

Greenfield + Good News!

May 2025

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



So Many Things in our Lives

May is a wonderful month as gardens begin to awaken after the frost season. The weather becomes warm, allowing us to enjoy outdoor activities such as May Day, Confirmation Sunday, Mother's Day, Senior Recognition Sunday, Graduation Day, and Memorial Day. We also celebrate numerous graduation parties throughout the month. With so many event happenings, it's easy to lose track of time.

We often measure our lives by significant milestones, such as graduating from high school or college, starting a first job, receiving promotions, and eventually retiring. However, if we focus solely on these major events, we may miss the valuable moments in between that truly define our lives. The church operates in a similar way. Throughout its history, and even today, there has always been a constant presence: God's love. Unlike specific events, we do not celebrate God's love with a designated occasion, yet it is present in everything we do as a church.

As we transition from the significant celebration of Easter into the summer season and attendance numbers decrease, please remember to remind others that the church continues to meet every Sunday. It is important to recognize that many significant experiences in our church life will occur other than Christmas and Easter. Let us remember that God's love is with us every day, and acknowledging this is the true essence of living a life in Christ. It might be the most meaningful thing we ever do. It might be the most important thing we ever do.

Blessings,

Pastor Kurt

St. Patrick's Day Tea

Saturday, March 15, 2025

10:30 am

Greenfield Lutheran Church

Presented by the Adult & Family Committee



Ann Johannessen, Carol Beaström, Kay Boice, Marietta Dennstedt, Becky Olafson, Patty Todd, LaVonne Todd

Guests



Carle Stevens, Gina Ommen, Jenn Wangen, Teresa Michel,
Lindsey Barnes, Jackie Tieskotter



Rochelle Peppin, Sonia Bockoven, Marie Hjelmeland,
Samantha Stevens, MaryBeth Ostrom



Polly Harstad, Marian Morem, Gerri Ehler, Laura Armstrong,
Kandace Johnson, Linda Synder



Mavis Brunsvold, Carole Engen Jackie Coyle, Janet
Scrabeck, Pam Hoppe, Eileen Schansberg



Diane Kiehne, Linda Erickson, Susan Haugland, Drucie Milne,
Lori Slindee, Colleen Carlson, Vicki Tribon,





Sandy Strozyk's Tables



Laura Armstrong's Table



Janet Ewalt's Tables



The Hostess:
Mindy Kingsley,
Sandy Strozzyk,
Laurie Magnus,
Janet Ewalt,



MaryBeth Ostrom's Table



Laurie Magnus's Table



Leprechaun Joe brought swag bags filled with gold coins, a bookmark, and a mini prayer quilts to the guests

The Tea must haves: cucumber sandwich sandwiches, cheese and olive sandwiches, Scones from Gabby Lou's Kitchen, Cinnamon puffs, made by Janet, Cookies made by Laurie, and macaroons made by Sam Stevens.

Savory



Sweets



Tea



Easter Centerpieces

Easter Centerpiece class sponsored by the Adult & Family not only filled the fellowship hall with beautiful flowers, but made the room smell wonderful too! Thanks to LeAnn Jevne from Mabel Flowers, we all went home with a colorful floral display for our Easter table!



From left to right: Mary Sanders Marcia Love, Marian Morem. Not pictured: Laurie Magnus



From left to right: Jackie Coyle, Jackie Ward, LeAnn Jevne, Juanita Jacobson.

GREENFIELD LUTHERAN CHURCH
2nd Annual
HOLIDAY
Bazaar
HARMONY, MN
November 15, 2025
9:00 am—1:00 pm

Monthly Spotlight:

Jam & Salsa
Raffle
Handmade Hats & Caps



We found people to help us make Strawberry Jam and Salsa

- ⇒ We need you!
- ⇒ Pint jars you'd donate
- ⇒ Are you willing to pick strawberries, donate vegetables for the salsa, or be part of the canning crew, etc.? Let us know!



Bucket Raffle.

We're looking for...

