerson who trained many members on how to use the AED Defibrillator, located just inside the doors in the Fellowship Hall.

Council Retreat - The Fall Council Retreat on Saturday, September 16, from 8am to 1pm will include Goal Setting, Donation Wish Lists, Constitution Review, Funeral and Wedding policy handouts updated, Plan "Signature Sunday" with G.I.F.T. for October, and Growth as Spiritual Leaders.

Beer & Hymns - on Tuesday, August 15 will be co-sponsored with St. Paul's and Trinity Gaylord. Pam motioned to give \$50 to each accompanist for Beer & Hymns, seconded by Dick, motion carried.

South African Partnership - Scandian Grove will host the South African Partnership on Thursday, August 31, 2023, from 6:00 - 8:00pm for a meeting/meal for 10-15 people. Gary has acquired a volunteer to put together the meal.

GIFT Sunday Update - The Visioning Committee has decided there will be three GIFT Sundays this year when SGLC, Trinity, and St Paul's will join together to worship. Each church will create a "Signature Sunday" to host. Jeff motioned we host a hayride in October as our G.I.F.T. Sunday, seconded by Jay, motion carried.

New Business

Updated Funeral Policy - Five funeral guides were handed out for further review at council retreat.

Adjournment

Dick motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm, seconded by Jeff, motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 6:30pm Rhonda will host in her home.

Communion Assistants for September are Gary Miller and Rhonda Hermanson

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Hermanson

Church Council Secretary Pro Tem

In Search
Of...



Does anyone know where there is an electronic version of the SGLC 1858 - 2008 Statistical Record Book created by Ryan Wendelschafer?

Please contact Beth Kinkeade if you know where one is located so we can update it.

You can call Beth at (612) 710-8497 or email it to her at: auditorbeth@mchsi.com.

Thank you!

Are You Wondering?



The “special offering” taken at the Nicollet County Fair worship service went to support “**A Fresh Start**” out of Mankato.

This organization exists to help those in our community who are emerging out of homelessness. Clients are referred by local Social Service Organizations and donations help people in Mankato **AND** surrounding communities.

To learn more, visit their website at: <https://www.afreshstartmankato.com/>.

NEW BOOKS

Kinship Radio cleaned through their bookshelves which were full of free books received for promotions. A variety have been laid out on the Library table.

If anything strikes your interest, help yourself!

HAPPY Labor Day

Monday, September 5, 2023

NORSELAND COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

HARVEST FEST

SCANDIAN GROVE LUTHERAN PARK SHELTER
TO BE HELD INSIDE OF CHURCH IF INCLEMENT WEATHER



FOOD, TRIVIA, APPLE DESSERT CONTEST, COMMUNITY CONVERSATION AND MUCH MORE!

SUNDAY SEPT 10TH, 2023

4:30 PM - SOCIAL HOUR

Come see the Salvaged Norseland Creamery blocks.

5-6 PM - MEAL

Brats, Beans, Sweet Corn, Chips & Beverage. Cost \$10

6-7 PM - APPLE DESSERT CONTEST & TRIVIA

Bring your best apple dessert to be judged & then served to guests.



The pastors of the **River Valley Conference** will be gathering at Scandian Grove on **Tuesday, September 19, 2023**, for a noon meal and meeting.

Keep these servants in your prayers as they discern God’s will for their leadership in our local churches.

With God,

Every Day is A New Day

New Day Worship Service

**On 860AM KNUJ
Sundays at 10:05 a.m.**

Tune in for a word of hope & songs of praise

A New Day is a worship service brought to you by St. Paul’s & Trinity Lutheran Churches of Gaylord, Scandian Grove Lutheran Church of Norseland, and the Fields of Grace Lutheran Parish.

KNUJ
• 860AM • knuj.net • 97.3FM •
Your Friend in Southern Minnesota

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Byron Norell	11	Jonathan Schultz
2	Emilie Lokensgard	12	Carl Johnson
3	Bonnie Rieger		Maxwell Benoit
5	Tianna Schott	13	Terry Pankratz
6	Kayla Braun	19	Larkin Allerson
7	Robert Bjorklund	20	Nathen Engel
	Lincoln Bjorklund	21	Lee Schott
	Trevor Wiest	23	Brent Johnson
8	Don Hermanson		Sharice Webster
9	Jeff Allerson	24	John Tostenson
	Madison Jaeger	25	Christine Engel
	Magnus Soderlund	29	Alex Johnson
	Karen Gerhardson		Amara Schott

