

SCANDIAN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



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

February 2024

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

Second Congregational Vote Notification to Approve Updated Scandian Grove Draft Constitution

The **Annual Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting** will be held after the church service on **Sunday, February 11, 2024.**

The agenda will include a second Congregational vote to accept the changes made to the 2010 version of the Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Constitution.

- ✦ 10 percent of Scandian Grove's voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- ✦ *Voting by proxy or by absentee ballot shall not be permitted.*
- ✦ Constitution update approval requires a two-thirds vote of those voting members present and voting.

The first Congregational vote to approve the adoption of the updated Constitution resulted in 61 yes votes and 1 no vote. This vote was taken at the Special Congregational Meeting conducted on Sunday, December 3, 2023.

- ◆ Paper copies of the updated Draft Constitution are available in the Church Narthex.
- ◆ Committee Members can be contacted to request an electronic or hard copy version of the redlined and/or fully updated Draft Constitution.
- ◆ The Committee Members are Theresa Bjorklund, Bill & Beth Kastens, Gordy Rodning, and Beth Kinkeade.

Gary Miller, Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council President

Theresa Bjorklund, Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council Secretary

February 14
7:00pm Communion Worship

Lent services will continue the following Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm through March 20. Our lent services will follow the Holden Evening service.

Lenten Offering Loose & Designated Offering collected during the season of lent will benefit our local food pantries in Nicollet, Le Sueur, and Sibley Counties. You can bring non-perishable goods and place them in the grocery cart in the Narthex, or designate your gift in the check memo area or with a note to Vicki. Thank you.

Join us
MEN'S Fellowship BREAKFAST

Churchmen's Breakfast and Basement Cleaning

The SGLC Churchmen have been asked to clean and organize the church basement.

We would like the help of the [Property Committee](#) and any organization that stores their items in the basement ([Sunday School](#), [Lutefisk Committee](#), and others). *People with young legs will be a great help carrying things up and down the stairs.*

Please join us for breakfast and the basement cleaning on Saturday, February 10 at 8:30am



What Are You Holding On To

Fishing takes patience. The first time you cast your line you're probably not going to catch anything or the second time for that matter. And that is why fishing takes patience. And fishing also requires determination! And of course these things go together, if you don't have much patience, you are not going to have any determination. It takes determination; you gotta keep at it, not just once, not just twice, not just three times, 50 times? Maybe.

And fishing also takes positivity. You have to have positivity for fishing because when you cast over and

over again and your line is empty, it is positivity that keeps you going. But first and foremost, fishing takes patience. And fishing takes faith too, doesn't it? Because in fishing, you have to believe that eventually you are going to catch what you are fishing for.

In the fifth chapter of Luke's gospel Jesus shows up on the banks of Lake Gennesaret, we are told that a crowd pressed in around him, because by this time, Jesus' teaching had begun to draw large crowds. As the crowd filled in around Jesus, Jesus looked out over the water and saw fishing boats, one of which belonged to Simon. So he got into Simon's boat, sat down, and began teaching.

When Jesus finished teaching, he looked to Simon and said, Simon, head out into the deep water and put your nets out. At this point, Simon was filled with doubt and had run out of patience. Judging by the tone in his voice, you can just sense his defeat. *"Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing, but if you say so, I will let down the nets."*

I can't say I blame Simon for doubting nor can I blame him for losing patience. After all, Simon is dependent on catching fish to make a living, and as the hours pass by, Simon grows more desperate, more doubtful, and more impatient. Even though none of us are commercial fishermen, I am sure that there are many times in our lives where we have felt just like Simon; times when we have grown desperate, impatient, and downright doubtful.

As Simon James and John let down their nets suddenly their nets were filled with fish, so many fish that their nets began to break. Calling for help the men were able to get the fish into the boat and as they did so, the boat began to sink! For Simon and his partners James and John, this is the moment that God's grace came through. God's grace came through and filled those nets not just to the top of the nets, but those nets were overflowing! They were so full that they began to break!

There in that moment of doubt and desperation and impatience, those nets were filled! Those nets were filled with fish, but really those nets were filled with God's grace, filled with God's overwhelming, never-ending, overflowing grace!