- ⇒ Larger, handmade items such as quilts, wooden items, home raised meat that would normally sell for more than \$100 at a craft sale
- ⇒ Experience: Something special that you could offer that would entice people to purchase tickets to add to a bucket in order to win!

Are you a Knitter or Crocheter?

We're looking for...

- ⇒ On trend hats, Beanies, Berets, Slouchy, Headbands, for babies, kids, women & men
- ⇒ Use interesting, colorful, and good quality yarns



Thank You
from:

Bazaar Committee:

Marian Morem, Linda Synder, Laurie Magnus, Patty Todd, MaryBeth Ostrom, Kris Tongerson, Gerri Ehler, Janet Ewalt

GLC "6:34"

Summer of Faith

ALL ARE WELCOME

WEDNESDAY MAY 7TH

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES START MAY 7TH.

These will be weekly services called GLC "6:34" Based on *Matthew 6:34* "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Services will start at 6:34pm. With pizza from 6pm-6:30, Service 6:34-7pm And games/bible study for those interested in digging into the message more from 7pm- 8pm.

COMING SOON! GLC "6:34"

Summer of Faith

Come for Fun,
Fellowship, and Faith!

Starting on
Wednesday May 7th
at 6pm.



6PM-6:30PM FOOD
6:34PM-7PM
WORSHIP & SERVICE
7PM-8PM GAMES &
BIBLE STUDY

Volunteers Needed!!

SEE ASHLEY HAUGERUD AFTER
SERVICE FOR MORE
INFORMATION.



Allie Blagsvedt, Evelyn Dornink,
Everly Pepin, Kessa Bockoven

**Received blessings of First Communion
on Sunday, April 27, 2025**

***May God's love shine upon you and may the
Holy Spirit be your constant guide as you embark on this sacred
journey of faith.***

Congratulations on your First Holy Communion.

Grateful ~ Thankful ~ Blessed



Our Lenten Services
were overflowing
with the Spirit
and Love

Thank you to Ashley Haugerud, to the Worship & Music Committee, and to all the committees who prepared and served the meals, and everyone who made the Wednesday Lenten Services so incredibly wonderful. Your time and talent is so greatly appreciated!

THANK YOU

to the Adult and Family Committee Members and all those who visit and bring care and comfort to our Greenfield Families who are unable to get out or are in times of need.

Matthew 25:40 NIV

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”



Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

COLOSSIANS 2:7



Thank you to our Quilters for the beautiful quilts they made for our graduating Seniors! What a beautiful way to send them out into the world wrapped in love from all of you, and from their Greenfield Family. Thank you for all you do to all of our Quilters!

Grateful ~ Thankful ~ Blessed

THANK YOU to
Our Greenfield Church Choir
and to Our Children's Choir

*Sharing your musical talents have brought
so much Joy to our Church Family!*

A special thank you to choir members, to Stephanie Morse and Sonia Bockoven, and to the musicians and others who participated with special music or helped out in any way. Enjoy your summer, we look forward to hearing your music again this fall.

**GREENFIELD CHURCH CHOIR FINIAL MUSIC
IS MAY 11 DURING SERVICE.**

The trumpeters and musicians joined in unison to give praise and thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by the trumpets, cymbals, and other instruments, the singers raised their voices in praise to the Lord and sang: 'He is good; his love endures forever.' ~ II Chronicles 5:13

Make a
Joyful noise
Unto The
Lord!
PSALM 100:1



Sunday School
MAKES A DIFFERENCE

THANK YOU to all of
our wonderful
Sunday School Teachers for
a great season of learning
about Jesus!

Thank you to Josh for the great leadership and to all who helped in any way.
Enjoy the summer!!





GREENFIELD GRADUATES!



Alex Gulbranson



Atlee Hershberger



Brooklyn Simon



Josh Haugerud



Olivia Whalen



Owen Schoepski



Tyler Gulbranson



Our 2025 Confirmands did a wonderful job with their Expressions of Faith!