Friendly Reminders

- ✦ **Please** remember to set the **air conditioning** back to where you found it, if you have adjusted it up or down!
- ✦ Remember to **shut off ALL** the **lights** when leaving the building! This includes the basement, sanctuary, bathrooms, etc.
- ✦ When using the **kitchen and dining room**, remember to wipe **ALL** the **counters & tables** off that were used!
- ✦ If your group has **set-up extra tables & chairs**, *please take them back down* and *return them* to the **storage room** when finished with your event! **Thank you so much!**

Headstone Revival LLC

REMEMBRANCE NEVER DIES

Headstone Revival LLC is a small, family owned business from Nicollet MN that uses gentle and eco-friendly cleansers (recommended at the Arlington National Cemetery) to revive headstones and monuments. They have partnered with *Friends of the Boy in Blue Civil War Memorial*, of Blue Earth County to help restore Veteran's headstones and is primarily supported by generous donations directed to this non-profit organization. **For more information contact Owner Matthew Mickelson at: (507) 828-1075 or email at: headstonerevivalllc@gmail.com.** You may also follow him on Facebook at: Headstone Revival LLC.

Looking For A Bible Study To Attend?

COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY begins on

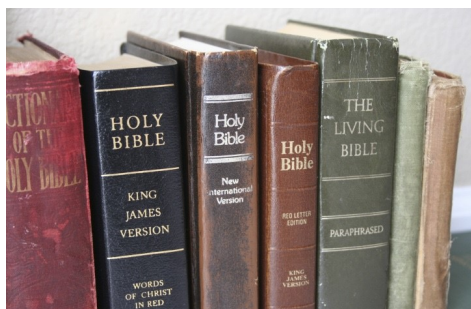
September 11th and meets on Monday nights

from **7:00 to 8:30pm** through the first week of May

They gather at Hosanna Lutheran in Mankato and appeal to a diverse group of Christian backgrounds and knowledge bases.

Break out sessions meet for the first 55 minutes with your choice of joining a:

- ◆ **WOMEN'S GROUP**
- ◆ **MEN'S GROUP**
- ◆ **"COUPLES" GROUP**



There are about 25 people in each group and then they all convene for a teaching lecture/summary the last half hour.

This year the first 18 weeks will focus on Ruth and Samuel. The last 12 weeks will be spent in Ephesians.

You don't have to commit to the whole year but can choose one of the studies if that is more convenient for you.

This is available for a very reasonable price of \$32 per study.

Questions? Call Greg at 507-995-4106 **or** contact Anna at 507-995-4567

You can also learn more and register at: fisher.communitybiblestudy.org

***NOTE** that this is **NOT** a Bible Study sponsored by Hosanna, but rather an international organization that uses Hosanna as a meeting space in our area and people drive from many surrounding communities to attend.

An on-line Zoom option is also popular if you aren't enthusiastic about driving on Monday nights.

	September 2023	October 2023
ALTAR GUILD	Heidi Scheurer	Karri Anderson
READERS	Theresa Bjorklund	Solveig Olsen
USHERS	Tom Hanson, Red Bushman	Jay Brockman, Zach Germscheid
COUNCIL COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Gary Miller Rhonda Hermanson	Dick Kinkeade Collin Johnson
COUNCIL HOST	Rhonda Hermanson	Heidi Scheurer



Emilie Lokensgard
has moved from the
country to the city!
Her new address is:

Emilie Lokensgard
Ecumen Prairie Hill
1305 Marshall Street #308
Saint Peter MN 56082
PHONE: (507) 934-0058

SGLC Book Club

invites you to read & discuss on
Sunday, September 23, 2023

38 Nooses

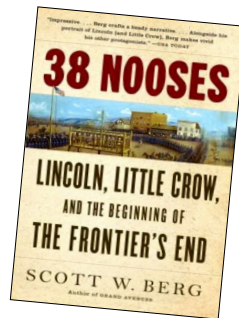
LINCOLN, LITTLE CROW,
AND THE BEGINNING OF
THE FRONTIER'S END

By Scott W. Berg

Sacred Sites Tour

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Meeting at Trinity Sibley (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.

