

# Greenfield + Good News!

*January 2025*

Pastor Kurt Bockoven—563-202-0725—[pastorbockoven@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbockoven@gmail.com)  
Josh Krage—Children, Youth, & Family—[kragefamilymn@yahoo.com](mailto:kragefamilymn@yahoo.com)  
Kris Fultz—Administrative Assistant—[office@greenfieldlutheran.com](mailto:office@greenfieldlutheran.com)



## *Happy New Year!*

As we step into this beautiful new year, let's embrace the wonderful opportunity it brings for fresh starts and new beginnings. During a season that can be challenging for many, the idea of starting anew is a heartfelt invitation to seek brighter days ahead.

In the spirit of this fresh beginning, we can reflect on the incredible promise of forgiveness that comes through Jesus Christ. His unconditional love means that, no matter our missteps, we are granted a fresh start whenever we need it. There's absolutely nothing that can distance us from the love of God, and nothing that can disqualify us from the boundless chances to begin again. With God's immense love surrounding us, we are encouraged to live boldly—free from fear, guilt, and shame. This year, remember that with Jesus Christ, every moment is a chance to begin anew. Whenever you need it, a fresh start is waiting for you.

Wishing you a new year overflowing with love, happiness, fresh starts, and beautiful beginnings. Sending blessings to you and the wonderful community of Hope!

*Blessings,  
Pastor Kurt*





# GF EVENTS

Good Things Are Always  
Happening at Greenfield!

*Calendar Events may be added and  
information is always subject  
to change.*

Please check your bulletin, the website and Facebook for the most up to date information. Please contact the office to get your events and activities information into the Greenfield Good News!

## **REMINDER! ANNUAL MEETING ON January 26th right after service**

### **JANUARY**

- **Sunday, Jan. 5** – Service at 9 am. Sunday School at 10 am.
- **Tuesday, Jan 7**—Martha Leah Circle at Drucie’s check with her for time.
- **Tuesday, Jan 7**—Endowment Meets
- **Tuesday, Jan 7**—Stewardship Meets at 4:30 pm at the church
- **Tuesday, Jan 7**—Worship and Music Meets at 6:30 pm at the Community Center
- **Wednesday, Jan 8**—Bible Study with Pastor Kurt Resumes. 8:15 am at Gabby Lou’s in the back room.
- **Wednesday, Jan 8**—Miriam Circle 10 am
- **Wednesday, Jan 8**—Confirmation resumes. 6 pm meal, 6:30 pm class.
- **Wednesday, Jan 8**—Church Council Meets at 8 pm.
- **Sunday, Jan. 12** – Service at 9 am. Sunday School at 10 am. Choir Sings
- **Monday, Jan 13**— Quilters Meet continued on next page.....

# GF EVENTS continued...

- **Tuesday, Jan 14**—"Chunky Blanket" Class 6 pm at the church—see more details about this fun class below!
- **Wednesday, Jan 15**—Confirmation Class. 6 pm meal, 6:30 pm class.
- **Sunday, Jan. 19** – Service at 9 am. Sunday School at 10 am. Children's Choir Sings
- **Wednesday, Jan 22**—Confirmation Class Epiphany Party. 6 pm meal, 6:30 pm class.
- **Sunday, Jan. 26** – Service at 9 am. Sunday School at 10 am. Choir Sings. **ANNUAL MEETING AFTER SERVICE**—Please attend! Bring input & ideas!
- **Monday, Jan 13**— Quilters Meet
- **Wednesday, Jan 29**—Confirmation Class. 6 pm meal, 6:30 pm class.

## Adult & Family Committee Sponsored January 2025 Free Craft Night

**Who:** All that are interested in making "chunky blankets" and having a winter evening together!

**When:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 6:00 pm

**Where:** Greenfield Dining Room

### What to bring:

Your preferred yarn, a scissors and a lighter

For a baby blanket- 3 skeins

For a small lap throw- 5 skeins

For a medium blanket- 8 skeins

These are just approximate, depends on the brand of yard and size of skein. Yarn is specific "chunky blanket yarn" Found at

Joanne Fabric, Michel's, Walmart, Hobby Lobby

**Some Examples:** Bernat Brand "Bernat blanket big" 10.5 oz (Joanne's); Yarn Bee Eternal Bliss 8 oz. (Hobby Lobby); Mainstays Chunky Chenille Yarn (Walmart)

**Instructor:** Sandy Strozyk- questions call 507-438-6110



# Join a committee



## LOOKING FOR people for Committees!

Church Constitution—Each membership should consist of at least two members of the Church Council and three or four members from the congregation for a total of six elected members. Each committee shall elect from it's membership a chairperson and secretary.

**Worship & Music & Arts** Meets once a month. Summer months and holiday breaks may change meeting dates and times. ***Church Constitution:*** The Worship and Music and Arts Committee shall coordinate resources and enrich the worship life of this congregation.