Congratulations!

**CONFIRMATION IS
SUNDAY, MAY 4TH**

Greenfield 2025 Confirmands:

*Brooke Zwart, Ella Diersen, Ella Michel, Erik Tieskotter,
Madilyn Zwart, Zach Morem*



Brooke Zwart



Ella Diersen



Ella Michel



Erik Tieskotter



Madilyn Zwart



Zach Morem

GF May 2025 EVENTS



Calendar Events may be added after the Newsletter is out, information is always subject to change. Please check the Bulletin, Website & Facebook for the most current information or call the church office.

May

- **Sunday, May 4** – Worship at 9 am. **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY.** Refreshments after service in main hallway. Choir Practice after service. **Worship and Music Committee** meets at 11 am. Last day of **Sunday School Party** After Service see Josh for location and details. Please note—*Fellowship hall is reserved by a church family after service today.*
 - **Tuesday, May 6** —Martha Leah—Please **contact Drucie to confirm** Date, Time and location.
 - **Wednesday, May 7** —Bible Study with Pastor Kurt at Gabby Lou’s in the back room. Coffee’s on us, treats are on you. 8:15 am.
 - **Wednesday, May 7** —**NEW!!** **GLC “6:34” Wednesday Service**—Starts at 6 pm with food, 6:34 to 7 pm Worship and Service, 7-8 pm Games and Bible Study.
 - **Thursday, May 8** —**Holiday Bazaar Committee** Meeting 6:30 pm in the Youth Room. All are welcome.
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- **Sunday, May 11** – Worship at 9 am. Mother’s Day. **Church Choir’s Final Concert** for the summer. Come listen to their special music.
 - **Wednesday, May 14** —Bible Study with Pastor Kurt at Gabby Lou’s in the back room. Coffee’s on us, treats are on you. 8:15 am.
 - **Wednesday May 14**—Miriam Circle 10 am—**please confirm with Miriam Circle members**



GF EVENTS continued...

- **Wednesday, May 14** — **GLC "6:34" Wednesday Service**—Starts at 6 pm with food, 6:34 to 7 pm Worship and Service, 7-8 pm Games and Bible Study
- **Wednesday, May 14** – Church Council Meets at 6:30 pm

- **Sunday, May 18** – Worship at 9 am. **SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY**
Refreshments after service.
- **Sunday, May 18**—Baccalaureate tonight—7 pm at Fountain Lutheran Church
- **Wednesday, May 21** —Bible Study with Pastor Kurt at Gabby Lou's in the back room. Coffee's on us, treats are on you. 8:15 am.
- **Wednesday, May 21** —**GLC "6:34" Wednesday Service**—Starts at 6 pm with food, 6:34 to 7 pm Worship and Service, 7-8 pm Games and Bible Study

- **Sunday, May 25**— Worship at 9 am.
- **Wednesday, May 28** —Bible Study with Pastor Kurt at Gabby Lou's.
- **Wednesday, May 28** —**GLC "6:34" Wednesday Service**—Starts at 6 pm with food, 6:34 to 7 pm Worship and Service, 7-8 pm Games and Bible Study

Coming up in June: Outdoor Services start!

Good Things Are Always Happening at Greenfield!



GREENFIELD YOUTH PROGRAM

Greetings & Salutations!

As always, I am excited to share with all of you how AWESOME the Youth of Greenfield are. For my portion of the Newsletter I am submitting my last Council report. This will give everyone more of an insight on what's going on.

Sunday School is going well, however, I feel that some of the families are getting to the end of the Sunday School year. Lately, we've been competing with the JO Volleyball and other sporting activities on Sundays. I asked a few families how they were doing and if there was reason they weren't coming to Sunday School as often. The overall response is that families with younger kids are getting burnt out on the weekends and when they don't have a Sunday of sports, they spending time as a family. This doesn't surprise me my family went through the same thing when our kids were younger. I will canvas the families and set up a meeting to see if we can change this.