This story reminds us of the promise that God gives to each one of us. No matter where we find ourselves, no matter how impatient we grow, no matter how desperate the situation that we find ourselves in, it is the grace of God that shows up, it is God's grace that shows up and fills our lives with the overflowing love, grace, and mercy of Jesus Christ!

The promise that God makes is that in the midst of the struggles and pitfalls of life, in the midst of the disasters, brokenness, and suffering, God promises to show up and fill our lives with overwhelming overflowing abundant grace. In our severest moment of desperation, doubt, and impatience, God's grace will be so full in our lives that our nets will begin to break.

Broken nets from an American point of view are a bad thing. Broken nets mean more cost, more time, and a stop in production. For Simon, James and John, broken nets meant that they were finally able, finally able to let go of what they were holding on to and follow Jesus.

So what are you holding on to? What are you grasping so tightly that you just can't seem to let go? Fear, worry, doubt? What are you holding on to that prevents you from holding on to the one who will never let you down, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I know that it's difficult to have faith in hard times but that my brothers and sisters is what we are called to do. We are called to follow Jesus in faith, trusting that just like for Simon, James and John, God's grace will come through and fill our nets. Amen.



THEME: *"In View of God's Mercy"*

Each week during Lent, except for Ash Wednesday where we will use the ELW, we will be using Holden Evening Prayer. Halfway through each service Pastor Matthew will read a new gospel text and offer a sermon on the meaning behind God's mercy made manifest in Christ. Worship will begin at 7pm each Wednesday night. A fellowship meal will be held at 5:30pm each Wednesday night except for Ash Wednesday.

- ♥ **FEBRUARY 14 ASH WEDNESDAY:** *"Mercy in Ashes"* **Matthew 6:16-18**
In this service for Ash Wednesday in our In View of God's Mercy series, we look at our lives through the lens of God's love toward us in the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. In this service, we consider the ashes placed on our foreheads as a sign of our sins and remember that God lifts us from our ashes to new life in Christ.
- ♥ **FEBRUARY 21 WEEK 1:** *"Mercy in Temptation"* **Matthew 4:1-11**
In this service for Week 1 of Lent in our In View of God's Mercy series, we look at our lives through the lens of God's love toward us in the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. In this service, we recall that in the midst of temptation, our merciful God provides us with a way out through Christ, who was tempted just as we are, yet without sin.
- ♥ **FEBRUARY 28 WEEK 2:** *"Mercy in Suffering"* **Matthew 8:14-17**
In this service for Week 2 of Lent in our In View of God's Mercy series, we look at our lives through the lens of God's love toward us in the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. In this service, we recall that no life is without suffering, but our sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory to be revealed to us in Jesus by God's great mercy.
- ♥ **MARCH 6 WEEK 3:** *"Mercy in Betrayal"* **Matthew 26:47-50**
In this service for Week 3 of Lent in our In View of God's Mercy series, we look at our lives through the lens of God's love toward us in the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. In this service, we ponder the truth that though we may turn away from our God again and again, our Lord continues to call us back into his merciful arms for Jesus' sake.
- ♥ **MARCH 13 WEEK 4:** *"Mercy in Relationships"* **John 13:34-35**
In this service for Week 4 of Lent in our In View of God's Mercy series, we look at our lives through the lens of God's love toward us in the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. In this service, we will come to understand that within the communities God has placed us, we are given the grace to treat one another as Christ has cared for us in his love and mercy.
- ♥ **MARCH 20 WEEK 5:** *"Mercy in Service"* **John 13:12-17**
In this service for Week 5 of Lent in our In View of God's Mercy series, we look at our lives through the lens of God's love toward us in the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. In this service, we will see that we are called to serve in mercy the needs of those around us by Christ's example.



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Members Present

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

Guests Vicki Hermanson, SGLC Treasurer; Louise Fitzke and Laurie Webster, Equipping Congregations Attendees

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:29pm and lead by President Gary Miller

Equipping Congregations - Maria L, Laurie W, Louise F, and Alyssa D attended. Louise and Laurie presented a short update on ways SGLC can possibly utilize lessons learned moving into the new year. Topics included Hospitality, God Stories, the Prayer Prone Home, and Loving Your Neighbor. How can these topics be utilized in the future to benefit our SGLC Family? Watch for information in the future. The presentation was concluded with prayer by Pastor Matthew.