**Children and Family Ministry Committee** Meets as needed. ***Church Constitution:*** The Children and Family Ministry Committee shall conduct general planning and oversight of the learning ministries of he congregation in accordance with Confession of Faith and the Statement of Purpose of the constitution of this Congregation.

**Property** meets when needed. ***Church Constitution:*** The Property Committee shall care for all property and furnishings of the congregation and shall make an annual inspection to a certain and immediate and long term needs for adequate maintenance and prudent improvement of such property.

**Adult and Family Ministry Committee** Meets as needed. ***Church Constitution:*** The Adult and Family Ministry Committee shall communicate the Statement of Purpose set forth in C4.01-C4.03 of the Constitution of this congregation and shall endeavor to involve each member of this congregation in faithful support of such purpose. This includes discipleship, evangelism, pastoral care, prayer, fellowship. Christian nurture, and similar ministries.

*Continued on next page...*

# Join a committee



*Continued from previous page...*

**Stewardship & Outreach** Meets once a month.... Summer months and holiday breaks may change meeting dates and times. ***Church Constitution:*** The Stewardship and Outreach Committee in accordance with C4.03, f, g, h and I, shall provide for year-long education and motivation for stewardship of gifts of time, talent and treasure. The will also coordinate ministries relating to benevolence, outreach, local and world-wide missions, and social justice needs.

**Youth and Family Ministry Committee** Meets as needed. ***Church Constitution:*** The Youth and Family Ministry Committee shall conduct general planning and oversight of the congregation's mission to our youth in accord with the Statement of Purpose C4.01-C4.05. The youth of this congregation shall elect from its membership a chairperson and secretary.

## **Other Areas of Service :)**

**Endowment** meets mostly by email

**Coffee Fellowship Service Group** It's all about the fellowship, good coffee and a treat help too! We need a core service group to maintain coffee hour. You decide when to meet and how often. Group members would help with making coffee, organizing other helpers, and ideas for treats. And also to let Pastor or the office know when supplies are needed.

**Holiday Bazaar *Join the Holiday Bazaar Team!!*** Woo Hoo the first one was a HUGE success! The first meeting is in February. Members so far include: Marian Morem, Linda Snyder, Laurie Magnus, Patty Todd, Geri Ehler, Mary Beth Ostrom and Janet Ewalt. More helpers are needed with this fun event!



# ***Greetings***

## ***From the Youth Program!***

## **Greetings and Salutations -**

*A quick recap on December -*

The Christmas Program was a huge success. I want to Thank Everyone who assisted with the program and give a special shout out to the Confirmation Students for singing at the Program. Everything we do is a direct result of TEAMWORK and that is awesome.

Last night the Confirmation Students along with Pastor, Teresa Michels and myself went Christmas Caroling in Harmony. We went to the homes of Greenfield Members and ended up at singing Merry Christmas at Kwik Trip.

January will be slow due to the many school activities, however, that doesn't mean we won't be doing things. Sunday School will start up in January and I will do my best to add a few activities for the kids to unwind and be kind.



***Peace to all of you***

**Jo s h Kra ge**  
**Yo u th Direct or**





Our Youth and Children did a fantastic job with the Christmas Program! Special thank you to all of our Sunday School Teachers, to Josh for directing, and to Reagan for her music.

*Photos by Tonia Arndt*







# Let's Go Caroling

The Tradition continued...  
The Confirmation Students went Christmas Caroling in Harmony and they did not disappoint. They sang for members of the Church and also ended up singing at Kwik Trip.





Our Church Choir blessed us with their beautiful voices. Thank you to all who participated! A Big Thank you to Stephanie for leading them. And to Reagan for accompanying the Cantata!

*Photos by Jessica Hemenway*





# SCAM ALERT!!

# Reminder!

Pastor Kurt, Josh, and the office staff will NEVER EVER ask for gift cards or anything else by email.

Please remember to double check email addresses carefully and when in doubt always call. The email might say our name but have a different email address.

Email scams are getting more difficult to detect, ALWAYS call before responding to any suspect emails.