There is no Sunday School on Easter Sunday. I am planning on having May 4th be the last day of Sunday School. We will have a party, and at this time I will talk to the parents to see what they would like to do this summer.

June - I am hoping to have a pool party at the Preston Pool where the families attend as well

July - We will have a Float for the 4th of July

August - VBS at Greenfield August 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Although the Senior Youth has not had church activities we would have liked, I have been interacting with them. Our Senior Youth is a very diverse and talented group. Similar to the Sunday School Kiddos, they are very busy. So instead of having the church activities I've been attending the following events. Not because I have to, but because I want them to know that I (we) support them. I've attended the Large Group Choir Performance, Small Group Choir performances and solo performances. We have a very talented Speech Team where Alex Gulbranson and his teammate made the State Speech tournament. We have a few of our kids who excel in golf and track. I've not been to a golf meet but Ella Diersen made varsity as a 9th grader and is very excited. Josh Haugerud (Senior) is also on the golf team. When I go to track I make the effort to see as many events as I can for our kids who are in track and am amazed at how well coached they are (well done Coach Anderson). I also found out where some of our youth are working and I go the restaurants and grocery stores to check up on them to see how they are doing.

I've learned that once they get Confirmed, that it only gets busier. Although I am aware that we need to do more activities I believe my approach of reaching out to them on a constant basis shows them that their church family will always be there for them.

FYI - I highly encourage all of you to attend the High School play in May.

I feel the program has some work to and I am trying to figure out the best way to do that. In the meantime, I will always keep trying.

Peace
Josh Krage
Youth Director

HEY...

LAWN-MOWING TEAM



SIGN-UP SHEET IS ON THE TABLE OUTSIDE THE SANCTUARY

Looking for Volunteer Lawn Mowers

**Greenfield will now be using volunteers
to maintain the grounds at the church.**

We are looking for individuals who would be willing to help mow and edge the church lawn. The church provides the mower.

The more volunteers, the fewer times each person needs to mow.

Please sign up on the sheet provided if you would be willing to help with this important stewardship activity of time and talent. See Pastor with any questions.

**Thank you to all who helped last year and
to those who Sign up this year!!**

We Appreciate you!!



Greenfield 2025 CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Members

*indicates new term

Matthew Anderson (2026) 507-822-3154 matthew.anderson@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Mindy Kingsley (2026) 507-259-9274 mjosmonson@gmail.com

Mary Beth Ostrom (2026) 507-259-5042 marybeth.ostrom@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Janet Ewalt (2025) 507-272-8138 janetewalt1005@gmail.com

Scott Snyder (2025) 507-886-9644 scottsn54@gmail.com

Gretchen Olson (2025) 507-993-5421 rgolson101@gmail.com

Clayton Schoepski (2025) 507-517-4053 clayton.schoepski@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Ashley Haugerud (2025-2027)* 507-216-2569 ashleyhaugerud10@gmail.com

Zach Haugerud (2025-2027)* 507-273-5343

Pastor Kurt Bockoven 563-202-0725 pastorbockoven@gmail.com



Church Council Officers: President - Mary Beth Ostrom ~ Vice President - Gretchen Olson
Secretary - Matt Anderson ~ Treasurer - Sandy Strozyk

Church Council Members: Matthew Anderson, Janet Ewalt, Ashley Haugerud, Zach Haugerud, Mindy Kingsley, Gretchen Olson, Mary Beth Ostrom, Clayton Schoepski, Scott Snyder, Sandy Strozyk

Church Council Minutes*

April 16, 2025 6:40 pm

Members Present

x MaryBeth Ostrom	x Scott Snyder	x Mindy Kingsley
x Matt Anderson	Sandy Strozyk	x Gretchen Olson
x Ashley Haugerud	x Pastor Bockoven	Janet Ewalt
x Zach Haugerud	Clayton Schoepski	

Guest: Sam Grabau

Call to Order – Mary Beth Ostrom, President 6:40 pm

Devotions: MaryBeth

Committee Reports

1. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of minutes from March meeting

Motion to approve by Scott, second by Ashley. Motion carried.