Secretary's Report

Dick made a motion to accept the December Meeting Minutes as written. Seconded by Rhonda, motion passed.

Financial Secretary's Report for December

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

Savings Account Balance as of 12/31/23

Family Medical Fund Balance:	\$5,519.63
Improvement Fund Balance:	3,946.49
Memorial Fund Balance:	4,897.66
Scholarship Fund Balance:	5,857.83

Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance: (12/1/23)	\$4,211.96
Total Deposits:	45,374.01
<u>Total Expenses:</u>	<u>-\$26,289.71</u>
Checking Balance:	\$23,296.26
+Sunday School Fund:	334.11
Ending Balance: (12/31/23)	\$23,630.37

Treasurer's Report

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

2024 Budget

The 2023 budget year in review was presented by Vicki. The Finance Committee met and reviewed the 2024 year's budget and made recommendations. Pam made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee for a budget of \$165,499.08. Seconded by Joni. Motion passed as presented.

Committee Reports

CONSTITUTION UPDATE COMMITTEE

The final vote on the Constitution will be at the SGLC Annual Meeting on February 11, 2024. Announcement placed in the January and February newsletters.

PROPERTY

Collin worked with the Bunn Company technician who came to Scandian Grove on Monday, December 11 and completed a tune up. Repair costs to come from the Improvement Fund. There have been no issues since the tune up.

Organ was tuned. They did a thorough cleaning and shared ways that Scandian Grove can keep the organ working well.

EDUCATION

The Education Committee met and discussed VBS 2024, July 7-11. The decision was to again partner with Trinity/St Paul with an additional Sunday or two throughout the summer for SGLC family gatherings. Revisit the opportunity next year.

MISSIONS

"The Kitchen" (Monday, January 29, 2024) will be lead by the churchmen this time. The menu is set and a sign-up sheet will be on the back counter. Clean up crew to be sought.

STEWARDSHIP

Vicki created a Time & Talent Sheet; it was available in the narthex to be returned by December 30, 2023. Council members to act as liaison's between Committees and Church Council on a regular basis.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Will continue to meet and have discussion with all church employees who have a desire to voice their concerns. This serves as an important time to exchange information with SGLC staff who help to keep our church running smoothly.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Holden Evening Prayer to be used for the basis of the services. **Ash Wednesday** is February 14 with Special Music and other opportunities to be available.

LENTEN OFFERINGS

After discussion, Dick made a motion to designate **Loose & Designated Offerings** over the Lenten Season to the three County area Food Shelves. The timing of this donation will additionally help the Food Shelves by leveraging the Matching Funding opportunity. Seconded by Joni, motion passed.

LENTEN SUPPERS

Five Wednesdays of Lent beginning February 21 – March 20, 2024. Persons/Families/Groups being sought to host Lenten pre-service meals. The destination of the mealtime offering can be designated by the host. Sign-up sheet will be posted in the narthex.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Matthew reviewed the many activities and tasks he has been involved in throughout the month. He is developing plans for the upcoming Lenten Services.

Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix during the month of July 2025. Pastor found a delegate from the area and is searching for two women alternates.

Conference Assembly to be held on Sunday, February 4 at Gustavus. Pastor will be looking for delegates from SGLC to attend.

Old Business

Funeral Guide Book been worked on, has been review and was recommended by the Committee. As with a wedding, volunteers being sought to act as a "church host" during the funeral itself to help the event run smoothly. Rhonda made a motion to accept what was presented by the committee, seconded by Dick, motion carried.

New Business

Church Landline - The topic of the church landline was discussed. A cell phone with the continued utilization of the land line phone number may prove more economical. Heidi offered to further re-search the topic options and bring information to an upcoming meeting.

Coffee Time Offering Discussion - There seems to be confusion regarding the after church Coffee Time Offering. After discussion, Theresa made a motion that a paragraph be written up for the newsletter/bulletin explaining considerations as to how coffee time donations may be handled. Theresa and Rhonda agreed to write up a paragraph regarding this topic for the February Newsletter, seconded by Rhonda, motion passed. Pam offered to keep an eye on coffee time supplies.