**Reminder:** When you do automatic giving from your checking or savings accounts you can use this slip shown for the offering plates. **They will be in the pews with the regular offering envelopes. Thank You!**



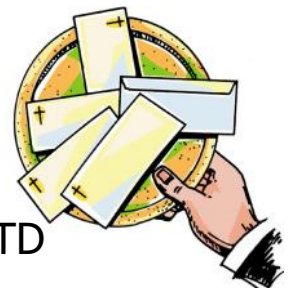
## Greenfield Lutheran Church Income and Expense

### NOVEMBER 2024

Revenue: \$11,018.00  
Expense: \$20,456.53  
Deficit: **<-\$9,438.53>**

### YEAR TO DATE THROUGH NOVEMBER

YTD REVENUES \$193,941.35  
YTD EXPENDITURES \$206,065.39  
Creates a negative cash flow of **<-\$12,124.04>** for OCT YTD





## A New Way To Join In The Worship Of Giving

**You can give using your smartphone. Just download the Vanco Mobile App from Apple or Google Play.**



- Enter our church's name and click Search. Then, select our church.
- Log in, don't have an account? Sign up.
- Select your fund and donation frequency.
- Select a payment method and enter your credit card, debit card or bank account information. You can save this payment method for future donations.
- You can choose to cover the donation processing fees by adding a small amount on top of your gift. Click the button to opt in.
- Review and complete your gift by clicking Submit.



**Donating to the church is now easy with the new Vanco mobile app.**

**Consider using this secure method to support Greenfield Lutheran Church Harmony, Minnesota**



**VANCO**  
FAITH



**Church Council Officers:** President - Paul Hemenway ~ Vice President- Mary Beth Ostrom  
Secretary - Mindy Kingsley ~ Treasurer - Vicky Tribon

**Church Council Members:** Matthew Anderson, Janet Ewalt, Paul Hemenway, Mindy Kingsley, Josh Krage, Stephanie Morse, Mary Beth Ostrom, Scott Snyder, Owen Schoepski, Vicky Tribon

## Church Council Minutes November 13, 2024 8:00 pm

**Members Present:** Pastor Kurt, Janet Ewalt, Stephanie Silvers, Paul Hemenway, MaryBeth Ostrom, Vicky Tribon, Josh Krage

**Call to Order:** Paul at 8:01pm

**Devotions:** Paul Hemenway – John 10:10

**Motion to Approve Previous Minutes:**

Motioned by Josh Krage, 2<sup>nd</sup> by MaryBeth Ostrom - Motion Carried

**Worship & Music:**

Noted it may be beneficial for congregation members to know about baptisms and funerals ahead of time.

Survey results were shared so they can make decisions on music styles and how to accommodate a “blended” style that the majority were in favor of.

Discussed logistics of communion around the rail and having congregation go back to their seats down the middle aisle so they stay in the same order. This is a work in progress

Reagan will consult about organ servicing.

**Bazaar:**

Thanks to Sandy Strozyk, Jackie Ward, Laurie Magnus, Marian Morem, Linda Snyder and Lori Slindee for their 10 month commitment.

\$1,800 cash donations before the bazaar

\$10,500 was brought in total

It was a great turnout and great success!

**Adult & Family:**

Janet made 12 visits in October to care center members

Requested up to \$125 to use for gift cards for college students and past graduates to let them know the church is thinking of them

Motion made by Josh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vicky – Motion Carried

Looking for social activities to do with adults of all ages

**Property:**

Had sign dedication last weekend

Boilers were turned on 11-13-24 after VIS came and inspected

*Continued on next page...*



...Continued from previous page

New furnace filters are here and Tim will replace those.

Morems fixed lights in Pastor's office

The mower will need to be serviced

**Financial Report:**

Started the month: \$2,961.64

Revenue: \$11,018.00

Expenses: \$20,456.53

Ended the month: -(\$6,476.90)

**Financial Secretary Position:** Sandy will be done at the end of January. We have a congregation member interested in the position. Pay is \$2,400/year

**Nominations for Council:** Sam Grabau, Ross Bahl, Clayton Schoepski, Sharon Kiehne, Sam Stevens, Erik Slindee

**Greening of the Church:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: November 24<sup>th</sup>. MaryBeth will get everything out after church for people to help put up.

**Staff End of the Year Reviews:** Pastor will review the staff. Executive committee will review Pastor. These will be completed before the December council meeting.

**Preparation for Budget:**

Start in December

Finalize 14 days before the annual meeting

Council January 8<sup>th</sup>

Budget done January 12<sup>th</sup>

Annual Meeting January 26<sup>th</sup>

**Youth and Children Director's Report:**

Youth choir sings with the adult choir on November 17<sup>th</sup>

Youth helped at Empty Bowls (8 students: 7 high school and 1 confirmation student)

Christmas Program: Birth of Jesus – December 15<sup>th</sup>

Involving Confirmation students as well as Sunday School students

**Pastor's Report:**

Had the first month of the "Holy Experiment" with Union Prairie plus one Sunday in November.

1<sup>st</sup> week in December will be a review with Barb Streed, Assistant to the Bishop

Baptism for Niah Lynn Walker on November 17<sup>th</sup> (Flaby Family)

Christmas Eve Services: 4:30 and 6:30pm.

Pastor gone December 29<sup>th</sup>

**Adjourn with Lord's Prayer**

Respectfully Submitted by: Mary Beth Ostrom (Secretary Fill-In)