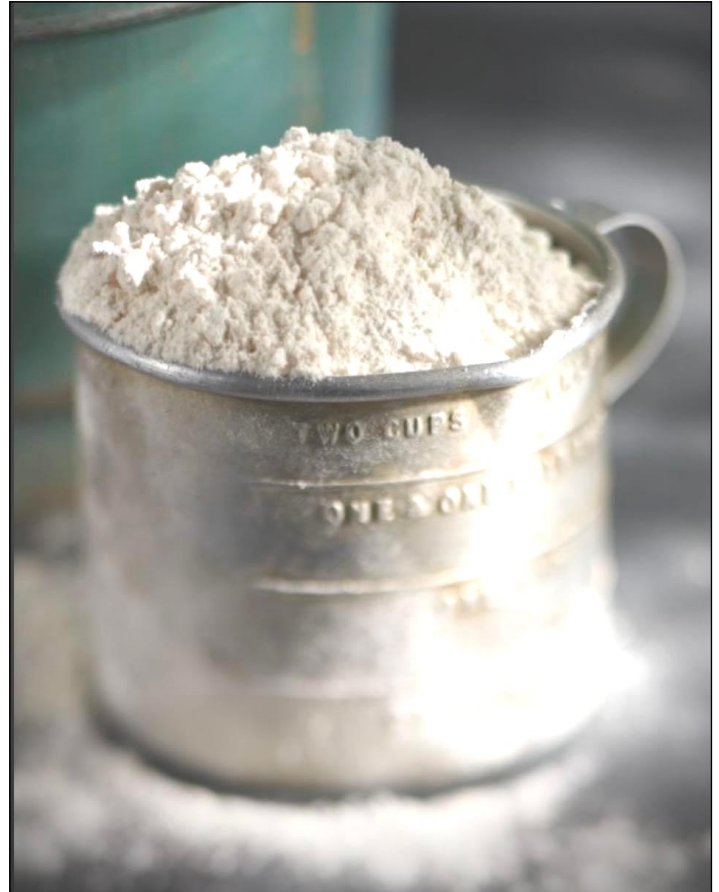
In October we will be discussing...

Demon Copperhead

By Barbara Kingsolver

The Prayer Of Two Cups

By The Homespun Wife



Lord, as I start this new day, I ask for two cups: one to give and one to keep. Grant me two cups of kindness, that I might be gracious to others, while also receiving grace. Give me two cups of patience, to pause before speaking or acting out of frustration. And may I also extend patience for my own shortcomings.

Lord, I ask for two cups of strength that I may work not only for my family and for my own needs, but that I may have strength yet to serve You and do Your will.

Lord, please give me two cups of forgiveness that I may let go of bitterness and strife, and demonstrate an understanding heart towards others. Likewise, allow me the ability to forgive myself.

Today I pray for two cups...two cups of diligence and joy and love. And more than all the rest, Lord, please bless me with two cups of peace. May I give peace and be at peace. *Amen.*

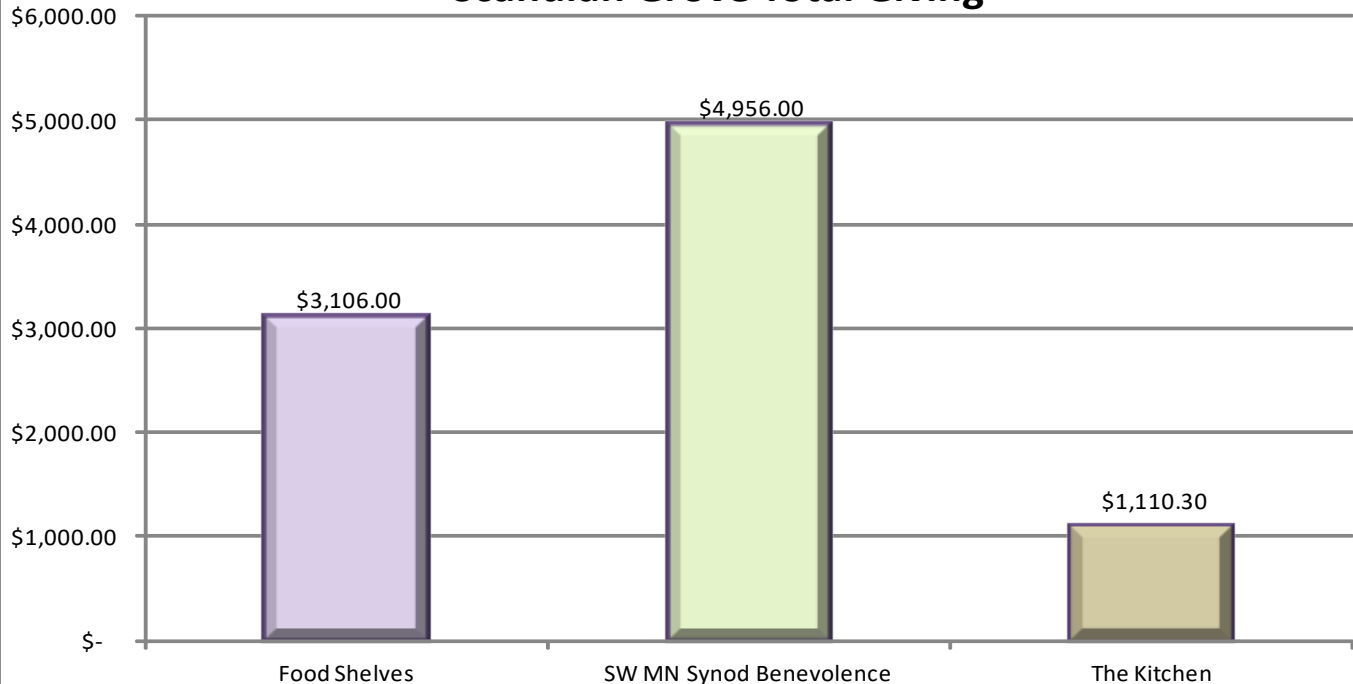
*Faith... is being sure of what you hope for
and certain of what you do not see.*
Hebrew 11:1