February 11 Annual Meeting Prep/Ballot - Nominating Committee working to fill the ballot. Traditionally a Potluck is held after the Annual Meeting; the Council is looking for persons to help organize. The President and Secretary will organize the meeting.

New Member Sunday is set for April 14. Those interested in becoming a member of Scandian Grove are encouraged to speak with Pastor Matthew about the opportunity for membership.

Adjournment

Dick motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm, seconded by Jeff, motion carried.

Next Monthly Meeting

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 6:30pm, hosted by Jay.
Communion Assistants for February 2024 are Jay and Collin.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Bjorklund
Church Council Secretary



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting Minutes - February 12, 2023

The Congregation of Scandian Grove Lutheran Church gathered on February 12, 2023, for the Annual Meeting. Vice President Dick Kinkeade called the meeting to order at 10:21am.

Devotions by Pastor Matthew Garavalia

There's a sense of belonging here at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church. As we look to the past and plan for the future, SGLC has shown and continues to have a lot of grit and determination. Together, let's make this year ahead even better than we are right now. Let's challenge ourselves by asking, how much do we want to be an even stronger church for Jesus Christ?

Rhonda Hermanson read the 2022 Annual Meeting Secretary's Report. Solveig Olsen made a motion to approve the 2022 Annual Meeting Secretary's Minutes. Joni Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The 2023 Ballot was introduced by Vice President Kinkeade and handed out by Paul Engel and Anna Lokensgard.

- Four positions are open for Church Council with Gary Miller (incumbent), Jay Hanson (incumbent), Pam Rogich, and Heidi Scheurer on the ballot. Paul Engel made a motion to cease nominations. Seconded by Jim Allerson. The motion carried.
- There are three positions for the Cemetery Board with Byron Norell (incumbent), Kevin Johnson (incumbent), and Blake Webster on the ballot. Pam Rogich motioned to cease nominations for the Cemetery Board. Seconded by Blake Webster. The motion carried.
- There is one position for Auditing with Marty Schott on the ballot. Fred Hanson made a motion to cease nominations for Auditing. Seconded by Beth Kinkeade. The motion carried.
- The ballot has Bruce Norell and Solveig Olsen down for Nominating Committee. Don Hermanson made a motion to cease nominations for the Nominating Committee. Seconded by Kelyse Engel. The motion carried.
- Vice President Kinkeade asked for all to prayerfully make their choice about the Fall Supper on the ballot.
- Pam Rogich made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the Church Council, Cemetery Board, Auditing, and Nominating Committee. Seconded by Maria Lokensgard. The motion carried.
- Tellers counted ballots to count fall supper votes while the meeting continued.

Bruce Norell presented the Financial Secretary's Report. Bill Kastens made a motion to accept the Financial Secretary's Report. Seconded by Kelyse Engel. The motion carried.

Vicki Hermanson presented the Treasurer's Report. Joni Anderson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Jim Allerson. The motion carried.

Bruce Norell presented the 2023 proposed budget on behalf of the Finance Committee, inviting the congregation to read through the proposed budget. He then opened the floor up for questions. Kelyse Engel made a motion to accept the Committee's approved budget of \$157,717 as presented. Seconded by Pam Rogich. The motion carried.

Pastor Matthew Garavalia presented the Statistical Report.

Vice President Kinkeade formally thanked the Church Council members, Pastor Matthew Garavalia, and several people for their faithful service: Church Secretary Anna Lokensgard, Treasurer Vicki Hermanson, Newsletter and Website Editor Bonnie Rieger, Organists Marie Engel and Beth Kinkeade, Choir Director Scott Hermanson, Custodians Pam Rogich and Wanda Enter, Church Lawn Caretakers Wallace and Kazuko Larson, Cemetery Lawn Caretaker Cole Pankratz, the Snow Removal Crew, and the many Committees and Coordinators of the special events over the past year.

Vice President Kinkeade invited everyone to look over the rest of the Committee Reports in the Annual Report booklet. Jim Allerson motioned to accept the Committee Reports as written. Seconded by Kelyse Engel. The motion was carried.