Code of Conduct

2. Financial Report

Sam Grabau gave the financial report.

\$73,911.19 is our adjusted bank balance.

Our offering budget is short \$2727.16 for the month from what was budgeted.

Our year-to-date budget vs revenue is short \$28,222.44.

3. Old Business Retreat-June 1st

There were too many conflicts. We need to change the date. Pastor talked about how Synod can come in to help with the retreat. He will check with the synod with available dates.

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4. New Business

A. Accept Sandy Strozyk resignation from council. Motion carried. Pastor recommends to approach Dave Kiehne or Ron Stevens for the treasurer position. We will send out a motion to approve a new treasurer when one has accepted.

B. Approval Confirmation Students for May 4th (provide they complete requirements) Ella Diersen, Ella Michel, Zach Morem, Erik Teiskotter, Brooke Zwart, and Madilyn Zwart
Motion approved.

C. Office Email issues

We will switch to Google Workspace, email, drive, etc. We will have the same domain (greenfieldlutheran.com) The cost is \$0 for nonprofits. We will have 100TB of storage. Sam Grabau will get that set up for the church.

Motion to approve Sam to set up Google Workspace with the office staff.
Motion by Scott, 2nd by Mindy. Motion carried.

D. Contemporary/Blend Worship service

Ashley was wondering if we should continue the contemporary worship service on Wednesday nights moving forward. Ashley thought the services went well. Maybe some outdoor services in the summer, possible food and games afterward with some kind of Bible Study. Ashley was thinking about continuing Wednesday services in May.

Pastor discussed possibly doing a youth group in the fall and we could possibly incorporate some of Ashley's contemporary service with the youth group.

Ashley would like some help with planning or helping with these services. Ashley will put the word out in the next newsletter.

E. Church usage request for Piano recital on Thursday, May 1st from 6 pm to 8 pm

Motion to approve request. Motion carried.

F. Holiday Bazaar update

The bazaar committee is requesting approval to do a bucket raffle. Motion for council to approve the bucket raffle carried.

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5. Youth and Children Director report

6. Pastor's Report

Confirmation kids' expression of faith is on the 27 of April. Confirmation will be on May 4th. Senior recognition on the 3rd Sunday of May. Baccalaureate is on May the 18. Greenfield prints the bulletins Synod Assembly is on the 30-31 and Pastor will be there.

We need to fill some of Sandy's positions and fill months for counting money. Pastor will be off as the Dean of the Synod Conference.

A church room is getting full of storage. It needs to be cleaned out.

Scott did the sign for Easter in front of the Church.

We will need to find new snow removal for next year.

Mowing sign-up will be going out soon. Lawn mower will be serviced.

7. Adjourn/Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Submitted by Secretary Matt Anderson

***Please note, these Church Council Minutes are unapproved so they can be in the Newsletter in a timely fashion. Minutes for each month are approved at the next month's Church Council Meeting.**

A Thank you to our Church Council Members

Just to take a moment to reflect on all that you do in your service as a church council member and let you know that your efforts are seen and appreciated. Your dedication to this important role in the body of our church is what helps our church to fulfill its mission, vision, and values. Your time spent in meetings ensures that we are being responsible stewards of the gifts we've been given. The steps you take to address and resolve issues in a way that keeps Christ at the center of it all reinforces the single important truth that every person is loved and seen!

We are grateful for the wisdom you bring and to the precious gift of time that you give to Our Greenfield Church Family!

Income & Expenses



Greenfield Lutheran Church Income and Expense

MARCH 2025

- **March 2025 Revenues:**.....\$13,106.17
- **March 2025 Expenditures:**.....\$20,245.69
- **March 2025 Difference:**.....-\$7,139.52 shortfall

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!**



Reminder!

Pastor Kurt, Josh, Sam, and all of the church 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.



SCAM ALERT!!



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



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FAITH