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Calendar

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1 Pastor on Vacation	2 Pastor on Vacation
3 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion Pastor Humphrey to preach 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" Pastor's last day of Vacation	4 Labor Day 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg 	5	6 7:00pm Choir practice	7	8 Pastor's Day Off	9	
10 9:00am Coffee Fellowship at Trinity Sibley 10:00am Tractor Roll-In Worship Service at Trinity Sibley (Rural Gaylord) w/Lunch to follow Blessings 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 3:00pm Norseland 4-H Mtg 4:30pm Norseland Community Preservation Asso. Annual Mtg NO Worship at SGLC	11 7:00 to 8:30pm Community Bible Study at Hosanna Lutheran in Mankato begins.	12 6:30pm Church Council Mtg	13 7:00pm Choir practice	14	15 Pastor's Day Off 7:00pm Worship Service lead by their Praise Band at Hosanna Lutheran in Mankato, MN Newsletter Deadline Don't Miss the 	16	
17 Food Shelf Sunday 8:30am Rally Sunday for Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	18 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg WELCA 2023 Triennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ	19 12:00pm River Valley Conference Pastors Gathering at SGLC including a meal WELCA 2023 Triennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ	20 7:00pm Choir practice WELCA 2023 Triennial Convention in Phoenix, AZ	21 Autumn Begins	22 Pastor's Day Off	23 1:00 to 5:00pm Book Club Meeting for Sacred Sites Tour at Trinity Sibley (rural Gaylord)	
24 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	25	26	27 7:00pm Choir practice	28	29 Pastor's Day Off	30	

Scandian Grove Total Giving



Total benevolence giving thru July 31, 2023--\$9,172.30

Financial Report-July 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-1,578.10	819.53	19,388.25	15,463.33	4,744.45
Checking/Pastor's Stole	100.00	-	-	100.00
Checking/Keyboard	158.57	-	-	158.57
Checking/Sunday School Funds	592.46	-	-	592.46
Checking/Historical Bldg. Upkeep	500.00	269.12	-	769.12
TOTAL CHECKING/SUNDAY SCHOOL	2,170.56	19,657.37	17,074.28	6,364.60
Credit Line	-	-	-	-
Family Medical Savings Account	5,376.72	-	-	5,376.72
Improvement Savings Account	7,937.18	294.00	5,221.62	3,009.56
Memorial Savings Account	4,795.23	-	-	4,795.23
Scholarship Savings Account	7,274.57	-	-	7,274.57
Mission Investment Fund	80,611.00	-	-	80,611.00
LPL Fund	37,098.63	1,801.52	-	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, July 30	69
Sunday, August 6	48
Sunday, August 13	78
Sunday, August 20	52
Sunday, August 27	60

Upcoming
**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

On **Friday, September 15**, Hosanna Lutheran Church will host a Night of worship led by their new pastor and their Praise Band. The service **starts at 7:00pm** and will surely be a packed house guaranteed to ignite your Spirit!

Are You In Need Of A Christian Retreat To Reconnect With God? There are many opportunities this fall offered by Green Lake Bible Camp. Details can be found on the bulletin board in the narthex or on their website.

Below is a list to peak your interest:

- Sept. 22-24 Fall Colors Retreat
- Oct. 6-8 Good News Good Brews
- Nov. 4-5 Grandparent & Grandchild Retreat
- Nov. 17-19 Creative Souls Retreat



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

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



**Newsletter
Deadline**

September 15



The Fall Supper Planning Meetings will begin soon. If you are interested in being on this Team, talk to Pam Rogich at (507) 779-9184.