New Business:

Bill Kastens shared that Theresa Bjorklund is gathering people who are willing to work on updating the SGLC Constitution. Please contact Theresa if you would like to be included.

Joni Anderson asked SGLC to consider if we would be interested in being the fifth church (along with the following St Peter Churches: Trinity, First Lutheran, Union Presbyterian, and Church of St. Peter) in supporting "*The Kitchen?*" This would include meal prep, donations (food/money), serving, and cleaning up every 5th Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Peter.

The 2023 Election Results:

Church Council: Gary Miller, Jay Hanson, Pam Rogich, and Heidi Scheuer

Cemetery Board: Byron Norell, Kevin Johnson, and Blake Webster

Auditing Committee: Mary Schott

Nominating committee: Bruce Norell and Solveig Olsen

The Lutefisk Supper YES, contingent on the formation of a Volunteer Committee (48 yes, 7 no). Louise Fitzke Poncin made the motion to destroy the ballots, seconded by Wallace Larson. The motion carried.

Vice President Kinkeade thanked Bruce Norell and Solveig Olsen, for their faithful service on the Church Council for the past six years. Jim Allerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kelyse Engel. The meeting adjourned at 11:19am.

Respectfully Submitted, Rhonda Hermanson, Church Council Secretary

Scandian Grove will hold its **Annual Congregational Meeting** on **Sunday, February 11, 2024**, for the purpose of reviewing the financial business of 2023 and voting to -



- ◆ approve the 2024 Operating Budget
 - ◆ elect Church Officers and Committee Members for the year
 - ◆ vote YES or NO in favor of hosting a Fall Supper in 2024 (contingent on an adequate number of Volunteers coming forward to steer a Committee)
 - ◆ take a second/final vote on the approval of our revised Constitution
- All Confirmed Members are eligible voters of the Congregation.**

The Meeting will take place immediately following our 9:30am Worship Service with a **POTLUCK MEAL** to follow the Annual Meeting.

NOTE: Council is looking for people to organize the Potluck Meal time and Kitchen clean-up.
 ~ ~ Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome! Thank you! ~ ~

February 2024	
ALTAR GUILD	Kelly Norell
READERS	Tim Lokensgard
USHERS	Dave Hermanson Red Bushman
COUNCIL COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Jay Hanson Collin Johnson
COUNCIL HOST	Jay Hanson



New Member Sunday will be held on April 14, 2024.
 If you are interested in becoming a member of Scandian Grove please talk to Pastor Matthew.



Easter is early this year! Once again, we will be taking orders for Easter Lilies which will be used to bring the sense of renewed life to our worship space on Easter Morning. More order forms can also be found in the narthex. Your order form *must* be received with payment **by March 3, 2024!**

Special Note: Our poinsettia delivery person was a young man who learned a lesson about plants and cold weather. We will show him grace. The provider extended a discount to us as a result. Therefore, we are passing that discount on to those who choose to buy a lily this Easter season. The price for a lily will be \$8.50 each.

Easter Lily Order Form

Due by March 3, 2024

(Circle correct option below)

Given **In memory of** / **In honor of**

Given by: _____

Quantity Ordered _____
X \$8.50 each
Total Cost = \$ _____
Paid by Check / Cash

Lenten MEALS

The Church Council is looking for volunteers to sign-up as families, groups, or friends to make and serve a **light Lenten Supper** at 5:30pm before the worship service for around 40 people. There are five Wednesday evenings total; **February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20**. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. *Expenses can be taken out of the funds collected that evening.* Groups who sign-up will choose where to designate the offering from the meal.

If a decision cannot be made as to where to designate the offering, consider giving to our WELCA who maintains our kitchen and gives to many good causes.

Have you been trying to start or restart your fitness routine? Have you started only to stop a week later, or are you so overwhelmed that you just don't begin?

If this sounds like YOU, then you have found the book to help you solve your problem! Certified Holistic Health Coach, Certified Group Fitness Coach, Barre Above instructor and *Author Jenna J. Allerson* created ***Fit. Confident. Unstoppable.*** to help you begin again. This book takes you on a 28-day fitness plan using scripture and relatable storytelling to help you find your perfect fitness routine!



Bonus! This plan can be applied to any exercise modality: barre, running, strength training, walking, the choice is yours!

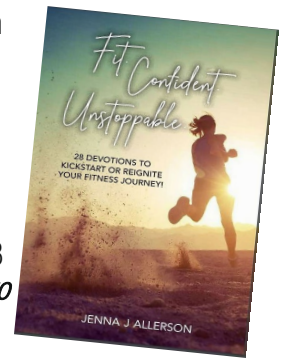


Each day begins with scripture, followed by a story-centered devotion, and ends with a dig deeper question helping you find your deeper why, define your goals and identify obstacles that might be holding you back!

This devotional is complete with:

- A 28-day fitness tracker to help you see your progress
- Journal pages for your "why" and your "goals" (Amazon)

God created us to move our bodies with joy. Ready to begin? You're only 28 days from your dream fitness routine! *Jenna has graciously donated a copy to the SGLC's Library for you to sign out, or if you'd like to own your own copy, go to the following link to order: <https://www.jennaallerson.com/>.*



Jenna is married to Matt Allerson, they have three children and she is the daughter-in-law to Janet & James Allerson!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS			
2	Eric Johnson	18	Scott Hermanson
	Donna Bjorklund		Aiden Rodning
	Leah Germscheid	19	Joy Leafblad
4	Sarah Reyes	20	Marci Norell
5	Chris Lanes	22	Kayla Lanes
7	Kelly Norell		McKoy Rodning
11	Fred Hanson		Andrew Kendall
	Toni Langr	23	Red Bushman
12	Amanda Bonham	24	Brady Bye
	Lia Dennis	25	Benjamin Brinkman
14	Kirk Johnson	26	Macey Eustis
16	Joseph Bjorklund	27	Donna Pankratz
			Hannah Rivard



A **Community Bible Study** will be starting on **February 5, 2024**, in Mankato.

The study will be of **Ephesians** and will meet on Monday evenings through April 29 (off on April 1) from 7:00 to 8:30pm.

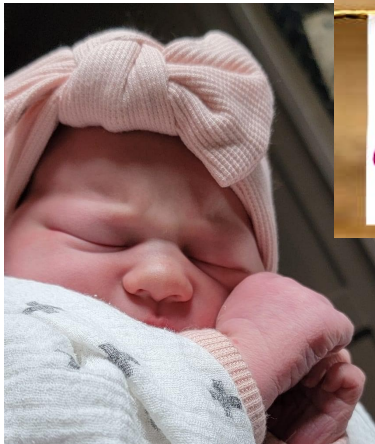
Cost is \$15

If you've never been a part of a Bible Study before, *this is a very comfortable format.*

Talk to Anna for more information.

You are welcome to just come for one night for free to check it out and decide if it is for you or not.

Welcome
little one



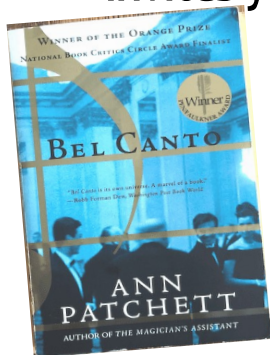
On Thursday, January 25, 2024, **Lukas & Megan Bullert** were blessed with the birth of their baby girl, **Madilyn Ann Bullert**.

Big brother Noah is thrilled to have a little sister to watch over. The excited grandparents are Tom & Ann Eckberg and Great Grandpa Garfield Eckberg.

PLEASE!
NOTE

Quilting is on Tuesdays, but plan to be flexible in case there is a change, those involved will be notified of the change.

SGLC Book Club
invites you to discuss. . .



Bel Canto

By Ann Patchett

Sunday, February 18
at 4:00pm

Gathering at the home of
Don & Rhonda Hermanson
with Discussion Leader
Maria Lokensgard

Somewhere in South America, at the home of the country's vice president, a lavish birthday party is being held in honor of the powerful businessman Mr. Hosokawa. Roxane Coss, opera's most revered soprano, has mesmerized the international guests with their singing. It is a perfect evening - until a band of gun-wielding terrorists takes the entire party hostage. But what begins as a panicked, life-threatening scenario slowly evolves into something quite different, a moment of great beauty, as terrorists and hostages forge unexpected bonds and people from different continents become compatriots, intimate friends, and lovers. - Goodreads

Enjoy a late Sunday afternoon discussing this interesting fictional read with other readers while lunching on some treats at the Hermanson's home.

In **March**, we will be reading & discussing...

A Shepherd's Life

By James Rebanks

Thank you!

Thank you for all your time and money during the year and especially during the months of November and December.

Following are the amounts that were sent off to different charities at the end of December.

- ♦ Lutefisk Profits of \$7,430.05 were divided between Le Sueur Food Shelf, Nicollet County Food Shelf, Sibley County Food Shelf, Henderson Area Food Share, ELCA Good Gifts, and Fresh Start.
- ♦ An additional amount of \$860.00 was divided between the three food shelves.
- ♦ ELCA Good Gifts total sent off was \$3,777.34. This included lutefisk funds of \$1,238.34 and additional donations of \$2,539.00. Plus a \$300.00 check was made out to ELCA Good Gifts and sent off with the church check.

Thank You!

Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship

Thank you to all who served during our Coffee Fellowship Hour throughout the past year! Many members continue to enjoy this opportunity to gather, have some coffee and/or a treat, and socialize.

All are invited to be a server by signing up in the Narthex. Servers may bring coffee grounds or use the grounds in the kitchen.

Donations given on the Sunday you serve can be used at the discretion of the server(s). For example you can:

- ♥ Use the funds to help cover the cost of the coffee time treat.
- ♥ Donate them to the Church Women who will use the funds for restocking the kitchen supplies, in this case give those funds to Maria Lokensgard.
- ♥ Donate them to the SGLC's General Fund, in this case give those funds to Vicki Hermanson.
- ♥ Send the funds to a Charity of your choice.

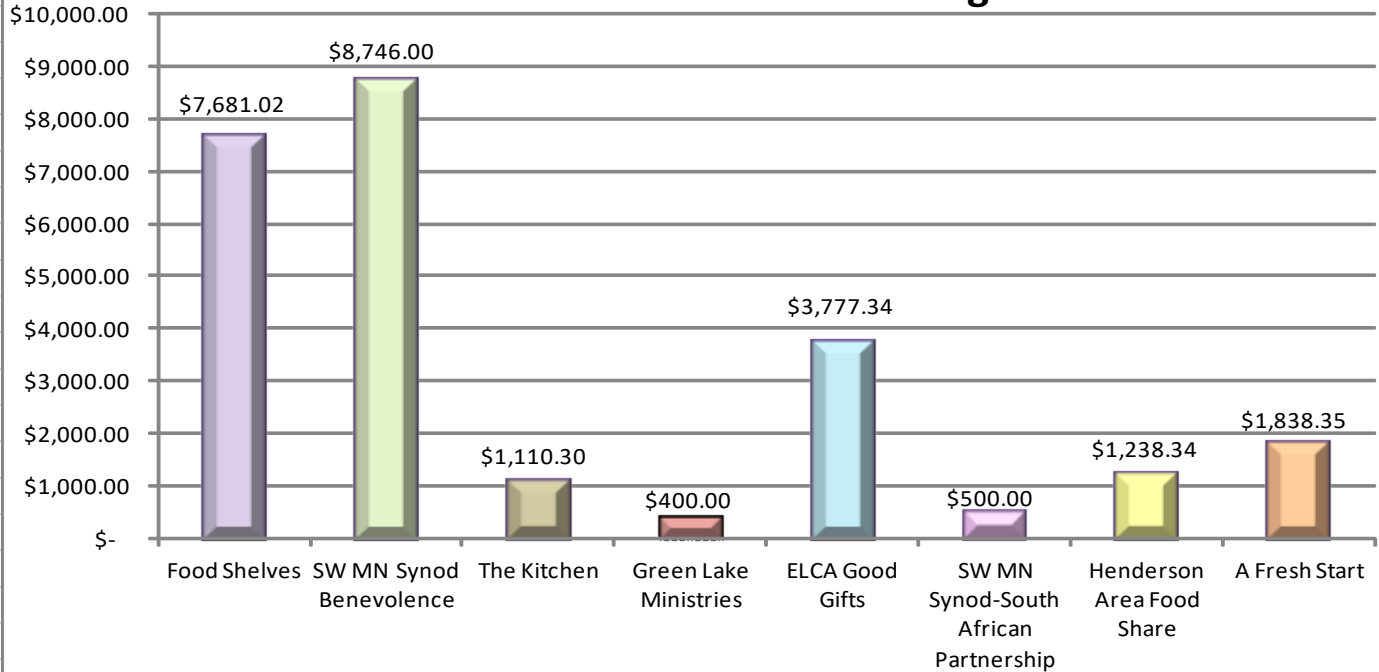
There will be envelopes available in the top drawer by the refrigerator to put donations in and you may use WELCA's or the Treasurer's box in the office if these people are not present to receive the donations.

Scandian Grove Lutheran Church Calendar

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Groundhog's Day  Pastor's Day Off	3
4 8:30am Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 2:00pm ELCA SW MN Synod Annual Gathering at GAC Saint Peter	5 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg	6	7 7:00pm Choir practice	8	9 Pastor's Day Off	10 8:30am Men's Breakfast and Basement Cleaning
11 9:30am Worship Service Annual Meeting to follow worship and Potluck to follow Annual Meeting 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 3:00pm Norseland 4-H Mtg	12	13 Green Lake Bible Camp Annual Meeting 6:30pm Church Council Mtg	14 Valentines Day Ash Wednesday 7:00pm Holy Communion Worship Service with Choir practice after  Ash Wednesday	15 Newsletter Deadline Don't Miss the DEADLINE!	16 Pastor's Day Off	17
18 Food Shelf Sunday 8:30am Sunday School and Adult Forum 9:30am Worship Service w/Holy Communion 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day" 4:00pm Book Club at Don & Rhonda's Home	19 President's Day 6:30pm Lay Ministry Care Team Mtg 	20	21 5:30-6:30pm Lent Meal 7:00pm Worship Service with Choir practice after	22	23 Pastor's Day Off	24 Fellowship Hall Reserved
25 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am KNUJ "A New Day"	26	27	28 5:30-6:30pm Lent Meal 7:00pm Worship Service with Choir practice after	29		

Scandian Grove Total Giving



Total benevolence giving thru December 31, 2023--\$25,291.35

Financial Report-December 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-4211.96	3,184.27	45,374.01	26,131.14	22,427.14
Checking/Pastor's Stole	100.00	-	-	100.00
Checking/Keyboard	158.57	-	158.57	-
Checking/Sunday School Funds	334.11	-	-	334.11
Checking/Historical Bldg. Upkeep	769.12	-	-	769.12
TOTAL CHECKING/SUNDAY SCHOOL	4,546.07	45,374.01	27,742.09	23,630.37
Credit Line	-	-	-	-
Family Medical Savings Account	5,518.25	1.38	-	5,519.63
Improvement Savings Account	4,616.80	457.02	1,127.33	3,946.49
Memorial Savings Account	4,871.44	26.22	-	4,897.66
Scholarship Savings Account	5,856.32	1.51	-	5,857.83
Mission Investment Fund	80,611.00	-	-	80,611.00
LPL Fund-Chgd. to Quarterly Reporting	37,895.15	4,413.63	-	42,308.78

THANK-YOU!! You are the Light in God's world with sharing your gifts in the congregation, community, and throughout the World.



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

STAMP

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, December 17	SS Program	116
Sunday, December 24	Candlelight	157
Sunday, December 31		54
Sunday, January 7		59
Sunday, January 14	Canceled, too cold	0
Sunday, January 21		81



Scandian Grove belongs to the Minnesota Valley Conference of the ELCA SW MN Synod. The **Annual Gathering** this year will be held on **Sunday, February 4 at 2:00pm at Gustavus**. If interested in attending, please talk to Pastor.



Our congregation supports **Green Lake Bible Camp** and many of us have sent our children through their camps. We are invited to send a delegate to the **Annual Meeting** on **Tuesday, February 13**. If interested, talk to Pastor as *registration is now open*.



Happy Valentine's Day ❤️❤️



Scandian Grove Lutheran Church

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

Newsletter Deadline

February 15

